

BEAT THE PEAK & MAKE A CHANGE

Is MVEA's Time-of-Day Rate Right for You?

BY RUTH MARKS CEO | RUTH.M@MVEA.COOP

It goes without saying that old habits can be hard to break. For Mountain View Electric Association members who can shift their electric use to MVEA's off-peak rate period new habits can provide a cost-saving solution for monthly energy use. Over the last year, we have talked about MVEA's Time-of-Day (TOD) rate option and the concept of "beating the peak" of high energy demand often. This month, I encourage you to take a closer look at your energy use habits to see where you can make changes to beat the peak enough to benefit from switching to MVEA's TOD rate.

"Energy Demand" is the term used to describe the amount of electricity needed to power your home or business at a specific point in time. It drives our whole energy system, impacting the total amount of energy used, the location and types of fuels used to generate your energy, and the technologies you use to consume our energy. MVEA purchases power from Tri-State G&T based on the average energy demand of our members — a number that is on the rise.

When the demand for electricity is higher than usual, power providers must ramp up electricity production — whether from coal, natural gas, wind, solar or other energy sources — and utilities pay more for electricity produced during the peak. The demand for electricity is even higher when it's especially hot or cold outside. The temperature outside plays a big part in the amount of energy that is used to control the temperature inside. Home heating and cooling systems must run longer, using more energy, to warm and cool our homes.

In addition to seasonal fluctuations, based on your family's habits, electricity use and demand fluctuates throughout the day. As demand for electricity rises, MVEA is responsible for providing enough electricity to meet the energy needs of all members during times of highest energy use or "peak hours." These peak times are typically in the morning as people start their day and in the evening as people return to their homes. Like many products, when there

is a higher demand, there is a higher cost for that product. MVEA's average energy demand peak is at 6:30 p.m. To help MVEA beat the peak all year long, we encourage members to avoid heavy energy use during the peak demand time period of 5-9 p.m. and to look for ways to shift energy use to other times of the day.

During peak periods when the cost to produce and purchase power is higher, MVEA members can help the co-op save by taking simple steps to reduce energy usage — steps such as turning down your thermostat to 68 degrees in winter and turning it up to 78 degrees in summer; turning off unnecessary lights; and waiting to use large appliances during off-peak times. If you own an electric vehicle, consider scheduling it to charge during our off-peak hours before 5 p.m. or after 9 p.m. If you have a programmable thermostat, adjust the settings to heat or cool during off-peak hours as well.

If you can create new energy use habits and shift enough use to off-peak times, you may benefit from MVEA's TOD rate. MVEA's TOD rate provides a cost-saving incentive for members to use electricity during off-peak times to reduce the co-op's overall demand. While MVEA's current regular residential rate is \$0.113 per kilowatt-hour (kWh), members on the TOD rate pay only \$0.075 per kWh between the hours of 9 p.m. and 5 p.m. but pay \$0.29 per kWh during the peak hours of 5 – 9 p.m. If you are curious about whether the TOD rate is a good fit for you, visit our online calculator at www.mvea.coop/bill-calculator.

Taking simple steps to save energy throughout the day and shifting energy-intensive chores to off-peak hours is a smart choice that can make a big difference. Working together, we can spread out our energy use and beat the peak to save energy and money. To learn more about MVEA's TOD rate, visit www.mvea.coop/rates or call (800) 388-9881.



RUTH MARKS

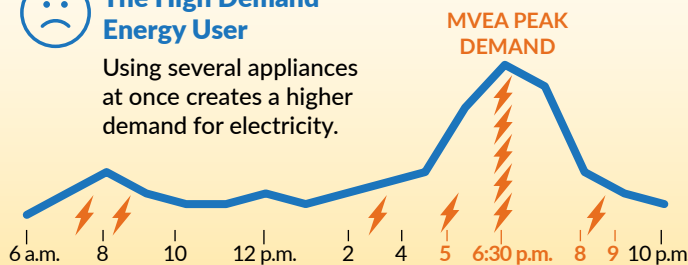
BEAT THE PEAK ⚡ Understanding Energy Demand

To help conserve energy and manage the cost of wholesale power, when you use electricity is just as important as how much you use. Let's work together to spread it out and beat the peak! To help MVEA beat the peak all year long, avoid heavy energy use during the peak demand time period of 5-9 p.m.



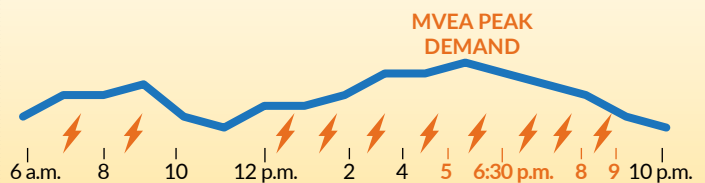
The High Demand Energy User

Using several appliances at once creates a higher demand for electricity.



The Energy Conservor

Spreading electric use out throughout the day helps beat the peak and conserve energy!

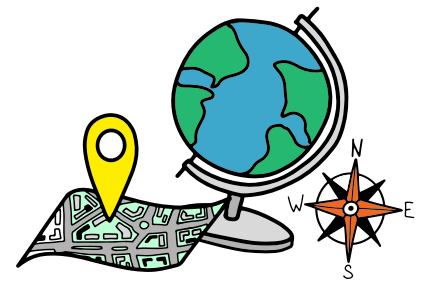


Can you shift your electric use away from MVEA's peak demand time of 5-9 p.m.? MVEA's Time-of-Day Rate offers a cost-saving solution to members who can shift their electric use to off-peak, lower rate periods.

Learn more about this cost-saving rate at www.mvea.coop/rates or call (800) 388-9881.

MVEA's Youth Leadership Trip Contest: A Gateway to Lifelong Memories and Learning

BY ERICA MEYER COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST



Each year, high school sophomores and juniors in the Mountain View Electric Association service territory can compete for a trip of a lifetime. Four top-placed applicants of MVEA's Youth Leadership Trip Contest receive an all-expenses-paid adventure, either to Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, or to the Colorado Electric Education Institute's Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp nestled in the mountains outside of Steamboat Springs. Both trips take place during summer break and offer students unique experiences and invaluable lessons.

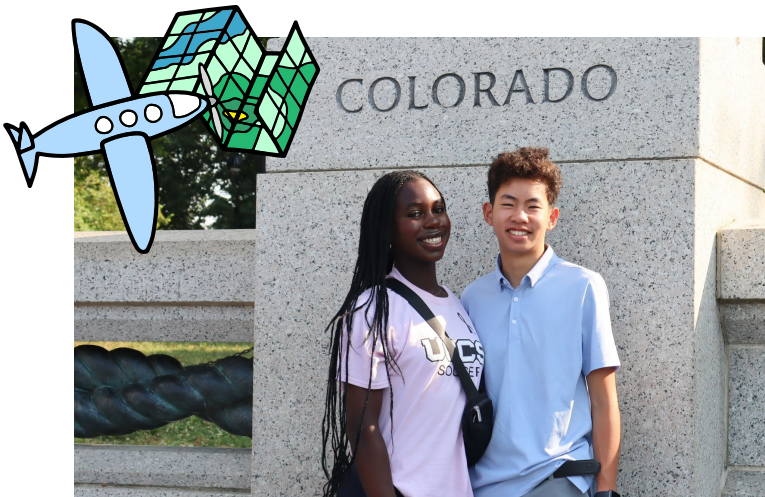
“The D.C. trip was an amazing experience for me as I learned so much more about the government.”
— Amaya Boarman

Brady's sentiments about the impact of the trip and the memories she made. Her visit to the African American Museum was particularly meaningful. “As a Black girl living in America, being able to see the African American Museum, which had just received new technology, was my favorite part of the trip. The museum had five floors and every floor contained something different. I felt like I could have been locked in there for two days and not have been bored!”

For students who are chosen to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, the experience is just as enriching. Ashley Small, camp attendee, described her time at camp as unforgettable. “The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp was an amazing experience. I was very fortunate to create lasting memories with some amazing people. It was easy to make friends despite not knowing anyone,” she recalled.

Ashley highlighted the camp's blend of education and adventure. “I got to learn so many new things along with going on numerous adventures. The presentations throughout camp were very impactful and taught me how to better my attitude. I will never forget my experiences at camp.”

For students seeking a summer filled with discovery, friendship, and personal growth, MVEA's Youth Leadership Trip Contest offers unparalleled opportunities. Whether exploring the historical landmarks of Washington, D.C., or embracing the natural beauty and leadership training in Steamboat Springs, participants come away with memories and lessons that last a lifetime. For more information or to apply by the November 7 deadline, visit www.mvea.coop/tripcontest.



Amaya Boarman and Brady Truong visit Washington, D.C., in June as winners of MVEA's Youth Leadership Trip Contest.

Brady Truong, one of MVEA's 2024 Youth Tour participants, vividly recalls his transformative journey in Washington, D.C. “This Youth Tour was the highlight of my summer! I enjoyed meeting and making new friends with students not only from Colorado but also from many other states. Meeting fellow students gave me a new perspective on life beyond the urban environment I'm used to,” Brady shared.

“The MVEA Youth Tour gave me a better understanding of real-life politics, the chance to see our nation's history, and most importantly, the opportunity to make many lifelong friends.”
— Brady Truong

Brady's personal connection to the Vietnam Memorial stood out as a poignant moment. “As the son of Vietnamese immigrants, my favorite site was the Vietnam Memorial. Seeing the almost never-ending list of soldiers who died during the Vietnam War made me extremely grateful for where I am now as well as a deeper respect for America and American soldiers,” he reflected.

Amaya Boarman, another Youth Tour participant, echoed



MVEA campers, Braedon Carley and Ashley Small, join counselor Erica Meyer in an avian conservation session with the majestic American eagle at Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

MVEA's Quarterly "Switch & Save" \$300 Account Credit Winner Spotlight: Tessa Barbosa

It's a common answer when "Switch & Save" winners are asked why they made the switch: "Convenience!" And, recent winner Tessa Barbosa agrees.

"The paperless and auto-pay options make things so easy and carefree for me. They make it easier for me to juggle my work and school schedule, and allow me to focus on friends and family in my free time," she shared. "I joined MVEA in January when I got stationed here. The customer service is great and knowing how well they take care of their members with their programs shows just how much they care."



MVEA members, like Tessa, who participate in MVEA's "Switch & Save" program can save up to \$1 per month! Currently, more than 35,500 MVEA accounts are enrolled in the program through paperless billing, bank account auto-pay, or both. Plus, all participating "Switch & Save" accounts are automatically entered into a quarterly drawing for a \$300 account credit.

Learn more at www.mvea.coop/payment-options.



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MISSION STATEMENT

To provide our members safe, reliable, affordable, and responsible electric service and access to broadband services.

This Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Co-op Communities Depend on Co-op Voters

Register to Vote

National Voter Registration Day is September 17.
Visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org to register to vote or to check your voter status. Make sure your vote counts!

Get Involved

Visit www.mvea.coop/legislative-advocacy to join other electric co-op voters in local and national grassroots advocacy efforts.

- Co-ops Vote Campaign
- Voices for Cooperative Power
- MVEA's Grassroots Network

MVEA Fiber Broadband Expansion Update

BY SCOTT SIMMONS VICE PRESIDENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

After construction delays in the first 18 months of Mountain View Electric Association's fiber broadband expansion, I am happy to share that we have made significant progress to get back on track and have worked with Conexon to provide a more accurate service availability time frame to members. Bringing in additional crews, specialized crews, and extra resources made a big difference in our efforts.

I am even happier to share that more than 10,000 co-op members in the Falcon and Limon areas currently have access to high-speed internet service through Connect, powered by Mountain View Electric. Members in portions of Black Forest will have access by the end of the year, with expansion into the Simla area to follow. Over 18,000 MVEA members are forecast to have access to fiber-to-the-home internet service as we go into 2025. We have surpassed the 1,000th member connected milestone and look forward to seeing that number continue to grow as more areas are opened for service in the months to come.

In addition to sharing our progress and milestones, I want to answer some questions we are receiving as we expand into new areas. While the most frequently asked question we receive about the project is "When is the service going to be available at my home?"; members also ask why we started building the fiber network in Falcon and Limon rather than the more rural areas of our service territory.

One way to look at the buildout between these two communities is as the backbone of the fiber-optic network between MVEA's two offices. The path of the fiber was designed with a dual purpose, and building the backbone is integral to both: to build a secure network to better serve MVEA's entire membership through the deployment of smart grid capabilities to the electrical infrastructure, and to bring access to high-speed fiber broadband internet to 100% of MVEA's membership.

While MVEA will own the fiber-optic network, the co-op is leasing the excess capacity to Conexon to serve as the internet service provider — providing access to their broadband service to co-op members. The fiber-optic path was created to build a strong



▲ Cement-walled fiber huts provide secure housing for network connectivity components and serve as the "nerve centers" of fiber-to-the-home distribution networks. To date, five huts have been delivered and installed to support MVEA's growing fiber network.

network backbone, to logistically buildout substations and areas close to the backbone, to mix rural and suburban communities, and with the flexibility to adjust the path to tap into expanded federal funding opportunities to offset the cost of building a state-of-the-art fiber network. To date, we have received two grants that have required us to strategically adjust the path and project schedule.

Another question we have started to receive as more areas open for service is about fiber-to-the-home installation fees. First, let me clarify that the internet service provider, Conexon Connect, establishes its own packages, prices, and fees. At this time, Conexon Connect is waiving installation fees. We have learned that this is a unique offer compared to some other internet service providers.

We know there are a lot of MVEA members who look forward to having access to high-speed fiber internet options. We hear you and want to assure you that this project's success is a top priority. For members who want to look at available service options, sign up, and check for service availability time frames, visit www.ConexonConnect.com. You can also call the Conexon Connect customer care team at (844) 542-6663. To learn more about the project, the partnership, and for answers to more frequently asked questions, please visit www.mvea.coop/internet.

ARE YOU READY FOR BACK TO SCHOOL?

Check high-speed internet off your list today!

CHECK YOUR AVAILABILITY!



844-542-6663

ConexonConnect.com

- ✓ Locally Focused Internet
- ✓ No Data Caps
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