

Newsletter

October 2021



Give
Thanks
with a
Grateful
Heart

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 unnecessarily losing heat 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.

Fixed Rate Energy Contracts

The cost of purchasing power in Alberta has reached historically high and unstable prices in 2021. This market volatility and industry electricity pricing has generated a need for a change in the Fixed Rate Energy Contract offered by BMPC. Therefore, the BMPC Board approved a Fixed Rate Energy Contract at 8.4 cents per kWh for the term ending June 30, 2022, which has also been posted on our website. This replaces the previous Fixed Rate Energy Contract of 6.99 cents per kWh. Due to the volatile electricity market prices, there is potential that the Fixed Rate Energy Contract offered may change again before the current term end date of June 30, 2022. However, BMPC is working to mitigate these high prices for members by evaluating our strategy for how we procure power. If you had previously signed a Fixed Rate Energy Contract at 6.99 cents per kWh, your account will remain on that rate until the term end date of January 31, 2022.

Overhead Power System Safety Tips

- Do not approach or touch anything (such as a vehicle, tree, or fence) that is in contact with a power line.
- Verify the height of your load before you begin to move/work. If you are moving an over height load on public roads, you will need to investigate our high load requirements.
- Note the location of overhead lines, even if you will just be moving equipment around the farm. Line heights can vary depending on the weather and age of the lines. Keep your distance from power lines by maintaining the 7 meter safe zone.
- Know that vegetation near power lines may also be a hazard.
- Piling of material (bales, dirt, gravel etc.) should not be located under power lines.
- DO NOT attempt to measure the existing power lines. To have a line measured, please contact BMPC.

Please contact the Blue Mountain Power Co-op at **310-POWR** if you have any questions.



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