



Being the Co-op You Can Count On

BY JEFF WADSWORTH PRESIDENT & CEO

ABOUT YOUR CO-OP

PVREA serves energy solutions to more than 56,000 homes and businesses in Boulder, Larimer, and Weld counties. We are a member-owned co-op, led by those we serve.

OUR MISSION

We are committed to providing safe, reliable, efficient energy solutions with exceptional service to our members.



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SOCIAL

facebook.com/PoudreValleyREA
x.com/PoudreValleyREA
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In today's rapidly changing world, we understand how important it is to have something you can rely on. We are dedicated to being that constant source of stability for you – our valued members – every single day.

At Poudre Valley REA, we take pride in being a steadfast presence for you – delivering safe and reliable power, maintaining affordable rates, embracing changes to how our power is generated, and standing strong alongside our communities as we thoughtfully navigate an evolving power grid.

POWERING YOUR EVERY DAY

For us, "reliability" is more than a buzzword, it's our commitment to you. We understand that electricity is the lifeblood of modern life and interruptions can have significant impacts. Simply put, electricity is how work is done.



That's why we invest in state-of-the-art infrastructure and rigorous maintenance programs to ensure your power is there when you need it. When a temporary service interruption does happen, our crews are well prepared to quickly and safely restore your power and your lives.

Whether it's keeping your home warm in the winter or your business running smoothly, your cooperative is dedicated to powering your life 24/7, 365 days a year.

KEEPING YOUR ELECTRIC RATES AFFORDABLE AND PREDICTABLE

Affordability is a core value we are proud to uphold. Other electric utilities are passing on double digit increases – we are not. We know that rising costs in other areas can strain your budget, so we work diligently to ensure our rates are affordable and predictable.

Poudre Valley REA continues to offer Colorado's lowest electric rates, saving

our residential members more than \$300 per year compared to the state average. In many areas across Colorado, our members are saving more than \$1,000 per year when compared to other electric utilities. This is real money we are proud to keep in your pockets and these significant savings reflect our sound financial management, use of innovative energy solutions, and careful planning.

When you open your bill each month, you should feel confident that there won't be any surprises, just the consistent, fair pricing you've come to expect and deserve.

MORE THAN JUST A UTILITY

Being the co-op you can count on means more than just keeping the lights on and rates low. We are deeply rooted in the communities we serve, and we take our role as a community partner to heart.

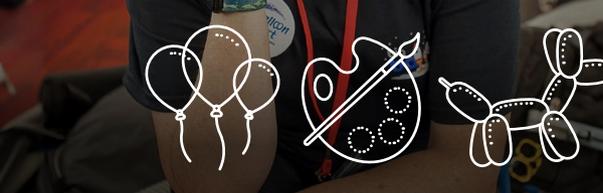
From supporting local schools and charities, to fostering economic development, and responsible sustainability initiatives, we are here for you in good times and in challenging ones. We believe that when our communities thrive, we all benefit.

LOOKING AHEAD

At Poudre Valley REA, our why is clear: to be the cooperative you can count on now and into the future. We are grateful to have the privilege of helping power your lives and thank you for the confidence you give us day in day out. We do not take that confidence for granted and will always be working to be the co-op you can count on.



FACES, PLACES & VOICES OF



ALLISON DUNNING

Balloon Art by Merry Makers and Merry Makers



“Celebrate everything until further notice – and if you are celebrating, then it is definitely worth decorating.”



Meet Allison Dunning, owner and creator of Merry Makers, LLC, and Balloon Art by Merry Makers.

Operating out of Greeley, Allison, her husband Brian and all three of their daughters – Elise, Rowan, and Isabelle – have all had a hand in the success of both sides of Merry Makers. Everything is done by hand, and there is no secret – as Allison and her daughter Rowan know well, the only “trick” to making a piece of balloon art is to take the time to make something special. With 23 years in the craft, they approach every job differently to bring a custom, unique experience to ensure the client gets a really cool product.

What started as a passion over two decades ago has grown into a blossoming business of balloon creations and décor, face painting, and caricature art, Merry Makers exists to bring joy throughout Northern Colorado and parts of Wyoming.

Allison’s main focus lies on the balloon art side of the business – specializing in balloon décor, sculptures, arches, and twisting. Bringing to life any and all ideas that her clients may have, Allison enjoys flexing her creative muscles and providing a joyful experience to those she works with. From extravagant wedding decorations to brighten up that special day to creating her favorite balloon creations – ladybugs – to bringing a smile to a child’s face, she approaches everything she does with a sense of care, passion, and creativity.



“If you have an idea, ask!” Allison said. “If you want it made out of balloons, we can likely pull it off. We can build anything, anywhere, any color, any size, any shape, and in almost any environment!”

“My job is to make people happy and help bring joy to the world and I truly embrace that 100%,” Allison said. “We have a very heavy world we live in and my job is to stay in a happy bubble, so when I go places, I bring joy. Wherever I go, I leave a bit of happiness.”

Allison and her band of Merry Makers will be joining us at our 85th Birthday Bash this October! With face painting, balloon art, and caricature art all part of their portfolio, they’re looking forward to bringing a fun experience to all who attend.

To learn more about Allison and her balloon creations, be sure to check out their website by scanning the QR code here or by going to www.balloonartbymerrymakers.com



OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

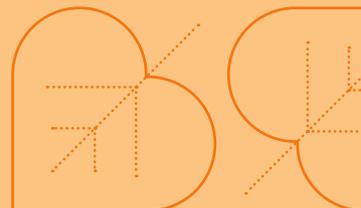
Friday, Oct 4

Our lobby will be closed at 3:30 pm



All Day Monday, Oct 14

Members can still call 800.432.1012 for payments, outages, & urgent requests.





National Cooperative Month

The Cooperative Difference

As your local electric cooperative, we operate differently than other types of utilities.

We're deeply rooted in the communities we serve, built by and for our members. To us, you're more than a customer – you're a member!

YOUR COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

Your membership provides you many unique benefits including electric rates built for your lifestyle, rewards programs, access to energy experts, rebates, and more.

We value your feedback and active participation, so come engage with us at our many community events throughout the year or come to our Annual Meeting.



COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. Voluntary & Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy & Independence
5. Education, Training, & Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

CO-OP CONNECTIONS CORNER

Co-op Connections

National Deals & Discounts

PVREA members have access to many national discounts as part of the free Co-op Connections program.

- **Amusement Parks** – Walt Disney World, Disneyland California, Universal Studios, & more.
- **Health & Beauty** – find all kinds of deals to live your best life.
- **Travel & Entertainment** – up to 70% savings on hotels, car rentals, & cruises.
- **Safety & Security** – ID protection, insurance, & roadside assistance.



Start exploring all the national and local deals at www.pvrea.coop/co-op-connections

Celebrating 85 Years of Service

Friday, Oct 4, 4–7:30pm



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT OF FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

- **Date:** Friday, Oct 4
- **Time:** 4 – 7:30pm
- **Grass lot south of our office:** 7649 REA Parkway, Fort Collins
- Food, fun, giveaways, prizes, & live entertainment



Mark your calendars! Details at www.pvrea.coop/b-day-bash

SAFETY CORNER

Cybersecurity Tips for a Safer Digital World

**OCTOBER** isCybersecurity
Awareness
Month

Did you know the average household with internet access owns about 17 connected devices? That figure covers a wide range of electronics, including smart phones, computers, streaming devices, smart speakers, home assistance, and more. Given our increasing reliance on internet-connected technologies, the likelihood of new cyber threats is ever-present.

Poudre Valley REA is deeply committed to ensuring our local system is safe and secure. We routinely monitor and manage cyber risks, and we work together with other co-ops and utility partners to share the latest advancements in cybersecurity measures to make us stronger. But you can help, too.

When we all work together to stay safe online, we lower the risk of cyber threats to our systems, online accounts, and sensitive data.

October is National Cybersecurity Month, and while good cyber hygiene should be practiced year-round, we'd like to share a few cybersecurity tips to help bolster your online safety.

- **Create strong, unique passwords.** When it comes to passwords, remember that length trumps complexity. Strong passwords contain at least 12 characters and include a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Create unique passwords for each online account you manage and use phrases you can easily remember.
- **Enable multi-factor authentication when available.** Multi-factor authentication (also known as two-factor authentication) adds an extra layer of security to your online accounts. These extra security steps

can include facial recognition, fingerprint access, or one-time codes sent to your email or phone.

- **Update software regularly.** Software and internet-connected devices, including personal computers, smartphones, and tablets, should always be current on updates to reduce the risk of infection from ransomware and malware. When possible, configure devices to automatically update or notify you when an update is available.
- **Learn how to spot and report phishing attempts.** Phishing occurs when criminals use phony emails, direct messages, or other types of digital communications that lure you to click a bad link or download a malicious attachment. If you receive a suspicious email or message that includes urgent language, offers that seem too good to be true, generic greetings, poor grammar, or an unusual sender address, it could be a phishing attempt. If you spot one, report it as soon as possible – and don't forget to block the sender.

Let's all do our part to stay cyber smart and create a safer digital world for all. Visit www.pvrea.coop or follow us on Facebook to learn about additional cybersecurity tips.

Save the Date //// 2025 Annual Meeting

Your cooperative's 2025 Annual Meeting of the membership will be held the morning of Saturday, April 5, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Loveland.

More details will be released later and members should expect their official invites and ballot information in the mail closer to the date of the meeting.

Learn more at
www.pvrea.coop/annual-meeting



SPOOKY Energy Savings

This spooky season, we're sharing a few energy-saving tricks so you can treat yourself to lower energy bills. Here are four simple ways to summon the spirit of energy efficiency.



- 1. Conjure instant savings with a smart thermostat.**
One of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control, since home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use.
- 2. Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating ghostly drafts.**
The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home.
- 3. Illuminate your lair with energy efficient lighting.**
LED bulbs use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent light bulbs. We also offer rebates for LEDs at www.pvrea.coop/rebates.

- 4. Stir up savings with countertop cauldrons.**
Cooler weather summons our favorite soup recipes. Small countertop appliances like slow cookers use less energy than cooking meals on the stovetop.

When we look around our homes, there are many opportunities to save energy. So this spooky season, investigate your space and unlock a different kind of magic – the kind that brings real energy savings.

Read more energy efficiency tips at www.pvrea.coop or scan this code.



APPLY FOR OUR

EMPOWER GRANT PROGRAM

STEAM FUNDING FOR CLASSROOMS

Apply before Nov 8

Empower Grants provide funding up to \$2,000 per K-12 classroom for STEAM focused learning objectives.

Grants have been used to purchase 3D printers, robotic kits, outdoor learning spaces, various electronic kits, and more!

Share this opportunity with the teachers and school administrators in your life to help fund their educational programs.

Learn more or apply today at www.pvrea.coop/empower-grant-program



OCTOBER 2024

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency upgrades to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 empowers homeowners to save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the cost of efficiency upgrades by up to 30%.

A few upgrades covered through the IRA include new exterior doors, windows, insulation, heating/cooling equipment, and other major appliances. If you have completed or are considering an efficiency upgrade, visit www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for tax credits.

Source: energystar.gov