

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Beacon

JULY 2021



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 57
Holyoke, CO 80734-0057



STREET ADDRESS

1300 S. Interoccean
Holyoke, CO 80734



ph 970-854-2236
tf 800-816-2236
fax 970-854-3652
email info@hea.coop
web www.hea.coop



facebook.com/HighlineElectric

Our mission is to provide our members with reliable, high-quality electricity and other needed services, which will improve their economic and social well-being and provide significant long-range benefits for our communities, our state and our nation.



HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



Touchstone Energy®

A BALANCED FUEL MIX PROMOTES POWER RELIABILITY

BY DENNIS HERMAN GENERAL MANAGER



DENNIS HERMAN

The energy industry is undergoing a dramatic transformation as consumer demand for more renewable energy sources grows, and innovation and technology continue to advance exponentially. You're likely witnessing this energy evolution firsthand.

In driving across the region, you may have noticed fields of solar panels owned by Highline Electric Association and other utilities, along with an increase in solar panels on your neighbors' roofs. Maybe you've heard about the impending changes in the transportation sector with most major vehicle companies announcing plans to offer more electric vehicles at more affordable prices.

Consumer interest in renewable energy is strong and growing. In addition, national studies indicate that consumers have an expectation that companies operate in an ethical and responsible manner — including when it comes to the environment.

At Highline, we have always put the good of our community first. While our primary function is to provide reliable and affordable energy to our consumer-members, we are more than an electricity provider. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our consumer-members and to serve the long-term interests of our community. We feel we're doing both by investing in renewable energy sources.

Green energy is certainly not new. Solar, wind and hydropower have been around for decades. However, the recent innovations and advances in renewable technology have led to sharp decreases in cost, making it more feasible and accessible. In recent years, Highline has worked to make renewable

generation within our service territory a reality. This includes generation from the capture of waste heat as well as utility scale solar generation.

However, to borrow a nautical analogy, it takes a long time to turn the direction of a large ship — and changing the energy mix we use to power homes and businesses doesn't happen overnight. While renewable energy use is increasing, we will still depend on traditional forms of energy to keep power flowing reliably to your home. After all, solar and wind energy are referred to as "intermittent" power since the sun does not always shine and the wind does not always blow. This fact coupled with the growing demand for renewables creates its own challenges. That is why there is real value in maintaining a balanced mixture of fuel types to ensure reliability and resiliency while meeting the growing demand for electricity.

As the energy industry continues to evolve, Highline is striving to take advantage of technology advances and market opportunities as they become available. This means leveraging the flexibility of the grid to offer a wider range of renewable power selections as we continue to bring safe, reliable and affordable power to our community.

Albert Einstein once observed that, "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." In order for us at Highline to meet the growing demand for renewable energy *and* ensure the reliability of our power supply, we must constantly make operational adjustments as we strive for balance and a brighter future for our consumer-members.



CO-OP CONNECTIONS MEMBERS HAVE SAVED OVER \$78 MILLION ON PRESCRIPTIONS

IT'S SIMPLE

- 1** Present your Co-op Connections Card at checkout. If you have insurance, present your insurance card as well.
- 2** Ask the pharmacist to calculate the discounted price. If you have insurance, ask the pharmacist to compare the discount card price to your insurance price.
- 3** You pay the lowest price between the two.

TO LOCATE PROVIDERS IN YOUR AREA:

Go to www.connections.coop/healthy-savings and click "Locate Providers."

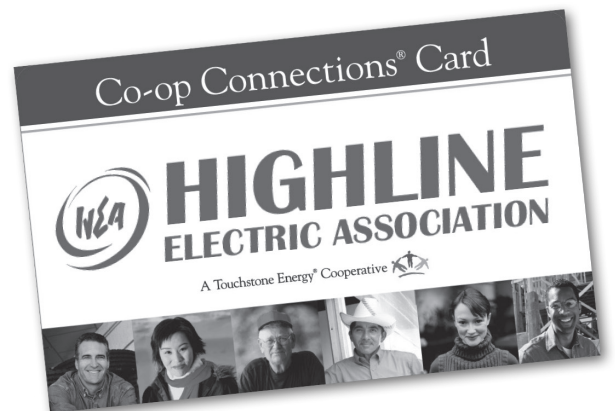
Set up your account.

Enter your zip code to search for providers near you.

Or you can call Member Services at 800-800-7616 if you have questions or to find a provider.

JUST ONE MORE GREAT MEMBER BENEFIT BROUGHT TO YOU BY HIGHLINE ELECTRIC

Pharmacy discounts are Not Insurance, and are Not Intended as a Substitute for Insurance. Pharmacy discounts range from 10% to 85% on most medications. **The discount is only available at participating pharmacies.** Prescription claims through this program will not be eligible for reimbursement through Medicaid, Medicare or any other government program.



Pesticide Safety

Please protect our employees

Our employees face serious health risks when they unknowingly enter a field that was sprayed or chemigated with any chemical. Just as you would not subject your family or employees to risk, we do not want to subject our employees to risk. Please consider the following:

- If you used any chemicals on a field, please notify Highline. You may call the office or you can place a flag at the entrance to the field. Please note the day when it is safe to enter the field and what chemical was used.
- Notification signs or flags are available free of charge at any Highline office.
- If calling during an outage, please notify Highline if the field was sprayed.
- The initial and long-term effects of absorbing chemicals in the body are extremely hazardous to one's health. Please don't subject our employees to these dangers.



County Fair Dates:

- **Perkins:** July 19-24
- **Phillips:** July 20-25
- **Dundy:** July 21-25
- **Eastern Colorado Roundup** (Washington): July 26-31
- **Sedgwick:** July 28-August 1
- **Logan:** July 29-August 8
- **Yuma:** August 7-11
- **Chase:** August 8-15
- **Deuel:** August 12-14

Offices Closed
July 5
in Observance of
Independence Day



Employee anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees who observed an employment anniversary in July:

- Nick Saylor**31 years
- Dennis Herman**29 years
- Jeff Blochowicz**.....19 years
- Imer Rodriguez**.....6 years
- Benjamin Kafka**.....6 years

Rebate \$\$ available for members!



As a member of Highline Electric, you may qualify for rebates on certain energy efficient equipment and appliances, such as:

- Energy Star® certified appliances
- LED lightbulbs (500 lumens minimum)
- Heat Pumps/Air Conditioning systems
- Premium efficiency irrigation motors, and more...

It's easy to apply; we ask for your receipt/invoice, proof of Energy Star® Certification (where applicable) and account number of the service where the equipment or appliance is being installed.

Rebates must be requested within 120 days of the purchase date (not install date), so don't wait. Call us or go online today!

Contact us:

- www.hea.coop
- rebates@hea.coop
- facebook.com/HighlineElectric
- Toll-free: 800.816.2236
- Holyoke: 970.854.2236
- Ovid: 970.463.5400
- Sterling: 970.522.2650



Water Safety Reminder

Though important year-round, July is a good time to talk about water safety. Life vests, fire extinguishers, flotation devices that can be thrown in the water and proper lighting are a few essentials for recreation at a pool or a lake. But some people aren't aware of one of the most dangerous and life-threatening hazards that can kill swimmers without warning: electric shock drowning. ESD can occur when electrical connections around pools, lakes and other bodies of water are not installed or maintained properly.

Safe Electricity urges boat owners to have dockside electrical systems installed by professional electricians guided by the National Electrical Code, and to have these systems inspected regularly to avoid tragedy. **Get more information about ESD by visiting SafeElectricity.org.**



July 2021

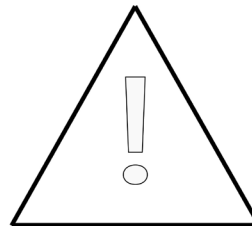
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat — such as clothes dryers and dishwashers — during the evening when it's cooler. This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.

See How Much You Can Save
Take advantage of grants and rebates, and save money on your energy bill.

Over the past five years, the Colorado Agricultural Energy Efficiency Program has helped numerous farms and dairies reduce their energy bills and save millions of gallons of water.

Scan Now to Learn More and Start Saving



Be on alert for phone scams

Be prepared. Phone scammers are targeting Highline members. We will never call to ask for immediate payment, threaten to shut off your power immediately or ask you to pay with a pre-paid debit card. If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and call your local HEA office or 1.800.816.2236.



July 15 is Pet Fire Safety Day

You take the time to ensure your pets are fed, exercised and up to date on their vaccinations, but **don't forget about electrical hazards in your home** that could cause them harm. Keep electrical cords out of reach to avoid the risk of them chewing on or playing with them.