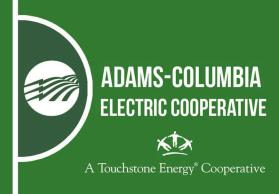
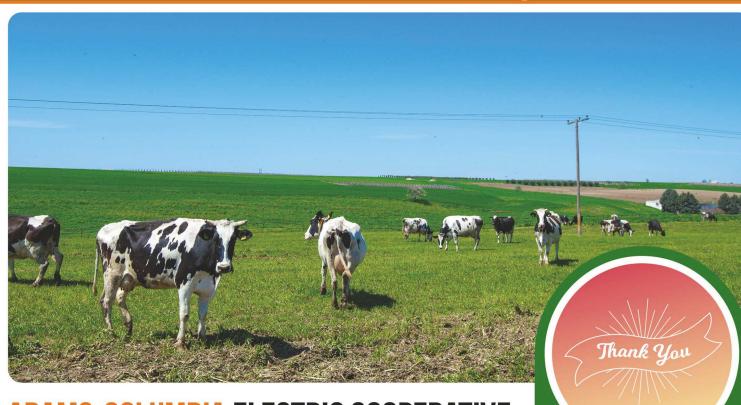
# CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

YOUR TRUSTED ENERGY PARTNER

**JUNE 2017** 





### ADAMS-COLUMBIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Your source for Co-op news and information.

#### ATTENTION LANDLORDS



Are you a landlord with renters on ACEC lines? Please notify us with any rental properties that you have. Call our office at (800) 831-8629.

#### **SUMMER STORMS**



Summer season is storm season. Ensuring our members have power is always our priority. Our linemen work hard day and night to keep the lights on! Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting last month. We had some great discussion. It's wonderful to see our members passionate about ACEC's operation!

DID YOU KNOW WE OFFER RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOANS? CALL US AT (608) 339-5426

## **UNDERSTANDING PATRONAGE CAPITAL**

#### **WHAT IS A COOPERATIVE?**

I'm sure you've heard the phrase "Member Owned" before, but what does that mean?

A cooperative is a business operated for the benefit of those using its services- its members. Profits and earnings generated by the cooperative are distributed among the members. Meaning, ACEC does not exist to generate

profits for a group of investors. We are member-owned.

#### **WHAT IS PATRONAGE CAPITAL?**

The profit, called 'margins' at a cooperative, that ACEC generates are used to cover the cost of operating the cooperative. Any remaining margins are then divided between members based on usage. This margin is then called patronage capital and represents the amount of ownership you have in the cooperative.

2016 was a good fiscal year for ACEC. Kilowatt hours sold to members in 2016 were down 5%, mainly due to a mild start to the winter season. Operating costs were over \$750,000 higher than the previous year, but the rate increase in April offset that cost. Once our yearly audit was complete, the board authorized the allocation of over \$5.5 million to our members.



Your patronage capital allocation notice will appear on the electric bill you receive this month. The notice will show the amount of patronage capital allocated for 2016 along with the total unretired patronage capital balance. The amount represents your ownership and the amount to be returned to you in future years.

# **UPDATE YOUR PHONE NUMBER**



Update your phone number in our system. If you experience a loss in power you can call our outage number at (888) 928-2232. If our system does not recognize your phone number we cannot pin point your location as quickly and easily.

Call our office at (800) 831-8629 to update the phone number on file for your account.



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**JULY 04** 

4th of July

Our office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.



Co-op Month

To celebrate Co-op month, we will be holding a document shredding event at each of our offices. Friendship -10/6, Pardeeville-10/13, Wautoma-10/20









