



**Improving Quality Of Life
In Our Communities Since 1937**

Electricity and Telecommunication Services



PSREC eNewsletter

March 2018

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Manager's Message

Dear Members:

We are carefully watching the very dry conditions we are facing once again. So far, due to the decent amount of water behind the federal dams, we are not anticipating a rate increase at this time. This could change throughout the year based on the management of the federal dams and the market conditions for power, along with the ever-present concern about state and federal regulations. In addition, there are several proposals on electric utility regulation that could curtail our operations in extreme weather conditions. We are watching these carefully to make sure they are based on science and safety, not just a knee jerk reaction to last year's catastrophic fires.

We will also be increasing our removal of hazard trees due to the ongoing damage to our forests from the multi-year drought. Hazard trees can include trees that appear healthy but have defects such as split tops, dead tops, "cat-faces", or other issues that require their removal. We would appreciate your cooperation in removing hazard trees as efficiently as possible.

New Websites

Later this month, PSREC and PST will be launching redesigned websites that will be more user-friendly. Keep a look out for these new sites at www.psrec.coop and www.pst.coop.

Scholarships

Attending a college or university next fall? PSREC and PST will offer two \$1,000 scholarships. Full details and an application can be found on our website at www.psrec.coop. The application deadline is Friday, March 16.

Energy Savings

At PSREC, we work hard to empower our members to take charge of their energy consumption. Through our secure SmartHub link at www.psrec.coop, we have tools you can use to access your historical energy use. This data can be graphically-compared to temperature data for your area. We have observed that, while there are several other variables, the heating portion of most residential electric bills increases three percent for every degree the average daily temperature drops below 50F.

An increased awareness of energy consumption habits allows you to choose when and how to save energy and, in turn, lower your bill.

Create an online profile to access this helpful information, if you don't already have one. To get started, click the SmartHub link at www.psrec.coop, then select the "New User" option.

You will need your account number and some other identifying information for the primary account holder. If you have any difficulty, please give us a call. We are happy to assist you.

Telecommunications

PST is currently upgrading the coax system in west Quincy to provide broadband services with download speeds up to 25 Mbps and unlimited data use. If you aren't already on our interest list, please visit www.pst.coop or call (800) 221-3474 to sign up for service. Once the coax system is completed in west Quincy, PST crews will begin work on the Chandler Road system.

Many of our Chandler Road members noticed work being done by the electric line crew. The crew recently hung fiber optic cable to connect switches on Chandler Road and Quincy Junction Road to allow automated control of key electric switches that will allow for faster restoration of power outages. PST is working on additions to this system to allow broadband service to the home.

For more information, or to sign up for service, please call us at (800) 221-3474 or visit www.pst.coop.

Get Ready For Spring Safely

Spring is just around the corner and the weather is warming up. Trees, shrubs and flowers are beginning to bloom, and we are starting to make plans for the outdoor projects we put on our to-do list over the winter—those in the garage, around the house and in the yard.

While you are eager to get an early start, please don't ignore safety. Check your surroundings both high and low. Be aware of overhead power lines when trimming trees or shrubs. If you are digging holes for new fence posts or planting trees or shrubs please call 811.

It is important you do not nick or cut underground power lines with a shovel or pick. Again, please take a minute to call 811, the underground notification center.

The process is quick and easy. When you call 811, you are connected to the one-call center closest to your area. The call center takes your information and notifies PSREC and other utilities in the area of your request. A professional is dispatched from the co-op to locate and mark the location of underground power lines where you plan to dig. To ensure your job stays on schedule, please call a few days before you are ready to work to allow for processing. Remember, knowing what is below ground will protect you, your family and your neighbors.

Be aware of any overhead power lines in your area as well. Look up before moving irrigation pipes, using a ladder, installing a new antenna or flag pole, or moving large trucks, trailers or heavy equipment.

For indoor projects that involve wiring and electrical fixtures, make sure you turn the power off at the breaker panel to avoid being shocked.

As you make your plan, remember, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It just might save your life. Please take the proper precautions as you begin your springtime chores. You will be glad you did.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please call me at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076, or email me at bmarshall@psrec.coop.

Sincerely,

Bob Marshall
General Manager

Electric News

Plumas-Sierra Offers Scholarships to Local Students

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) and its telecommunications subsidiary will be offering two \$1,000 scholarships in a program designed to enhance the education and resulting careers of deserving rural students.

All interested students are invited and encouraged to apply. To qualify, the student or parent/guardian's primary residence in Plumas, Lassen, Sierra or Washoe counties must be supplied with either electric power through Plumas-Sierra REC or Internet service through Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications.

Applications can be downloaded from our website, www.psrec.coop, and must be delivered to Plumas-Sierra REC, Member Services Department, Attn: Corby, 73233 State Route 70, Portola, CA 96122 by **March 16**.

If you have any questions on the scholarship program, please call Corby at (530) 832-4261 ext. 6034.

Electric Vehicles

We would like to hear about your views on electric vehicles. This survey is still open; please help us by completing it at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSRECEV>.

Energy Services News

Plumas-Sierra REC Winter Rate Assistance Program Encouraging Energy Conservation in Low-Income Households

There is still time to apply for the Winter Rate Assistance Program. PSREC is taking applications now. Apply today, once approved, you can receive a discount on your kilowatt-hour rate during the heating season! This program is available to PSREC income-qualified members for electric service at their permanent residence in Plumas, Sierra, Lassen and Washoe counties. Income qualifications and restrictions do apply. For an application and program details, visit www.psrec.coop or call (530) 832-4261 ext. 6047.

WRAP Income Requirements	
Number in Household	Maximum Annual Income*
1-2	\$31,020
3	\$39,060
4	\$47,100
5	\$55,140
6	\$63,180
For each additional household member add \$8,040/yr.	

*Income levels are based upon 190% of the Federal Poverty Level and are subject to change each year. Proof of income must be current to within 6 weeks from the application date.

Heat pumps: Maximize the Return on Your Investment

Even at zero degrees F, air, ground and water contain useful heat continuously replenished by the sun. Heat pumps capture and transfer this heat to your home. [Read more here](#) or visit www.psrec.coop for more information on heat pump incentives offered by Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

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Quote of the Month

Better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing flawlessly.
- Robert Schuller

Upcoming Events

March 2, Artist's Opening Reception. [Plumas Arts, 525 Main St., Quincy](#). 5 to 7 p.m. Plumas Arts Gallery welcomes a new exhibition. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

March 2, Artist's Opening Reception. [Main Street Artists Gallery, 436 Main St., Quincy](#). 5 to 7 p.m. Reception for featured artist. Meet the artist and enjoy drinks and nibbles at Quincy's artist co-op gallery. For more information, call (530) 283-1909 or visit www.mainstreetartists.net/home.htm.

March 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, Susanville's Best of Broadway. Performances at 7 p.m. Friday, March 2 at the Veterans Memorial Hall. 1295 Main St. For more information, call 260-6191 or go to www.susanvillebestofbroadway.org.

March 2 & 3, Susanville Symphony Society. Susanville Assembly of God, 473-465 Richmond Road, Susanville. Friday, March 2, 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 3, 2:30 p.m. Susanville Symphony performs classical masterpieces. \$30, premium tickets; \$22, general seating. For more information, call (530) 310-8111, or visit www.susanvillesymphony.com/pages/concerts.

March 4, Ranger-led Snow Walks. Lassen Volcanic National Park hosts a Ranger-led Snowshoe Walk at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10. Walks are open to those 8 years and older and last 1 ½ to 2 hours. A donation to cover snowshoe maintenance is appreciated. Space is limited; free tickets are available each day inside of the visitor center. For more information, please call (530) 595-4480, or visit <http://nps.gov/lavo>.

March 5, Poetry Out Loud County Finals. Plumas Arts Gallery, 525 Main St., Quincy. 1:30 to 3 p.m. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

March 8, Words & Music. Patti's Thunder Café, Quincy. Starts 7 p.m. A monthly series of acoustic music and the spoken word. Sign up for open mic at the door. \$3. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

March 10, A Taste of Beef, a Sip of Wine. Susanville Elks Lodge, 400 Main St., Susanville. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hosted by Lassen County Cattlewomen & Cattlemen. For more information, call (530) 570-3663.

March 16, 17, The Sierra Valley Grange Hall presents Belinda Gail, Joe Herrington and Sourdough Slim. Friday and Saturday evening shows at 7:30pm and Saturday matinee show at 2:00pm. Dinner Friday night from 5 to 7 p.m. and dinner Saturday 4:30-7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$8 for children. For more information, call (831) 345-9840.

March 17, Doyle Seniors St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef And Cabbage Dinner. The Doyle Senior Center hosts a St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 17 at the Doyle Senior Building. For more information, call (530) 827-2271.

March 17, 24, Painting Warp and Weave. CIA Building in Calpine. Two-day workshop where you will first create a color pattern and then learn to warp and weave. Supplies are needed for workshop. Cost is \$150. For more information, call (530) 927-7036 or visit <http://sierracountychamber.com/event-2792104>.

March 18, Historic Longboard Revival Ski Racing. Plumas-Eureka State Park, Johnsville Ski Bowl. 310 Johnsville Rd. 10:30 a.m. Period costumes, music, food and fun. Groomed slopes, Indorf Lodge and Lost Sierra Cafe open. Dogs on leashes only. For more information, call (530) 283-6320, or visit www.plumasskiclub.org.

March 22, Lassen County Chamber of Commerce Mixer. Eagle Lake Village hosts the Lassen Chamber of Commerce Mixer. Eagle Lake Village Senior Living Community. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (530) 257-4323

March 29, Rotary District 5190 Youth Instrumental Music Contest (ages 14-18). Eagle Lake Village. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Rotary District 5190 invites youth ages 14-18 years of age to demonstrate their musical talent. Prize money awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placement. Submit your entry no later than March 23, 2018. For more information, email feltgar@aol.com.

March 31, Third Annual Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Celebration. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2381 hosts the third annual Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Celebration from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall. For more information, call (530) 310-0428.

See a full list of events at our website, www.psrec.coop.