

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO DOUG ELLIOTT

New Headquarters Groundbreaking Update

I'm proud to report that on March 31, 2022, KEC broke ground at our new headquarters in Rathdrum. This event represents a strategic investment in the cooperative's future. In 1979, the cooperative moved into its current headquarters on 10 acres in Hayden. At that time, we served about 8,000 members and had 30 employees. Over the next 43 years, we grew with our community and now serve more than 30,000 members with approximately 110 employees. Simply put, we have outgrown our current headquarters and the capacity to further grow. To move forward, we hired a consultant to perform a facility master plan to answer one question: what was the most financially viable and effective way for KEC to serve our members' needs for the next 40 years? The answer to that question is the construction of a new facility on a 44-acre site in Rathdrum on Lancaster Road between Highway 41 and Greensferry Road.

This property is nearly three times the size of the property we currently occupy and will have approximately 180,000 feet of space under roof, mostly for vehicles, equipment and materials storage. It's being built with future expansion in mind. The initial construction will meet our needs for the next 10 to 12 years and thereafter it can be expanded on site to meet future needs. It's a state-of-the-art facility and, crucially, it's being designed to support modern utility operations and the decentralization of our operations during emergencies.

The construction of this facility represents a \$53 million investment in our membership, cooperative and community. Factoring in the sale of our headquarters at Hayden and other avoided costs, the effective cost of constructing the facility is about \$46.5 million. Construction will take approximately 18 months to complete, and we hope to move in by October 2023. Our new facility will allow us to serve our members in the future and live our mission effectively.



Elliott and Rathdrum Mayor Vic Holmes.



Thank you to the KEC Board, City of Rathdrum, Rathdrum Area Chamber of Commerce and our contractor, Cooperative Building Solutions, for their participation in the groundbreaking event.

Congratulations to Scholarship Winners

Recently, the Kootenai Electric Trust Board awarded \$2,000 scholarships to the 15 KEC members or their children pictured below. The scholarships were made possible this year with proceeds from the KEC Golf Classic. The Trust Board has awarded more than 170 scholarships since 2007 and plans to offer the scholarship program again next year. Congratulations to the winners! Watch for details about the 2023 scholarship program and application deadline in late 2022 at www.kec.com.



Caleb Alexander
Post Falls



Ramie Anderson
Athol



Kaitlynn Butler
Coeur d'Alene



Claire Christ
Coeur d'Alene



Luci Dixon
Hayden



Lauren Faulkner
Post Falls



Sawyer Fude
Worley



Kaylee Jenkins
Post Falls



Haileyann Johnson
Athol



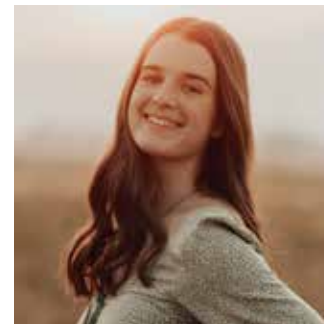
Jenna Kalbaugh
Hauser



Madeleine Leahy
Post Falls



Luke Roberts
Post Falls



Hailey Thaxton
Rathdrum



Jameson Wasson
Coeur d'Alene



Madison Wiedenhoff
Rathdrum

May is Electrical Safety Month

Make electrical safety a priority this month, and every month.

At KEC, we recognize Electrical Safety Month every May, but we also know the importance of practicing safety year-round. From our crews to you, the members we serve, we recognize that everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the U.S. are critically injured or electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many of these accidents are preventable. Electricity is a necessity, and it powers our daily lives. But we know first-hand how dangerous electricity can be because we work with it 365 days a year.

Electricity is an integral part of modern life. Given the prevalence of electrical devices, tools and appliances, we'd like to pass along a few practical electrical safety tips:

- Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them, as they could cause a shock when handled.
- Avoid overloading circuits. Overload happens when you draw more electricity than a circuit can safely handle—by having too many devices running on one circuit.
- Label circuit breakers to understand the circuits in your home.
- Use extension cords properly. Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord.

Please talk with your kids about playing it safe and smart around electricity. Help them be aware of overhead power lines near where they play outdoors. Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply 24/7, 365 days per year. But equally important is keeping our community safe around electricity. For more information or safety tips visit www.kec.com/safety.



NEWS BRIEFS

KEC OFFICE CLOSED ON MEMORIAL DAY

KEC will be closed on May 30, 2022, in observance of Memorial Day.

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Before you start any digging project be sure to call 811. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs. Calling 811 gets underground utility-owned lines marked for free.

KEC BOARD MEETINGS

Members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings. Meeting dates vary—call 208.292.3211 for details.

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

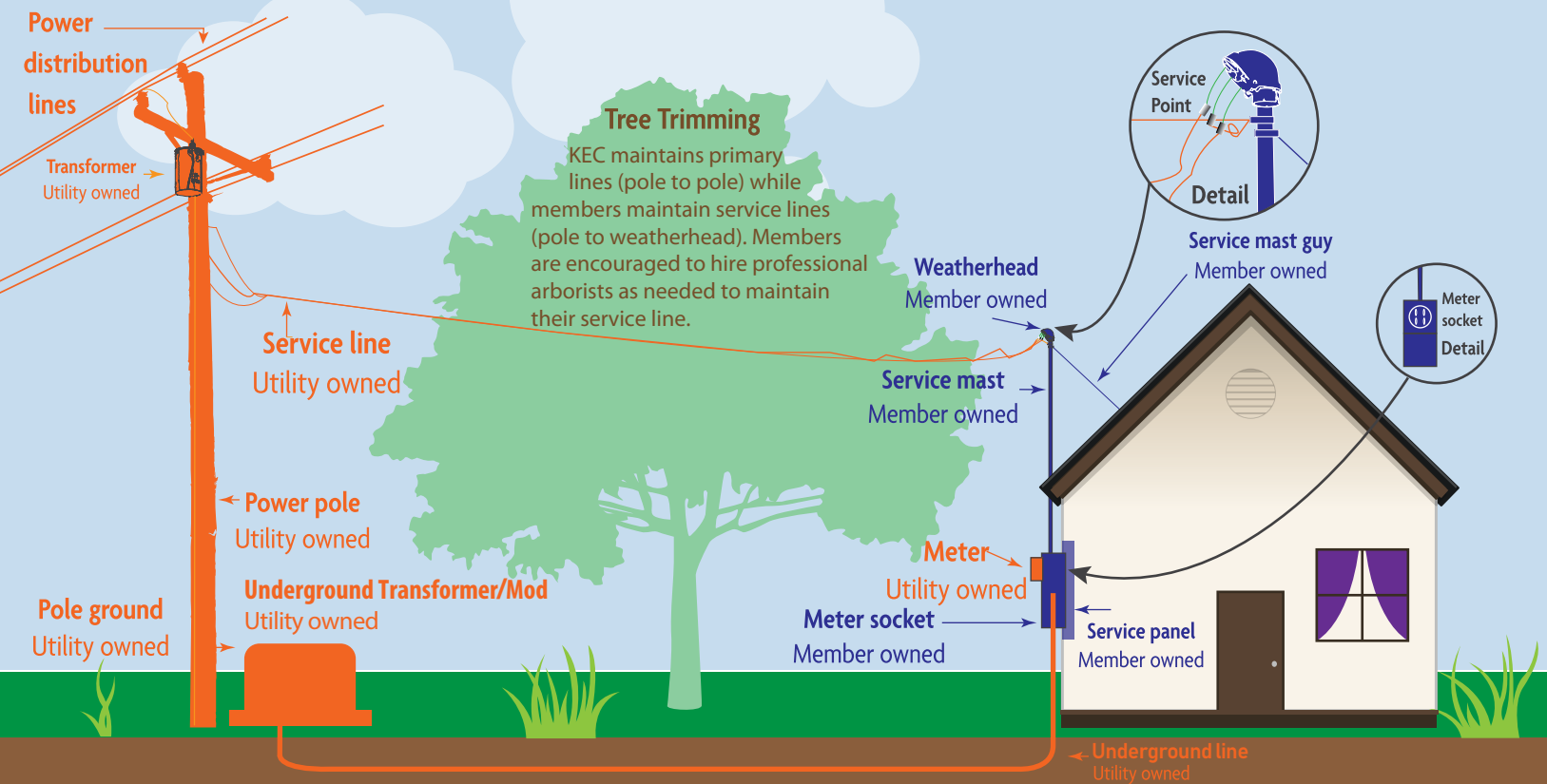
Below are 10 KEC account numbers. If you find your number contact us at 208.765.1200 and receive a \$50 credit on your bill. **1790085, 1855317, 1366610, 1850668, 1855033, 1339826, 1704612, 1822281, 1609201, 1828203**



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Who Owns What?

Kootenai Electric vs Member-Owned Electric Equipment



Knowing the safety precautions and legal responsibilities of your electric service is important for all KEC members. You may not be aware which equipment is the homeowner's responsibility and which is KEC's responsibility. Electric meters are the property of KEC. Removing the meter with current flowing through it can lead to an electrical explosion. The person working with the meter could be injured or killed. If you're planning electrical work, contact KEC and we will send certified personnel to your site to disconnect the meter. Under no circumstance should meters be removed or relocated—temporarily or permanently—by anyone other than authorized KEC employees.

For overhead service, KEC is responsible for the cable that runs from the utility pole to your home. This wire is called a "service line." The service line connects to your house at the "service mast," a vertical pipe-like structure attached to the top of the box that houses your electric meter. The service mast and the box that holds the meter are the homeowner's property and responsibility. Please keep the area around your meter box clear so KEC employees can access it if needed.

For underground service, KEC is responsible for the transformer, the underground wire from the transformer to the meter and the meter. If you have any questions about your electric service responsibilities, please call KEC at 208.765.1200. You can also view the Electric Service Handbook at www.kec.com.