



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

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droberti@psrec.coop

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fnelson@psrec.coop

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dhansen@psrec.coop

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dkenney@psrec.coop

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dshort@psrec.coop

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thammond@psrec.coop

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nmiller@psrec.coop

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bmarshall@psrec.coop



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CA-39

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

As April arrives, it brings the showers that produce spring flowers. It also heralds the beginning of a potentially stormy season that can inherently include power outages. While Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative strives to provide reliable electricity to our members, there are times when Mother Nature has other plans. Most of us can ride out a storm from the comfort and convenience of our homes. However, there is a group of professionals that springs into action when the weather takes a turn for the worst: co-op lineworkers.

Braving stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers often must climb 40 or more feet in the air, carrying heavy equipment to restore power. Listed as one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S., lineworkers must perform detailed tasks next to high-voltage power lines. To help keep them safe, lineworkers wear specialized protective clothing and equipment at all times when on the job. This includes fire-resistant clothing that will self-extinguish, limiting potential injuries from burns and sparks. Insulated and rubber gloves are worn in tandem to protect lineworkers from electrical shock. While the gear performs a critical function, it also adds additional weight and bulk, making the job more complex.

In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job goes far beyond climbing to the top of a pole to repair a wire. They are also information experts who can pinpoint an outage from miles away and restore power remotely. Line crews use their laptops and cell phones to take pictures of the work they have done and troubleshoot problems. In our community, PSREC lineworkers are responsible for keeping more than 1,300 miles of lines across four counties working, to

bring power to your home and our local community 24/7, regardless of the weather, holidays or personal considerations.

While some of the tools lineworkers use have changed through the years—namely, the use of technology—the dedication to the job has not. Being a lineworker is not a glamorous profession. At its essence, it is inherently dangerous, requiring them to work near high-voltage lines in the worst of conditions, at any time of the day or night. During storms or wildfires, crews often work around the clock to restore power.

While April is known for spring showers, there is also a day set aside to “thank a lineworker.”

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 9. Throughout the month of April, if you see a lineworker, please pause to say thank you to the power behind your power. Let them know you appreciate the hard work they do to keep the lights on, regardless of the conditions.

Communications

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 outage notifications and other useful information, such as cooperative updates and energy-saving tips. If you are not on Facebook, no worries! Check out www.psrec.coop, and stay informed. You can also receive major, systemwide outage updates via text message. To sign up for text notifications, text PSREC to 95577.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Manager's Message

April 5-7

Ballroom Dance Class. Mohawk Community Resource Center, corner of Highway 89 and Highway 70, Graeagle. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Learn beginning waltz with Julie Lewis. \$30 per couple and \$20 for singles for the three-day class.
For more information and to register for the classes, call (530) 836-0446, or email jpolson@plumasruralservices.org

April 6

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.

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.

April 7

Intro to Pine Needle Basket Making. Mohawk Community Resource Center, corner of Highway 89 and Highway 70, Graeagle. Noon to 4 p.m. No experience needed. Guided by Michelle Haselton. Class size limit is 10 participants. \$55 cost includes all basket-making supplies, small snacks and beverages.
For more information and to sign up, call (530) 927-7036.

April 12

Words & Music Quincy. Patti's Thunder Café, 557 Lawrence St. 7 to 9 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.

April 14

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. Presale tickets \$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.
For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

April 18

High School Jazz Night. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St., Quincy. 7 to 9 p.m. Join talented young musicians from Plumas County's high schools for a night of jazz and more. Celebrate the successes of our local school music programs. Admission donation of \$5 each is suggested.

April 14

Honey Lake Valley Riders Fully Woolly Fun Day. Janesville Park Area, 464-400 Church St. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
For more information, call (530) 310-8267, or visit www.honeylakevalleyriders.org.

April 19

Lassen County Chamber of Commerce Mixer. Hosted by High Sierra Collision & Towing, 472-635 Johnstonville Road, Susanville. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
For more information, call (530) 257-4323.

April 21

Earth Day Celebration. Calpine Community Center, 131 County Road, Calpine. Noon to 4:30 p.m. Branch weaving with Michelle Haselton.
For more information, call (530) 927-7036, or email info@lakesbasincreations.com.

Third Saturday Breakfast. Susanville Masonic Hall, 84 N. Lassen St. Hosted by Friends of the Lassen Lodge #149. 8 to 11 a.m. \$5 admission.
For more information, call (530) 310-6097.
Family Connections Conference. Veteran's Memorial Hall, 1205 Main St., Susanville. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A free, fun event in honor of parents and caregivers. Parents can expect food, conversation and great information.
For more information, email bedholm@headstart4u.org, or register at <http://familyconnectionsconference.eventbrite.com>.

Earth Day Orchards Class. Every Bloomin' Thing, 705-670 US 395, Susanville. 10 to 11 a.m. Learn about selecting, transplanting, pollination, fertilizing, thinning and pruning your home orchard. The class is free to the public.
For more information, call (530) 251-2330, or visit www.everybloomin.com/new-events.



April 26

Wild Words: Legacy. Town Hall Theatre, 469 Main St., Quincy. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Free admission. Wild & Scenic Rivers: 50 Years Flowing. Presented by Tim Palmer.
For more information, call (530) 283-0202, ext. 262.

April 27 & 28

Quincy Star Follies. Plumas Sierra County Fairgrounds, 204 Fairgrounds Rd., Quincy. 6 to 10 p.m. Adults \$15; children under 12, \$10.
For more information, call (530) 283-9900.

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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.

Telecommunications

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, call us at (800) 221-3474 or visit www.pst.coop.

Rates

We have reviewed our 2018 budget with the latest hydropower information and are not planning for a rate increase for PSREC at this time. We are planning a revision of our rates in the next several years to put our rates in line with the true cost of service for each rate class. This means that in the medium-term, generally fixed charges will go up and the cost per kWh will decline.

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**