

News letter

November 2020



310-POWR

"For your tomorrow,
we gave our today."

John Maxwell Edmonds



Seasonal Energy Saving Tips

As the seasons begin to change, we know that it is only a matter of time before the chill of winter returns. The Blue Mountain Power Co-op offers the following tips to prevent heat loss:

- Use a programmable thermostat to avoid unnecessary temperature fluctuations which draw more energy.
- Check your furnace filter regularly and change or clean as required. Dirty filters may reduce the efficiency of your furnace.
- Make sure that your heating vents are free from any obstructions.
- Ensure that you are not losing heat unnecessarily through poorly sealed ducts or spaces such as attics, basements or rooms that are not in use.
- Most ceiling fans can be switched to change the direction of the airflow. During the winter the blades should push air upwards which will drive hot air back down around the edges of the room. Open your blinds or curtains on sunny winter days and close them as soon as the sun goes down in order to retain heat.

Having current member information on file is vital during pre-planned and unplanned power outages. Please contact the BMPC office with your mailing address, phone number or email address changes. Phone 310-POWR (7697) or by email to bmpc@bmpower.coop

Use of Home Generators

Home generators are handy for backup electricity in case of an outage, but must only be used in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.

A back-up generator may only be connected to your home's electrical system through an approved transfer panel and switch that has been installed by a qualified electrician.

Never plug a generator into a wall outlet as serious injury can result when the current produced by the home generator is fed back into the electrical lines, and transformed to a higher voltage. This can endanger the lives of utility employees working to restore the power.

To operate a generator safely:

- ◆ Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ Ensure that the generator operates outdoors in well-ventilated conditions, well away from doors or windows, to prevent exhaust gases from entering the house.
- ◆ Connect lights and appliances directly to the generator. If extension cords must be used, ensure they are properly rated, CSA-approved cords.

Power Interruptions

Power Interruptions (blackouts) can occur at anytime, even in minus forty degree weather. BMPC has no control over these interruptions. Members are encouraged to be prepared for power interruptions at any time through the use of alternative sources of power such as generators and solar panels that are safely installed. More information can be obtained from the Government of Canada website <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-eng.aspx>.

Administration Building Renovation

The Administration Building renovation is continuing on schedule. We anticipate completion by the end of January, 2021. In the meantime, BMPC continues to operate in our temporary office located at 4919 - 43 Street.



**The Blue Mountain Power Co-op office
will be closed Wednesday, November 11, 2020
in honour of Remembrance Day.**



Contact the Blue Mountain Power Co-op and Computer Services:

Phone: 310-POWR (7697)

E-mail: bmpc@bmpower.coop

Address: 4920 - 43 Street (Box 1538), Rocky Mountain House, AB, T4T 1B2

