

THE GRAND VALLEY POWER DIFFERENCE

BY TOM WALCH CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

If you read this column regularly, you know that Grand Valley Power operates under the cooperative business model. This is different than most organizations you transact business with here in Mesa County. Cooperatives follow seven principles recognized in 1844 by the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England. Nearly a century later, in 1937, the International Cooperative Alliance adopted the principles on behalf of cooperatives worldwide.

The seven principles are a key reason that America's electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of their members first. To ensure this happens at Grand Valley Power, we have posted these principles in the main hallway at our headquarters. We took the liberty of modifying the text to align with our present-day operations. These principles have served as the framework for almost 90 years of success for Grand Valley Power:

- **Open membership** — our members are a vital part of our organization, and all have

the opportunity to participate.

- **Democracy in action** — co-op leaders and decision-makers are elected by members.
- **Shared economic benefits** — members share in earnings that exceed operating costs.
- **Independence** — outside interests take a backseat to those of our members.
- **Education** — training and education make us more effective; our community is stronger when we promote the education of our youth.
- **Cooperation** — we are better when we work together: with one another, with other cooperatives, and with others in our community.
- **Community** — we exist to serve our community and make members' lives better.

At our annual meeting this month, you have the opportunity to participate in some of the fundamental activities that make cooperatives special — you can see and hear about how we put these principles in action.



TOM WALCH

You can exercise your vital cooperative right to elect the co-op leaders and decision makers who have the responsibility to preserve and protect our local iteration of the cooperative model. Your input will help ensure our independence.

You can do all this by joining us at our annual meeting the evening of August 8 at Colorado Mesa University's Meyer Ballroom. If you can make it, you will see the Grand Valley Power difference, up close and in person!

COMMENTS TO THE CEO

You are a member of a cooperative and your opinion does count. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please let Tom Walch know by writing to *Ask the CEO*, P.O. Box 190, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502, or send an email to me at twalch@gvp.org. Check out our website at gvp.org.

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Grand Valley Power board meetings are open to members, consumers, and the public. Regularly scheduled board meetings are held at 9 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the headquarters building located at 845 22 Road, Grand Junction, Colorado.

The monthly agenda is posted in the lobby of the headquarters building 10 days before each meeting and posted on the GVP website.

If anyone desires to address the Board of Directors, please let us know in advance and you will be placed on the agenda.

GRAND VALLEY POWER
2024 Director Candidates

LINDSAY BYERS GRAY THOMAS LAKE JIM MARSHALL

JESSE MEASE BILL ROOKS BRIAN WOODS

RETURN YOUR BALLOT BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 8
LEARN MORE AT GVP.ORG/DIRECTOR-ELECTION

More than Half of Grand Valley Power's Energy Comes from Renewable Sources

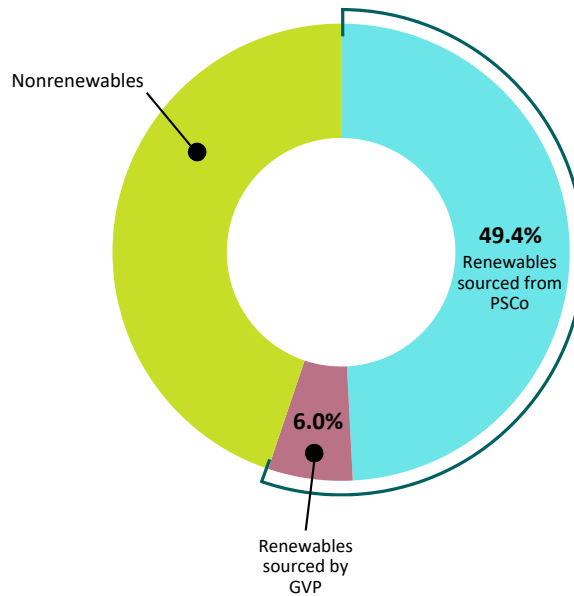
BY DESTRY SMITH ENERGY SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

Grand Valley Power recently filed its renewable energy standard report. In 2023, your cooperative purchased 55.4% of its energy portfolio from renewable sources. This is a 7% increase over the previous year, and far above the 10% requirement set for electric cooperatives by the state of Colorado.

Colorado is one of the first states in the country to implement a voter-led renewable energy standard, also called a renewable portfolio standard, which requires utilities to purchase a share of their electricity from designated renewable resources. These resources include wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, and hydroelectricity. Although the Colorado Legislature continues to increase the requirement as the industry transitions to clean energy, Grand Valley Power has always exceeded the mark set for electric cooperatives.

To calculate the percentage, GVP accounts for the number of megawatt-hours sourced from designated renewable resources and divides that number by the total megawatt-hours the cooperative sold during the same period. A major contributor to Grand Valley Power's high percentage of renewables are the wind resources allocated to the cooperative from its wholesale power provider, Public Service Company of Colorado, more commonly known as Xcel Energy. Locally, GVP contributes 6% toward the renewable energy standard. It is important to note that contractual obligations limit the amount of energy that Grand Valley Power can purchase outside of its wholesale power provider. Ultimately, GVP is in great shape to reach its meet its organizational goals and all state and federal clean energy requirements.

Grand Valley Power's 2023 Power Supply Mix



55.4% Renewables
Wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, hydroelectricity

WIRED WISDOM

Knowledge for Powering Your Life

Programmable Thermostats

- Convenience:** Set a schedule that adapts to your routine - reducing energy use while not at home.
- Precision:** Adjust temperatures more efficiently. Manual thermostats have up to a five degree variance, programmable thermostats vary between a half to one degree.
- Energy and money saving:** Programmable thermostats allow you to manage your energy resources more effectively, which maintains longevity of systems and appliances.

Questions? Call GVP to learn more: (970) 242-0040



Safe Electricity.org

Sending A Child To College?

Discuss safety first

When you are shopping for dorm room supplies, décor, snacks, and other back-to-campus items, take a moment to discuss safety tips with your child before hugs and goodbyes. Here are some safety topics to help keep your college student safe.

Electrical safety tips

- When shopping for items that run on electricity, look for a safety endorsement label, such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories).
- Do not put a cell phone under a pillow or place it on or under bedding. It could overheat or catch fire.
- In the dorm or apartment, make sure outlets near water sources are equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). If they are not, contact the resident assistant, campus housing staff or landlord. (Look for a test and reset button on the face of the outlet.)
- Use power strips with an over-current protector that will shut off power if too much current is drawn.
- Avoid overloading extension cords, power strips, or outlets

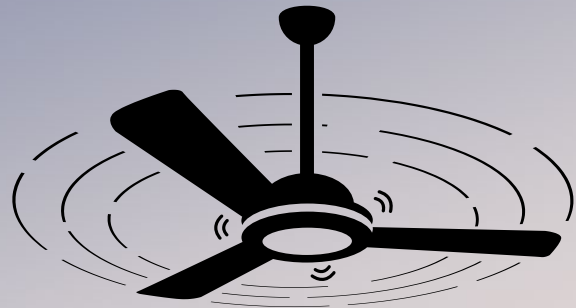
- Do not hang decorative lights with nails or tacks; always use plastic hooks.
- Do not run electrical cords across traffic paths or under rugs.

General safety tips

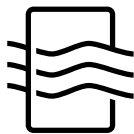
- Find out what type of public safety department is on campus and how it functions; ask which services the department offers and the steps it takes to prevent crime.
- Locate emergency call buttons or phones across campus in case of an emergency.
- Walk with a friend, especially at night.
- When attending events or parties, go with at least one person you know and trust. If your friend leaves, do not stay.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid being distracted (listening to music, texting, and so on) while walking on campus.
- Find out what types of mental health services or counseling the campus offers.

To learn more about electrical safety tips, go to SafeElectricity.org.

CEILING FAN BENEFITS

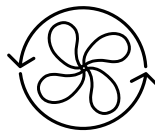


Ceiling fans use the same amount of electricity as a 100-watt lightbulb and help you feel cooler. Choose one that is Energy Star-rated to save energy and money.



Air Circulation

Fans help your AC unit work more efficiently by distributing the air that flows from the unit, creating more even temperature distribution.



Improved Air Quality

Set the direction: Using a high-speed, counterclockwise rotation in the summer creates a "wind chill" effect that can help you feel up to four degrees cooler.




Energy Savings


Running a fan is more cost effective than running your AC unit and uses less energy to help you feel more comfortable.

Back to School


ELECTRICAL SAFETY




Do not play on or around utility poles, power lines, or box transformers; you can get hurt!



Dry your hands before plugging anything in; especially in art or science classes where sinks are available.



Do not use metal utensils to get food out of a toaster. Unplug it and wait for the food to cool.



Look up and walk around a tree before you climb it. Make sure there are no power lines nearby.



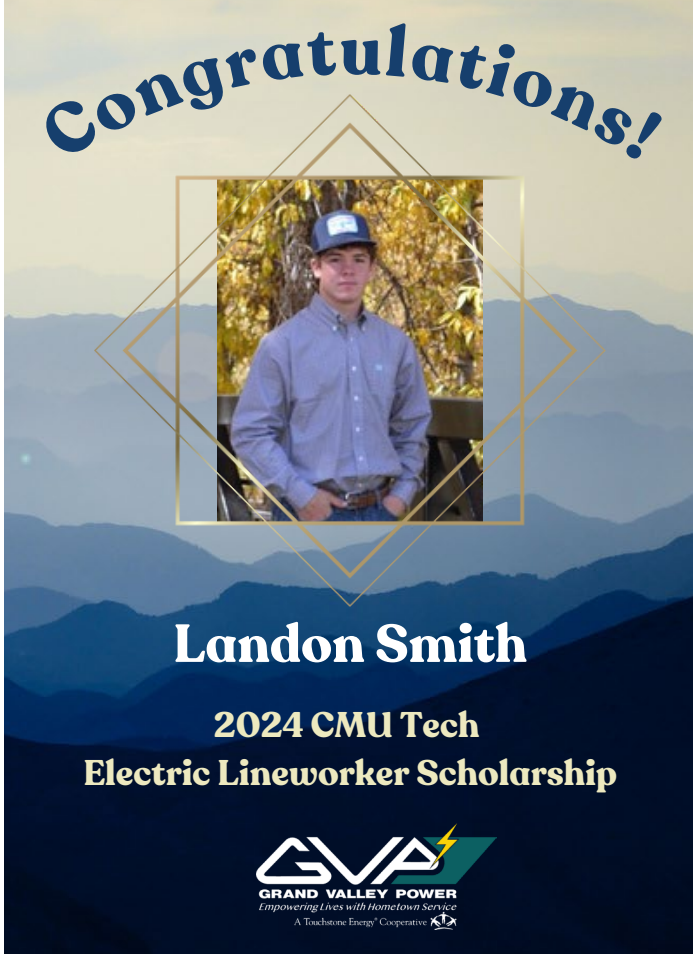
Unplug devices that are not in use. This will help save electricity and extend the life of your device.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Placing heat sources such as lamps, computers, or TVs near your thermostat can result in false temperature readings, increased energy use, and inconsistent cooling/heating. Make sure your thermostat is installed in an area clear of obstructions, electronic devices, direct sunlight, and drafts.

Ensuring your thermostat is free from these types of interferences optimizes energy efficiency, improves indoor comfort, and reduces wear and tear on your cooling/heating system.

Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)



CO-OP CALENDAR

2024 Grand Valley Power Annual Meeting – Thursday, August 8; 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 August Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 21
 Labor Day (Office Closed) – Monday, September 2

