



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

Electricity and Telecommunication Services



PSREC eNewsletter

April 2017

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Manager's Message

Dear Members:

Have you visited PSREC's Facebook page lately? If you are curious about outages or want the most up-to-date information about your cooperative, please find us on Facebook under Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and "like" our page.

We post systemwide power outages and other useful information, such as cooperative updates and energy-saving tips. If you are not on Facebook, no worries! Check out our website at www.psrec.coop, and stay informed.

Another method of member communication is through your smartphone with our SmartHub app, available for Apple and Android devices. You can pay your bill, view your energy use history and contact us from the convenience of your smartphone.

I hope you find PSREC's social media tools informative and easy to use. Our goal is to improve member involvement and enhance communication between you and us.

Telecommunications

Your private information is private! A bill was recently introduced in both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate that would allow internet service providers to sell your browsing information to the highest bidder. We oppose the sale of any person's data.

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and our telecommunications subsidiary will never sell your information. This is the advantage of a member-owned cooperative utility.

Our employees are required to protect your private information: whether it is your address, electric utility use or how you use the internet. We don't have the capability to track anyone's surfing history, and would never install the technology to do so.

We are also net neutral—meaning we don't slow down any particular part of the internet in favor of another. Neither do we have data caps for wireless, fiber optic or coax service. You can download or watch as much as you want. The last shameless plug for PST is that, when you buy from your local internet provider, the money stays here in the community, creating and keeping jobs and helping to expand our system.

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We are taking interest forms now to determine the areas of highest demand. If you have already filled out a form, there is no need to duplicate your work. Areas where we will provide coverage with coax include Quincy, Portola, Delleker, Graeagle, Blairsden, Plumas Pines, Clio and Whitehawk. We will have more information on deployment areas and schedules in the months ahead.

PST's coax and wireless broadband services offer download speeds of up to 20Mbps and upload speeds of up to 10Mbps. Our fiber optic services can go up to 1-gigabyte per second, with even faster speeds available if needed. With these speeds, you can stream videos on multiple devices at the same time without slowing down. You could even eliminate your TV bill with streaming services. For more information and to sign up for service, please call us at (800) 221-3474 or visit our website at www.pst.coop.

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

Life on the Lines

Linemen answer the call every day

By Donna Mills

It is 3 a.m., and Rob Azevedo's cellphone pierces the night. The house is otherwise quiet as he gets up, dresses and heads out the door. The co-op's lights shine through the darkness, and work trucks rumble to life as he arrives at the office.

Mother Nature dumped another foot of heavy spring snow since he went to bed, toppling trees and ripping power lines from their poles. Rob and the rest of PSREC's northend line crew discuss the outage and restoration plan. [Read the full article](#) in this month's issue of Ruralite.

Vegetation Management

PSREC has an operational and management responsibility—and is required by state and federal agencies—to maintain the right of way under and around its power lines.

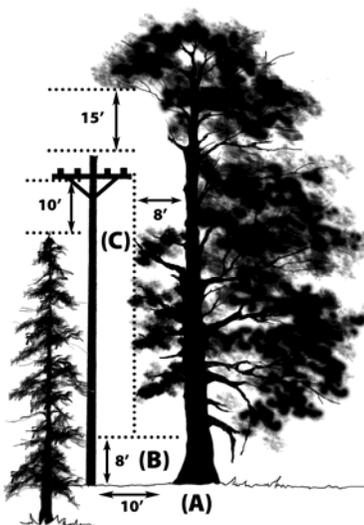
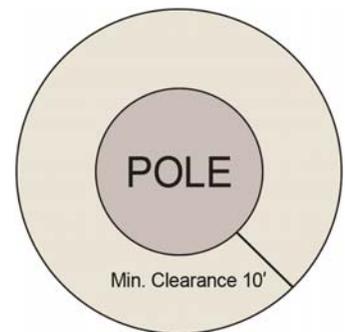
Good management of vegetation reduces the co-op's liability of fire and safety hazard due to live, dead or leaning trees, and helps to prevent power outages from trees and limbs falling into lines.

In an ongoing effort, PSREC crews remove any problem trees or brush directly under the power line.

Trees or vegetation outside the power line—but encroaching inside the right of way—are trimmed or removed, as needed.

The illustration below shows the right of way the cooperative tries to achieve through this program.

PSREC is required by state and federal agencies to remove all vegetation within a 10-foot radius of power poles that have a switch, fuse, transformer, arrestor, line junction or are dead end or corner poles.



PSREC appreciates your support as it performs this required vegetation work. Together, we can maintain and improve our electrical system to provide reliable, economical and safe electricity for years to come.

Please call our office at (800) 555-2207, or stop by, if you have questions or concerns about our vegetation management program.

A. Ground Level: Remove flammable materials for a minimum distance of 10 feet.

B. Ground Level to 8 Feet Above: Remove flammable trash, debris or other materials; grass, herbaceous and brush vegetation; limbs and foliage of living trees up to a height of 8 feet.

C. From 10 Feet to Horizontal Plane of Lowest Point of Conductor Attachment: Remove dead, diseased or dying limbs and foliage from living, sound trees and remove dead, diseased or dying trees.

Attention Shutterbugs:

Get your photo on the cover of Plumas-Sierra REC's edition of Ruralite magazine!



PSREC distributes more than 6,000 copies of Ruralite each month to members in Plumas, Sierra, Lassen and Washoe counties! Wouldn't *you* like to see *your* photo on the cover? Enter the 2017 photo contest!

Here's the scoop:

- Up to six (6) amazing photos will be chosen by an unbiased team of judges at Ruralite magazine.
- Winning photos will be featured on one cover of the PSREC Ruralite magazine following the Annual Member Meeting in September 2017, where winners will be announced.
- Winners will receive a \$100 credit on their bill.
- By entering the contest, you agree to give PSREC rights to publish your photo on the

Ruralite cover and to use it in various communication tools including print and web with photo credit.

Gotta play (by the rules) to win!

- Photographers must be members of, or own a business that receives service from, PSREC or its subsidiary.
- Photos must be within PSREC service area, and may include people, places or things; photos from all seasons will be considered.
- Only vertical format photos will be considered.
- Only digital JPEG photos will be accepted. Photos must be at least 300 dpi at 9 inches wide by 11 inches tall. Emails larger than 10 megabytes will not be accepted.
- Each photo submission must include photographer's name, address, member number, email address, phone number, location of photo and a short description of the photo.
- Maximum three (3) photos submitted per contestant.
- Photos will be accepted until July 31, 2017.
- Submissions should be sent to marketing@psrec.coop along with supporting information. Please put the words "2017 Cover Photo Contest" in the subject line.
- Contact Donna Mills at 530.832.6032 or 800.555.2207, ext. 6032 or dmills@psrec.coop with questions.

Energy Services News

Energy and Money Saving Rebates From Your Cooperative

PSREC offers programs to help you save money by making your home or business more energy efficient.

ENERGY STAR® Rebates

When shopping for appliances, purchase ENERGY STAR labeled models. Make sure to obtain proof of ENERGY STAR compliance, often denoted on the yellow Energy Guide label on appliances.

For a product to carry the ENERGY STAR symbol, it must meet or exceed federal energy efficiency and quality guidelines. Visit www.energystar.gov for more information.

An application for PSREC's Appliance Rebates is available on our website at www.psrec.coop. Rebates include purchase of ENERGY STAR® refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, water heaters and Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs. A rebate is also available for the disposal of a secondary refrigerator or freezer (without replacement).

Energy Efficiency Appliance and Lighting Rebates	Credit
ENERGY STAR Refrigerator	\$125
ENERGY STAR Freezer	\$75
ENERGY STAR Washing Machine	\$35
ENERGY STAR Dishwasher	\$35
ENERGY STAR Light Emitting Diode (LED) Bulbs	\$5
Water Heater with energy factor of .93 or more, includes Heat Pump Water Heaters	\$150
Permanent Removal of Secondary Refrigerator or Freezer	\$50

Weatherization Rebates

By retrofitting a home to R-values below, and upgrading windows to double-pane high-performance windows, members will not only realize the added comfort, but also gain increased home values and curb-side appeal.

Weatherization Measure	Minimum Standards	Rebate Amount
ENERGY STAR® Windows*	U-Factor 0.30 or lower and SHGC 0.40 or lower	\$3.00/Sq. Ft.
Ceiling/Attic Insulation*	R-0 to Minimum R-49	\$0.35/Sq. Ft.
Ceiling/Attic Insulation*	Some Insulation to Minimum R-49	\$0.25/Sq. Ft.
Wall Insulation*	R-0 to Minimum R-13	\$0.25/Sq. Ft.
Floor Insulation*	R-0 to Minimum R-19	\$0.25/Sq. Ft.

*Maximum rebate per measure \$500, not to exceed 50% of installed cost.

HVAC Rebates

Upgrading to an energy-efficient heating and cooling system will contribute to increased comfort in your home or business while helping to reduce overall energy use.

Type of HVAC System	Minimum Requirements	Rebate Per Ton
Air-Source Heat Pump	14.0 SEER/8.0 HSPF	\$100
Air-Source Heat Pump	16.0 SEER/9.5 HSPF	\$250
Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP)	Energy Star Rated	\$600

Irrigation-Efficiency Rebates

This program provides an opportunity for PSREC irrigation members to receive financial incentives to invest in energy-efficiency upgrades for their irrigation systems.

Commercial Energy-Efficiency Rebates

PSREC offers custom incentives to its commercial members for energy-efficiency building retrofits.

Marathon Water Heater Instant Rebate

PSREC offers members a \$150 instant rebate on Marathon water heaters of 50 gallons and smaller purchased at PSREC's headquarters and installed at your home or business within Plumas-Sierra's service territory.

For more information on Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs, visit our website at www.psrec.coop or call (530) 832-4261.

PSREC also offers energy-efficient items at discounted prices through our online efficiency store.



PSREC Energy Efficiency Online Store

PSREC is pleased to offer members best-quality energy efficiency products at discounted prices for home, business and personal use.

Click here to shop and save today.

FREE SHIPPING

Buy Your Filters Online Now!

[FilterChange.coop](http://www.FilterChange.coop)



Many of our members want to save energy and money but are not sure of the best products to purchase. We are pleased to offer access to 20% off best-quality energy efficient products through Service Concepts. You can easily access energy saving products for your home, business and personal use through our main website at www.psrec.coop. You can find special savings on items like LEDs and other lighting products, weatherization products for your home, water conservation items, and other tested energy saving devices. This new service is just another way that we are looking out for you. Little Changes = Big Savings. Together We Save!

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ARE DEVICES MULTIPLYING LIKE RABBITS IN YOUR HOME?

HOP TO GET DETAILS ON FASTER INTERNET ►

Comcast Group © 2017

Quote of the Month

To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.

- David Viscott

Upcoming Events

April 5, High School Jazz Night. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St., Quincy. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Join us for a night of music by our county's high school musicians together on one stage. \$5 or more donation at the door.

April 7, Bingo Night. Loyalton City Center Auditorium (former Middle School.) 6 to 8 p.m. Drawings, silent auctions, prizes, refreshment. \$1 per card per game. Ages 18 years old and above.

April 7, 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.

April 8, Indian Taco Feed. Sierra Valley Grange Hall, Vinton. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$10; \$5 kids. Sponsored by Sierra Valley Fire Auxiliary.

April 8, It's Thyme to Turnip the Beet! Part 3. Hosted by Every Bloomin' Thing, 705-670 US Hwy 395 Susanville. 10 to 11 a.m. Growing microgreens and sprouts. Selecting, pruning and succeeding with tomatoes and peppers. For more information, call (530) 251-2330.

April 13, Words & Music. Patti's Thunder Cafe, 557 Lawrence St., Quincy. 7 to 9 p.m. A monthly series of acoustic music and the spoken word, featuring Diva and the Devils. Sign up for open mic at the door. \$3. Sponsored by Plumas Arts. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

April 20, Earth Day at the Town Hall Theatre. 469 Main St., Quincy. 6:30 to 10 p.m. Community Sustainability Award winners will be announced before the film (TBA). Beer, wine, and baked goods will be on sale, and a raffle you won't want to miss will round out the evening. \$15 at the door; \$5 discount for students. For more information, call (530) 283-2939, or email dderuit@frc.edu.

April 22, Taste of Plumas. Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds, 204 Fairgrounds Rd., Quincy. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Take a tour of many of the best culinary establishments in Plumas County and great wines available locally in a single location. Meet the chefs, owners and staff that would love to entice you for a more extensive dining experience. The event also features a silent auction. Pre-sale only. \$30 for Plumas Arts members available only through Plumas Arts, or \$35 for nonmembers, includes a souvenir wine glass. All tickets at the door, if available, are \$40. If you are not a member you could use this event as an opportunity to join Plumas Arts with your ticket purchase and commence your membership support and savings with this initial investment. For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

April 22, Earth Day Orchards. Hosted by Every Bloomin' Thing, 705-670 US Hwy 395 Susanville. 10 to 11 a.m. What's hot in Backyard Orchard Culture. Selecting, transplanting, pollination, fertilizing, thinning and pruning your orchard. For more information, call (530) 251-2330.

April 24, Plumas Business Summit. Grizzly Creek Ranch, 5900 Grizzly Rd., Portola. 8:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern Plumas Chamber of Commerce and the Far Northern California Center for International Trade Development invite local business owners and community organizations to join them for this year's summit: "Mapping our Business—Where Local Meets Global." Get practical information relevant to Plumas County businesses, collaborate and network. Join keynote speaker Kevin Danaher, co-founder of Global Exchange, TedEx speaker and champion of sustainable, green, people-to-people economies. Additional speakers to be announced. This is the only event of its type, where local businesses and would-be entrepreneurs can come together and network with other entrepreneurs on a county-wide scale. The one day event. Hosted by Grizzly Creek Ranch and Sierra Nevada Journeys. Tickets purchased before April 1, are \$65.00 per person, including breakfast and lunch. After April 1, cost increases to \$85.00. For more information, call (530) 836-6811, or email at epcc@psln.com.

April 29, Listen to your Mother. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St, Quincy. 2 to 4 p.m.

April 29, Spring Home Garden & Recreation Show. Lassen County Fairgrounds. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come see what is new! For more information, call (530) 257-4323.

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