



October 2024

FALL RIVER FLASHES

Committed to safely and economically provide reliable energy and other services which bring value to its membership.

DID YOU KNOW?
THE DAILY COST OF POWER IS ABOUT **\$5**

THE COST OF ELECTRICITY

The cost of electricity for the average residential owner-member of Fall River Electric Cooperative is less than \$5 a day, including the kilowatt hour charge, access fee, and demand. It is great to be a member of a cooperative!

There's an app for that!

Search 'MY FR APP' in the app store

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you can manage most all aspects of your energy service from Fall River Electric Cooperative with our FREE mobile app? You can pay your bill, see your transaction history, report a power outage, and much more from the ease of your smartphone. Just look for MY FR APP in the App Store or Google Play and download it for FREE!



Co-ops Power Communities

October is National Co-op Month!



Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Fall River Electric Cooperative is deeply committed to our owner-members, and we are glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. During this month, we reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it is a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric cooperatives are nonprofit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. Fall River Electric cares about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we are uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too! That is why we work hard to support local youth programs, scholarships, charitable giving initiatives, and additional programs that make our communities better places to call home.

All co-ops, including Fall River Electric, are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement.

Record Turnout in West Yellowstone For Member Appreciation

A record-breaking crowd of owner-members from West Yellowstone and Island Park attended Fall River Electric Cooperative's Member Appreciation luncheon on Friday, September 13, held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in West Yellowstone. Nearly 500 burgers and 200 hot dogs were served, with 250 energy conservation kits given away, and every single one of our cooler backpacks was distributed. Members spent time visiting with friends and neighbors, along with members of the Co-op's management team and board of directors.

These seven principles are:

- 1. Open and Voluntary Membership:** Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.
- 2. Democratic Member Control:** Members make decisions that shape the cooperative. Why? Because co-ops are created by the members, for the members.
- 3. Members' Economic Participation:** Members contribute money to the co-op to make sure it runs smoothly now and in the future. At Fall River Electric, this happens through paying your monthly energy bills.
- 4. Autonomy and Independence:** Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.
- 5. Education, Training, and Information:** Co-ops continuously focus on education to ensure employees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful.
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives:** Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.
- 7. Concern for Community:** All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the tremendous benefits that go alongside being a member of Fall River Electric. It is something unique in the utility industry. Our mission is our commitment to safely and economically provide reliable energy and other services which brings value to you, our owner-members. Our purpose is people—the local communities we are proud to serve.



Where Service Matters

800-632-5726
208-652-7431

ASHTON

1150 North 3400 East
Ashton, ID 83420

DRIGGS

1605 N Highway 33
Driggs, ID 83422

WEST YELLOWSTONE

436 Madison Ave
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

All Our Offices Are Open

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Husk Crowther
District 1
Rexburg/Rigby
Vice President



Travis Markegard
District 2
West Victor



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District 3
East Victor
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District 8
North Island Park



Doug Schmier
District 9, West Yellowstone



Bryan Case
Fall River Electric
CEO/General Manager



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Want your Fall River *FLASHES* faster? Click www.fallriverelectric.com and then select the tab "My Cooperative" followed by the drop-down menu "Fall River Electric Newsletter."

Keep up to date, including on power outage information, by "liking" Fall River Electric on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fallriverrec.

Co-ops Vote On November 5



If you could shape the future of your community in five steps, would you? While it might seem like an impossible question, the 2024 general elections are taking place nationwide next month, giving Fall River Electric Cooperative owner-members—like you—the opportunity to make your voice heard on issues that affect your community. This election is an opportunity to elect candidates who support energy policies that promote safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

Fall River Electric understands the importance of voting with co-op issues in mind and is working to ensure all our members go the polls as Co-op Voters. To help, we are partnering with Co-ops Vote, a national, non-partisan initiative focused on enhancing the political strength of electric co-ops through relationship-building with policymakers.

Co-ops Vote is a program built to give members of Fall River Electric the resources and information needed to vote with Fall River Electric issues in mind. So, how can you be a co-op voter at the polls? Well, it is as easy as following these five steps.

1. Get Ready: Registering to vote is simple and easy! To help, Co-ops Vote has a website full of voter resources and information. You can check it out at www.vote.coop.

2. Get the Details: Every state's election process is different, and it is important to know about upcoming voter registration deadlines, the process for requesting absentee ballots, and more so you do not miss key dates. We have made it easy. You can find all the information about voting in Idaho, Montana, or Wyoming by visiting www.vote.coop/gotv.

3. Get Informed: Before you head to the polls, it is important to be educated on the policy issues that help keep your community's power reliable, affordable, and safe. Learn more about these issues by joining Voices for Cooperative Power, a national network of co-op advocates, by visiting www.voicesforcooperativepower.com/issues.

4. Get the background: Now that you are registered and informed, it is time to learn about your candidates. You can view a list of your current elected officials on the Voices for Cooperative Power website and then click to view their official website for news releases and official policy positions.

5. Get others involved! Now that you have done your research and are officially ready to head to the polls as a Co-op Voter, it is time to get your family, friends and neighbors involved.

We encourage you to complete these five simple steps and become a #CoopVoter. America's electric cooperatives, including Fall River Electric, understand the importance of political engagement.

Together, we have the power to educate lawmakers, build awareness about our issues and concerns, and support legislative issues that are important to our communities. The co-op voice is powerful, and it starts with you!

We will see you at the polls on Election Day, November 5th!

TAKE SAFETY HOME: Travel Safely

If you are planning holiday travel this year and wondering how to travel with safety in mind, look no further than these tips:

1. Do not wear flashy jewelry. Leave it at home so you are not an obvious target for robbery.
2. Use credit or debit cards rather than large amounts of cash. Use ATMs attached to financial locations, which are less likely to be tampered with by scammers.
3. Know the phone number for emergency services, especially if you are traveling out of the U.S.
4. Use the right bag like a cross-body bag rather than a shoulder or handbag. These are much more secure from being grabbed.
5. Try to blend in. Dress like the locals do.
6. Check in with family and friends often.
7. Ask locals for advice. Ask for recommendations of safe neighborhoods.



8. Stay aware of your surroundings whether you are in a crowded place or empty street.
9. Trust your instincts. If you are feeling uncomfortable, most likely there is a reason.
10. Use reputable transportation companies. If you are using Uber or Lyft, check the vehicle info and verify their name BEFORE you get in.

And most of all, have fun!