



# More than Electricity: What the Value of Your Membership Means

BY **JEFF WADSWORTH** PRESIDENT & CEO

**Many people might not read the Farmers' Almanac anymore, but it has been an enjoyable routine for me this time of year.**

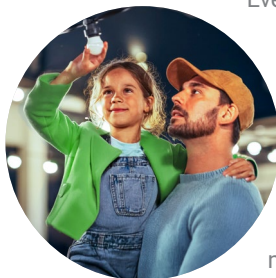
As I read their 2025 predictions, I reflected on the countless forecasts available for the year ahead. As speculations abound, there's one thing you can depend on – that your cooperative remains a beacon of stability, service, and community.

## STABLE, AFFORDABLE RATES

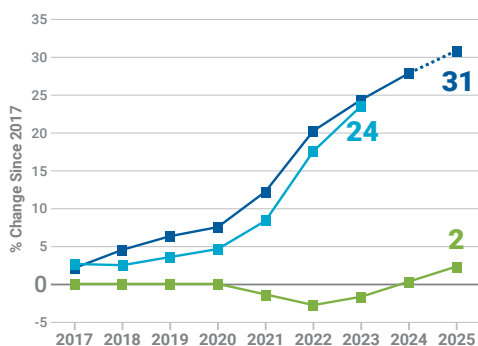
Poudre Valley REA provides the lowest residential electric rate in Colorado. Compared to the state average, a typical household saved almost \$30 per month, totaling over \$360 this year!

Many surrounding electric utilities continue to raise rates, often by significant amounts. And while we face similar rate pressures, we've worked hard to minimize the impact on you. Thanks to our strong financial position and proactive planning, we've kept your costs stable and will continue to prioritize affordability as we look to the future.

Between 2017 and 2025, the price you pay for electricity will have only increased by about 2%. That level of stability is rare, especially over an eight-year span.



## PVREA RATES, LASTING VALUE



**■ PVREA Rate ■ Inflation Rate ■ Avg US Rate**  
 Inflation Rate: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
 Avg US Rate: US Energy Information Administration,  
 2024 & 2025 data unavailable  
 2025 Inflation Rate: estimated

Learn more about our commitment to providing stable rates and an affordable product at [www.pvrea.coop/value-of-membership](http://www.pvrea.coop/value-of-membership).

## VALUE BEYOND YOUR ELECTRIC METER

We're committed to powering your life, not only with affordable electricity, but also with a range of services designed to add value and enhance it.

Every member should take advantage of our robust rebate offerings. Rebate information and applications are available at [www.pvrea.coop/rebates](http://www.pvrea.coop/rebates).

Other services include access to local energy experts, energy efficiency resources, and energy management best practices.

Explore your valuable membership benefits at [www.pvrea.coop/for-members](http://www.pvrea.coop/for-members).

Our community support services include electrical safety demonstrations, scholarships, youth trips, grants, and more. Details for these and more can be found at [www.pvrea.coop](http://www.pvrea.coop).

## LONG-RANGE FORECAST

We remain committed to provide you reliable, affordable electricity with exceptional service. I hope you've experienced this firsthand and see the value of being a cooperative member.

To celebrate your membership, please attend our Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Loveland. Details can be found on page 10 or at [www.pvrea.coop/annualmeeting](http://www.pvrea.coop/annualmeeting).

**From all of us at PVREA, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.**



## 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.



## CONTACT US

1-800-432-1012  
[pvrea@pvrea.coop](mailto:pvrea@pvrea.coop)  
[www.pvrea.coop](http://www.pvrea.coop)



## MAILING ADDRESS

Poudre Valley REA  
 7649 REA Parkway  
 Fort Collins, CO 80528



## SOCIAL

[facebook.com/PoudreValleyREA](https://facebook.com/PoudreValleyREA)  
[x.com/PoudreValleyREA](https://x.com/PoudreValleyREA)  
[instagram.com/poudre\\_valley\\_rea](https://instagram.com/poudre_valley_rea)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair <i>Peter Hyland</i> Weld County	Director <i>Rick Johnson</i> Larimer County
Vice Chair <i>Bryan Ehrlich</i> Larimer County	Director <i>Jan Peterson</i> Larimer County
Secretary <i>Thaine Michie</i> Larimer County	Director <i>Jack Schneider</i> Weld County
Director <i>Steven Anderson</i> Larimer County	Director <i>Ron Sutherland</i> Boulder County
Director <i>Sheryl Dryer</i> Henderson	Director <i>Larimer County</i>



# FACES, PLACES & VOICES OF



## CYNTHIA KINTZLEY

*District Coordinator, Weld County Toys for Tots  
Marine Corps Veteran, Captain, Logistics Officer*

When we think of Christmas, we envision elaborate decorations, bows and tinsel, days with friends and family, delicious meals, and gift-wrapped presents.

But for many, this time of year is marked by added stress – the thought of being unable to take time away from work or afford presents to place under the tree. The most impacted by this financial strain are often the children wishing for a magical moment on Christmas morning.

### MARINE CORPS RESERVE TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM

Cynthia Kintzley, District Coordinator for the Weld County Chapter of Toys for Tots, told us about herself and how she became involved with this non-profit. She also explained how Toys for Tots was created at the behest of the US Marine Corps to help put the hope back in Christmas.



In 1991, Toys for Tots was created to help economically disadvantaged children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas. They also exist to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign.

“It’s not about giving them a handout, it’s giving them a hand-up,” Cynthia said. “It’s putting that hope back into Christmas that maybe even some of these parents have lost.”

Cynthia, a retired Marine Corps veteran, was first introduced to Toys for Tots in 2001 while serving at 29 Palms, California. After moving to Greeley in 2013, she

soon brought her whole family to volunteer in toy drives.

She became the Toys for Tots Weld County Chapter district coordinator in 2023 after almost a decade of volunteering. “We helped over 4,000 kids with 14,000 toys last year,” Cynthia said. “We couldn’t have given out over 14,000 toys without the generous support of our community.”

Every toy or dollar that is donated stays local. “If you’re putting a toy in the box,” Cynthia said, “that is going to a kid who lives here in Weld County that needs help.”

### WHAT & HOW TO DONATE

Cynthia said her two biggest needs are for often-overlooked age groups – 0 to 18 months and 13- to 18-year-olds.

Donations for babies can include blankets and layettes, and developmental toys such as building blocks and stacking rings. Donations for teen girls could be makeup kits, hair dryers, or curling irons, and for teen boys it’s hygiene kits, shave kits, body wash, cologne, or hair gel. Sports equipment or craft kits make excellent donations as well.

Donation drop boxes are located throughout Weld County. A list of

locations is available at [www.greeley-co.toysfortots.org](http://www.greeley-co.toysfortots.org) or look for the big white boxes with the red train logo.



Toys for Tots also operates in Larimer and Boulder counties, so members throughout the Poudre Valley REA service territory can make donations.



**VALUE OF YOUR**

# Cooperative Membership

**Poudre Valley REA is thankful for our members who have trusted us to be their energy partner and community supporter for over 85 years.**

**We hope you're proud to be a member of the local electric cooperative who provides you the lowest rate in Colorado, the power you depend on, and exceptional member service.**



### SERVING UP SAVINGS

Our members saved about \$360 this year compared to the state average!

Your cost of power from 2017 to 2025 will have only changed about 2% – that will be 8 years of stable, affordable electricity.



### KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON

Our reliability metrics are nationally ranked in the top quartile.

We're committed to providing always-on power 24/7/365 while restoring outages quickly and safely.



### SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Your co-op was recognized in the top tier for providing excellent service.

We're committed to living out our mission of exceeding your expectations when it comes to the service you receive from us.



Learn more about our commitment to providing stable, affordable rates & services that add value to your life.

Scan the code or go to [www.pvrea.coop/value-of-membership](http://www.pvrea.coop/value-of-membership)

## Come Celebrate The Holidays With Us

**Twinkling lights and holiday cheer – Walk or drive through our Christmas light display all month long.**

**VISIT OUR HEADQUARTERS:**  
7649 REA Parkway, Fort Collins

**SHARE YOUR HOLIDAY LIGHT DISPLAY WITH US:**

Tag us in a photo on Facebook or Instagram

We can't wait to see your holiday decorations!



## How to Help this Holiday Season

**You can help keep those in need stay warm, healthy, and safe this winter.**

PVREA members can sign up to make a monthly or one-time donation to Energy Outreach CO on their bill.

Donations fund electricity bill support for people in need right here in our communities.



Learn to donate at [www.pvrea.coop](http://www.pvrea.coop) or scan the code.



**SAFETY CORNER**

# Horses Gallup & So Can Power Lines



## What causes a galloping power line and how can it impact power transmission and distribution?

Galloping power lines are typically caused by ice or snow and high winds occurring simultaneously. Some winter precipitation conditions create icicles and other ice formations on power lines and conductors. The ice buildup changes how wind and air impact the now misshapen, ice-covered line, causing the power line to bounce.

Once the lines get going, they can bounce and buck enough to hit another line, potentially causing a power outage or the line to fall.

There is not much PVREA can do to alleviate galloping lines since the wild motion is caused by Mother Nature. To help prevent this, we try to reduce impacts. We install special mechanisms on lines where galloping lines have been an issue to help reduce galloping.

Downed power lines are not just a result of winter storms. Any storm with high winds can knock down power lines and blow trees and limbs onto power lines.

**KEEP THE FOLLOWING SAFETY TIPS IN MIND:**

- Lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be dangerous.
- If you see power lines on the ground, stay at

least 50 feet away, warn others to stay away, and contact PVREA at **800.432.1012** or call **911**.

- Any utility wire, including telephone or cable lines that are sagging or down, could be in contact with an energized power line. Do not try to guess the type of line – stay away from all lines and report any utility line you think is dangerous.
- Be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide electrical hazards. Downed power lines can energize objects around them, such as chain-link fences and metal culverts.
- Keep in mind that a downed power line could become re-energized during power restoration efforts or improper use of generators.
- If you are in a car that has contacted or is near a downed power line, stay in your vehicle. Wait until the utility crew has arrived, de-energized the line, and tells you it is safe to exit. Warn others not to approach the car.
- Only exit a vehicle near or on downed lines if there is a fire. If this happens, cross your arms over your chest and make a solid jump out and away from the car with both feet together. Then hop away at least 50 feet or more while continuing to keep both feet together.

Source: safeelectricity.org



## Free Youth Trips for High School Students

The **COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP** brings young people together for a week in Steamboat Springs.

Build leadership skills, float the Colorado River, work on camp committees, and hear amazing speakers while making friends and memories that last a lifetime.

**APPLY BY JAN. 6**

Tour Washington DC while at the **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR**.

Experience all our Nation's Capital has to offer! Tour historic monuments and museums, meet state and national legislators, and learn about the benefits of electric cooperatives.

Find youth trip details and applications online at [www.pvrea.coop](http://www.pvrea.coop)





DECEMBER 2024

# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



If you're planning to purchase electronic gifts this holiday season, look for the ENERGY STAR® label, which indicates higher energy efficiency performance.

Electronics that receive the ENERGY STAR® rating are up to 25% more efficient than standard products.

This holiday season, give the gift of energy savings with ENERGY STAR® rated electronics and equipment.



Source: energystar.gov



## Save the Date

COME TO THE 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday,  
April 5, 2025  
Embassy Suites  
in Loveland, CO  
Business Meeting 9am**

Official invitations will be sent to all active members.

More details will be posted online at [www.pvrea.coop/annualmeeting](http://www.pvrea.coop/annualmeeting)

## 2025 Board of Directors Election Timeline



There are 3 Board seats available per our election cycle: 2 seats in Larimer County and 1 seat in Weld County.

Any member of good standing is eligible to submit a nominating petition to become a candidate for the Board of Directors. Nominating petitions must be signed by at least 15 qualified PVREA members and submitted to the Board by the due date.

Nominating petitions are available at the PVREA HQ during business hours:  
7649 REA Parkway, Fort Collins, CO 80528.

- 12/04/24 Nomination Packets Available
- 02/04/25 Signed Nominating Petitions Due
- 02/28/25 Voting Ballots Mailed to Membership
- 04/04/25 Mail-in Voting Closes
- 04/05/25 In-person Voting at the Annual Meeting



**Our office will be closed:**

**Tuesday 12.24.24 – Wednesday 12.25.24** for Christmas  
& **Wednesday 1.1.25** for New Year's Day

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

