



Paving the Way for Smoother Roads Ahead

2021 Power Moves Rebates p. 4&5

2021 Rate Change p. 8&9



You're getting Money Back on Your Electric Bill!



See pg 10 for more information

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ALONG THE LINES

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MJM Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 🔨

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New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, day following Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

How to report an outage

Call 217-707-6156. When you report an outage, give your name and location number. Before calling, check your fuses or circuit breakers. Check with your neighbors. Call to report hazardous conditions. Please do not report outages on Facebook.

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MJM Receives Energy Efficiency Funds!



On November 18, 2018, when the project for the new MJM headquarters first began, MJM applied for a REAP (Rural Energy for America Program) Grant. The REAP Grant is funded by the USDA and falls under the 2014 Farm Bill. This is an energy efficiency program, which, in MJM's case, applied to the installation of the geothermal/heat pump system in the new office building. On November 23, 2020, the request for grant approval was accepted and funds of \$19,933 were received.

We are always looking to find new ways that will help you manage your energy use such as through our energy efficiency program through Wabash Valley Power Alliance (WVPA) called Power Moves.



Not only do the members individually benefit, but MJM itself. With the building of the new headquarters, we were expecting to receive between \$25,000-\$30,000 in incentive rebates for roof and wall insulation, interior lighting, the office geothermal units and LED pole lights. Because of some upgrades to the lighting, heating, and insulation to what was previously planned, MJM received a total of \$37,650 in rebates!

Make sure you check out the Power Moves rebates for 2021. Also, WVPA is currently working on a Wi-Fi thermostat program for MJM to launch late Spring. Be on the lookout for that energy savings program, too!

Member Trading Post

FOR SALE: Best Home Furnishing lift chair. Pebble in color, used less than 3 months. \$650 Call 217-971-5030

FOR SALE: 200 amp overhead meter loop per wired with breaker. \$200 Call 217-971-5030

2 0 2

To list your free ad, email brookeg@mjmec.coop, call 217-707-6156 or mail the ad to MJM Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL 62626. Each ad will run for one month. Some restriction may apply. Thank you.

2020 Member Satisfaction Results

During the summer of 2020, MJM Electric Cooperative conducted a Residential Satisfaction & Attitudes Survey to determine satisfaction and loyalty, perceptions about co-op performance, attitudes regarding energy efficiency, co-op relationship issues, marketing and communication preferences, Member demographics, and co-op's Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) score.

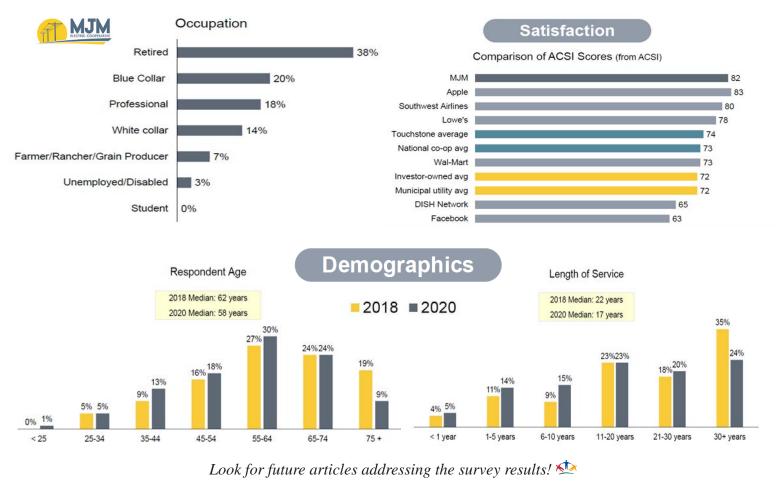


The survey was developed and conducted by Inside Information, Inc., as a Member research project commissioned by MJM and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. 2,735 surveys were sent out via e-mail to randomly selected residential co-op Members but only 568 Members responded. Because the survey is of great importance to MJM, a \$250 bill credit incentive to complete the survey was offered. The winner of the Statewide Survey drawing for MJM was Bruce Clothier of Jerseyville. Thank you, Bruce, for filling out our survey!!

Compared to MJM's last rating determined in 2018, the score lowered from an 83 to an 82.

ACSI Satisfaction Score	2007	2009	2011	2013	2016	2018	2020
	71	75	71	77	80	83	82

"We were disappointed to see a reduced score, but not surprised due to the needed change in MJM's rate structure during this period", said CEO Cutler. "We are still 9 points above the National co-op average and 10 points above Investor-owned and Municipal utility averages, but we still have much to improve on. Out of the 568 surveys, 168 Members did offer up additional comments. We appreciate those that took the extra time to respond. We will be concentrating on their feedback in addition to the results from the survey. We do thrive for Member satisfaction."





POWER MOVES®

2021 RESIDENTIAL REBATE PROGRAM

Geothermal Heat Pump (with Electric Backup)

Geothermal Heat Pull				
 Water-to-air closed loop ≥ 17.1 EER / ≥ 3.6 COP Water-to-air open loop ≥ 21.1 	CLOSED LOOP, REPLACING: <i>electric resistance, fossil fuel, or into new construction</i>		\$1,500	PURCHASE RECEIPTS
 EER / ≥ 4.1 COP Water-to-water closed loop ≥ 16.1 EER / ≥ 3.1 COP Water-to-water open loop ≥ 20.1 EER / ≥ 3.5 COP 	OPEN LOOP, REPLACING: electric resistance, fossil fuel, or into new construction		\$1,500	REQUIRED FOR ALL REBATE APPLICATIONS.
Air Source Heat Pump	o (Whole Home)			AHRI Certificates required for all
 Electric Back-up ≥ 16 SEER ≥ 9 HSPF *≥ 1.75 COP at 5° (Cold Climate ASHP only) Condenser and coil must be replaced and installed as a matched set 	REPLACING: Electric Resistance heat Natural Gas, Propane, Fuel Oil Heat Air Source Heat Pump New Construction	COLD CLIMATE HEAT PUMP* \$1500 \$1500 \$1500 \$1500	NON-COLD CLIMATE HEAT PUMP \$750 \$750 \$250 N/A	geothermal, air source heat pump, and heat pump water heater rebate applications. Heat loss/heat gain calculations required for geothermal and air
Air Source Heat Pump	o (Partial Home)			source heat pumps.
 Electric Back-up ≥ 16 SEER ≥ 9 HSPF *≥ 1.75 COP at 5° (Cold Climate ASHP only) Condenser and coil must be replaced and installed as a matched set 	REPLACING: <i>Electric Resistance heat</i> <i>Natural Gas, Propane, Fuel Oil Heat</i> <i>Air Source Heat Pump</i> <i>New Construction</i>	COLD CLIMATE HEAT PUMP* \$600 \$600 \$600 \$600	NON-COLD CLIMATE HEAT PUMP \$250 \$250 \$250 N/A	Failure to provide requested information may result in forfeiture of rebate. All installations are subject to verification and/or inspection.
Natural Gas, Propane	, and Fuel Oil with Heat	Pump - Split Syster	m (Ducted)	
 ≥ 16 SEER ≥ 9.0 HSPF ≥ 90 AFUE 	REPLACING ELECTRIC RESIST electric furnace, ceiling cable, basebo		\$500	For full requirements, see applications.
 Condenser and coil must be replaced and installed as a matched set New system must heat and cool entire home 	REPLACING FOSSIL FUEL AND CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING)	\$500	REBATE PROGRAM ENDS DEC. 31, 2021 AND IS SUBJECT
	NEW CONSTRUCTION		\$500	TO CHANGE WITHOUT
Heat Pump Water Hea	ater			NOTICE.
	REPLACING ELECTRIC RESIST	ANCE TANK	\$400	
• Minimum UEF of 2.0.	REPLACING NATURAL GAS OR HEATER	PROPANE WATER	\$400	Visit PowerMoves.
NEW CONSTRUCTION			\$400	com or call Brooke
Variable Speed Pool	Pump			at 217-707-6028!
► ENERGY STAR [®]	REPLACING EXISTING SINGLE S	TAGE POOL PUMP	\$250	



LIGHTING | Retrofit only

Fixture Type	Rebate/Fixture
 Corn Cobb E39 Mogul Base (DLC Qualified Only) 	\$10-\$45 per lamp
De-Lamping	\$.10 per watt reduced
 Occupancy Sensors 	Up to \$20 per sensor
▶ LED Lighting	Up to \$125 per fixture
▶ LED Tubes (DLC Qualified Only)	\$3 - \$5 per tube

Restrictions apply; please see application for complete program rules.

HVAC Retrofit only	
Units	Rebate/Ton
 Air Cooled Unitary Package AC and Split Systems 	Up to \$75 per ton
► Air Source Heat Pumps	
Ground Source Heat Pumps	Up to \$750 per ton

Restrictions apply: please see application for complete program rules.

VFDs (1-20 HP Motors)

Chillers

MISCELLANEOUS | Retrofit only

Units	Rebate/Ton
Process VFDs (up to 200 HP)	\$80 per HP
 VFD Screw Air Compressor 	\$60 per HP
 Compressed Air No-Loss Condensate Drain (up to 200 HP) 	\$100 per drain

\$100 per HP

Up to \$40 per ton

Restrictions apply; please see application for complete program rules.

CUSTOM INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Don't see a rebate that applies to your project? Our custom rebate program may be just the thing for any verifiable energy-saving upgrades. Pre-approval required.

- Lighting Projects: \$.05 per kWh for the first year's kWh savings.
- Non-lighting Projects: \$.08 per kWh for the first year's kWh savings.

NEW BUILDS

If you decide to build, or to undertake a major renovation, talk to us as soon as you start planning. We can help you choose systems and equipment that are best suited to your project and earn you the biggest incentives—before they start saving you money and energy.

Get started by filling out a Project Information Form at PowerMoves.com.

In order to receive a rebate, equipment must meet our minimum efficiency standards. Please talk with our energy engineer about your project. This is for information purposes only and not a quote or guarantee of an incentive.

Wabash Valley Power Alliance and its member co-ops give rebates for energy-efficiency upgrades in new or existing businesses.

WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM?

- Available to commercial and industrial co-op members.
- Offers rebates on energy-efficient equipment.
- Applies to upgrades to an existing facility or equipment for a new facility.
- Provides a set list of prescriptive measures that earn rebates and a custom program for measures that don't fall into our set list. Custom upgrades require program approval prior to equipment purchase.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE FOR A REBATE?

- Non-residential members of participating electric cooperatives.
- Visit *PowerMoves.com* to find out whether your co-op participates.

WHAT'S THE REBATE LIMIT PER MEMBER?

- Prescriptive: \$25,000 per member per calendar year.
- Custom: \$50,000 per member per calendar year.

WHO RECEIVES THE PAYMENT?

- Checks are paid directly to the member.
- > Payment may be made to Trade Ally with member approval.

WHAT'S A TRADE ALLY?

A Trade Ally is any contractor who:

- Sells or installs energy-efficient equipment.
- Assists customers with their rebate applications.

WHAT'S THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING?

- Apply for a prescriptive rebate within 60 days from the project's completion.
- All custom projects require program approval prior to equipment purchase.

Visit PowerMoves.com to start the application process or find out more.



MJM is excited to announce our installation of a Level 2 Chargepoint Charging station. This electric vehicle charging station is a Level 2 commercial charging station capable of charging 2 vehicles at once. The cost to charge is \$0.20 / kWh and it might take 3-5 hours to add 40 miles of range to a vehicle. ChargePoint is the world's leading electric vehicle (EV) charging network, with more than 118,300 public charging locations. They design, build and support all of the technology that powers this network, from charging station hardware to energy management software to a mobile app.

How do I start a charging session or use tap to charge?

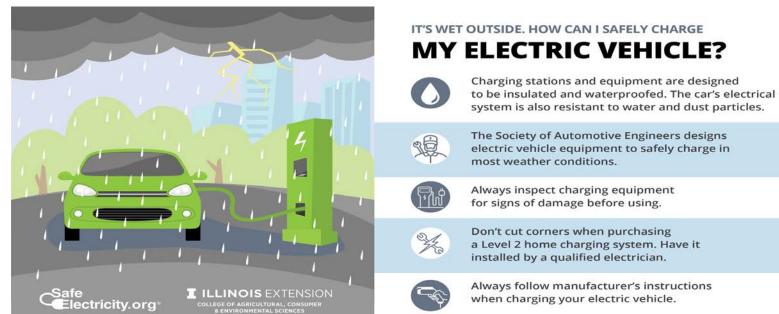
There are three ways to start a charging session:

- Tap to charge. With the ChargePoint app installed, you can start a charging session by holding your phone over the reader symbol on the station. Make sure you have the app and are signed into your account.
 - iPhone: In the ChargePoint app, go to Menu, select Account and then Manage Cards. Pick "set it up," add your ChargePoint pass to Apple Wallet and tap your phone on the station to charge.
 - Android: Enable NFC, turn your phone screen on and tap your phone on the station to charge.

To use tap to charge, you'll need iPhone SE, 6, 6 Plus, 6S, 6S Plus, 7 and 7 Plus running iOS 10 or newer, Apple Watch Series 2, Series 1 and 1st generation or Android 4.4 or later with NFC.

- Start charging from the app. Choose the station and click the 'Start Charge' button.
- Use your ChargePoint card. Just tap your <u>activated ChargePoint card</u> (make sure to <u>activate</u> it) on the card reader symbol on the station. If you need help, call driver support at 1-888-758-4389.

By Chris Franzen, IT Administrator





Santa Claus Came to MJM to Visit All the Nice Employees!







Conner Mitchell



Jacob Hamilton



Susie Bennett



Adam Crowe



Chuck Lucyknow



Joe Miles







Pete Evans



Dean Tepen

John Halder

On an unseasonably warm December the 9th, Santa Claus and his helper, Elfie the Elf came to town! Santa and Elfie surprised the employees of MJM! Typically, MJM will host a Holiday Luncheon for employees and directors. This year is anything but typical which caused the Holiday Luncheon to be cancelled. That didn't stop Christmas cheer from roaring through the office as Santa made his way to deliver employee gifts and recognize those who have reached milestone years!

Congratulations to the following for their hard work and dedication:

- 5 years: Ben Beckwith Plant Accountant, Joe Heyen Director of Engineering and Operations, Conner Mitchell – Electronic Technician and Jacob Hamilton – Journeyman Lineman
- 10 Years: Laura Cutler CEO/Manager (Playing Santa)
- 15 Years: Susie Bennett Engineering Secretary and Adam Crowe Line Foreman
- 20 Years: Chuck Lucyknow Area Utility Leader and Joe Miles Area Utility Leader
- 25 Years: Dean Tepen Mechanic
- 35 Years: Pete Evans Line Foreman and John Halder Line Foreman MJM and it's Members are fortunate to have you working for them.



Although this pandemic has put a damper on a lot of things this year, MJM Employees have done an outstanding job at staying positive. December 18th was National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day. A friendly competition took place as to who had the ugliest sweater. Photoed from left to right is Chris Franzen, Brenda Qualls, Brooke Gross, Gage Gwilliam, Susie Bennett, Kelly Bouillon, Laura Cutler and Jeremy Pattillo. Jeremy was voted for having the gaudiest Christmas sweater!



2021 Rate Change

At the December 23, 2020 MJM Board Meeting, it was decided that a rate change **would not** be made in taking another step towards establishing the realignment of the cost-based rates that went into effect January 2018. MJM understands the hardship that COVID-19 has placed on many of the MJM Members and is doing its part to keep rates stable for everyone another year.

The 2018 rate change was designed to redistribute the costs associated with serving each group of Members fairly and equitably. The goal has been to increase the Service Delivery Charge but decrease the Distribution Energy Charge to help alleviate the dependence of kWh sales to recover the fixed costs to run the Cooperative. To be clear, Members **WILL** **NOT** see a change in 2021 to the Service Delivery Charge **NOR** the Distribution Energy Charge.

The Power Supplier Energy Charge is a pass through from Wabash Valley Power Alliance (WVPA), MJM's wholesale power supplier. WVPA, like MJM, understands the situation that its Coop Members face and worked very hard to keep its overall power costs stable for 2021.

MJM Members will actually see a **decrease** in their Power Supplier Energy Charge. Members who are billed demand will see an increase in their demand charge. While energy remains cheap, the demand portion of the wholesale power bill is continually on a rise due to the increase in transmission enhancement projects for improved reliability.

Single-Phase Non Demand Non-Heat (Rate Class 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 47.00 per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.08245 per kWh
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.02497 per kWh

Single-Phase Electric Heat (Rate Class 5, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, & 39)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 47.00 per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.08245 per kWh
Heating Energy Charge	\$ 0.046 per kWh
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.02497 per kWh

Single-Phase Large Power (Rate Class 9)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 80.00	per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.046	per kWh
Power Supplier Demand Charge	\$ 9.50	per kW
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.03896	per kWh

Three-Phase Non Demand Non-Heat (Rate Class 6, 7 & 8)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 105.00 per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.08245 per kWh
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.02301 per kWh

Three-Phase Electric Heat (Rate Class 34, 35, 36, 40 & 41)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 105.00 per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.08245 per kWh
Heating Energy Charge	\$ 0.046 per kWh
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.02301 per kWh

Three-Phase Large Power (Rate Class 10)

Service Delivery Charge	\$ 123.00 per month
Power Supplier Energy Charge	\$ 0.046 per kWh
Power Supplier Demand Charge	\$ 10.00 per kW
Distribution Energy Charge	\$ 0.041818 per kWh

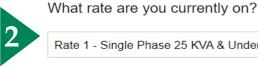
A rate change will take effect on January 1, 2021. The bill you recieve in Feb. will show the billing period of 01/01/2021 - 01/31/2021 and be billed according to the stated rates above.

MJM Electric Cooperative Rate Calculator

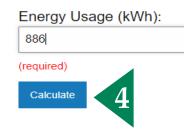
Visit www.mjmec.coop and try out our rate calculator to compare how the rate restructuring will affect your account(s). Just have a copy of your past bill(s) and follow the steps below:



- Step 1: Visit www.mjmec.coop and under our Billing tab select Rate Calculator.
- Step 2: Using your bill, select your rate from • the drop down menu.
- Step 3: Enter your Energy Usage (kWh). •
- Step 4: Click the Calculate button. •
- Step 5: View the Rate Comparisons.
- Step 6: Click the Start Over button to return to the Rate Calculator.







OLD RATE STRUCTURE				
Charge Type	Rate	Chargeable	Charge	
Service Delivery Charge				
Fixed	\$ 47.00) Fixed	\$ 47.00	
Energy Charge				
Distribution Energy Charge - All kWhs	\$ 0.02497) 886	\$ 22.12	
Power Supplier Charge	\$ 0.08616	j 886	\$ 76.34	
Demand Charge				
N/A				
Total Bill			\$ 145.46	

NEW RATE STRUCTURE				
Rate	Chargeable	Charge		
\$ 47.00) Fixed	\$ 47.00		
\$ 0.024970) 886	\$ 22.12		
\$ 0.08245	886	\$ 73.05		
		\$ 142.17		
s	;	-3.29		
s	;	-39.48		
	Rate \$ 47.00 \$ 0.024970 \$ 0.08245	Rate Chargeable \$ 47.00 Fixed \$ 0.024970 886		



Start Over



As a Member of MJM, you make an investment in the Co-op every time you pay your bill. This collective investment in the Co-op benefits you and the community immediately and over time. So, what exactly is this monthly investment, and how do you benefit from it?

The *Service Delivery Charge* is a monthly investment that helps your Co-op cover the expenses of maintaining the overall electric system. Combatting cyber security threats and maintaining poles, wires, substations, and Co-op equipment takes strategic planning and significant resources. The *Service Delivery Charge* essentially ensures that all equipment operates properly, and staff is trained and ready, so the lights turn on when you need them.

Regardless of how much electricity a particular family uses, the cost of delivering power to that house is the same. As a not-for-profit Electric Cooperative, we believe the operational costs should be spread fairly and equitably across all of our Members, regardless of the level of electricity use. That is why every Member in each rate class pays the *Service Delivery Charge* each month to cover basic operational costs. Members are charged the same amount for the cost of operation since they benefit from the same service. In essence, this gives each MJM Member a share in MJM's operation.

Your monthly investment ensures you have access to safe, reliable, and affordable power when you need it. We appreciate and value the investment that you make in the Co-op each month, and we strive to use that investment wisely for the benefit of all Members of our community.

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE – MEMBER/OWNER

According to the 2020 Satisfaction Survey, the higher overall satisfaction was found in Members/Owners compared to customers. The survey showed that 31% of our Membership consider themselves a Member whereas 69% do not. So.... what's the difference?

The main difference between a Member Owned Utility (Co-op) and an Invested Owned Utility (IOU) is their business structure. A Co-op is owned by its Members who are also the consumers. A Co-op operates on a non-profit, cost-of-service basis. An IOU is owned by stockholders who may or may not be customers and who may or may not live in the service area and is a for-profit enterprise.

Another difference is that when cooperatives produce a margin – revenue that exceeds the cost of providing service – it's reserved as capital credits. The reserves are used to build and maintain the cooperative's infrastructure and facilities and to provide for other service needs. IOU's put their money to work and expect company growth to produce a return.

If 2020 wasn't weird enough, it also caused some unusual circumstances but fortunate ones for YOU the MEMBER! MJM's Members' demand for electricity was lower in general in 2020, especially in March and October. This leads to a better load factor and, essentially, a better billed rate from WVPA than MJM is historically used to. Thus, MJM benefited from higher margins than budgeted from the *Power Supplier Energy Charge*.



Because the *Power Supplier Energy Charge* is supposed to be a pass-through charge, instead of booking those margins for future years to be retired as capital credits, the MJM Board of Directors voted at the December 23rd, 2020, board meeting to make a refund to Members on their January 1, 2021 billing. Your refund is based on the amount of electricity you used in 2020. You will find your credit amount as a line item on your bill and it will be listed as **MARGIN REBATE**.

This is a tangible benefit of being a Member of Your Co-op! You own us, and we are here to serve you! 1

Operation Round Up **Opt Out** Form

Name on Account:_____

Account Number(s):_____

Current Phone Number:____



Please send OPT OUT form to MJM Electric, P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL, 62626 before Feb. 1st.



Happy New Year! A happy one it will be as MJM steps the year off in the right direction with Operation Round Up (ORU). It's no question that 2020 has turned many communities upside down. But MJM can be a catalyst for good in assisting you in turning your community right side up!

The MJM Membership unanimously voted to launch ORU at the March 7th, 2020 annual meeting and chose the Opt-Out program because it would reap rewards for their communities at **an average donation of only** <u>\$6.00 per year</u> **per account**. Choosing an Opt-Out program might seem backwards to some, but this program is nationwide, and results have proven that there is nearly 70% participation if it's an "Opt-out" program compared to an "Opt-in" program where the success rate is only 10-20%. Plus, Members can opt in or out at any time.

ORU will begin with the billing statement you will receive in February 2021 for January's usage. Since Members are automatically enrolled in the program, if they do not want to participate, they may opt out. To opt-out, please fill out the form above and mail it to MJM Electric, P.O. Box 80, Carlinville, IL, 62626. To contact MJM about ORU, please call 217-707-6032 or email roundup@mjmec.coop. When you call our ORU phone number, you will reach a voicemail to leave your information. With each form of contact, please include the name on the account, your account number(s), and a current phone number.

It's obvious that Members are ready to make this happen with the overwhelming, positive response welcoming this program. Members may also choose to contribute extra money each month in addition to the rounded-up amount. If so, please contact us via the above-mentioned means. We thank YOU for voting 'yes' at the March 2020 annual meeting which gives YOUR co-op this opportunity to assist in serving YOUR communities. REMEMBER.....you do not have to do anything if you wish to participate!

MJM Employees and Members' New Years Resolutions

Employees:

We resolve that during the year 2021, we will always remember that -

A MEMBER ~ is the most important person in our Electric Cooperative.

A MEMBER ~ is part owner of our business, not an outsider.

A MEMBER ~ is not just an account number. A MEMBER is a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions just like our own.

A MEMBER ~ being human, is apt to blame the meter of the Cooperative for a high electric bill.

A MEMBER ~ is entitled to ask for information about their Cooperative. A MEMBER deserves a correct, definite answer to all inquiries.

A MEMBER ~ is entitled to the most courteous attention we can give them.

A MEMBER ~ doesn't understand our lingo. We will use terms for them to understand.

Members:

I will update MJM when my contact information has changed so they can reach me with planned outage notifications or if a payment is missing.

Notify the office a few days beforehand when I want a special service, such as a connection, disconnection, service charge, etc.

Check my fuses and contact my neighbors to see if they have electric service before reporting an outage to the Cooperative office.

Cooperate with Cooperative staff when asked for permission to remove trees that endanger lines.

Treat Cooperative employees as I wish to be treated.

Learn and utilize MJM's free app SmartHub.

Attend the Cooperative's Annual Meeting that will be held in June.

Try to read MJM's "Along the Lines" monthly newsletter to learn more about what's happening at the Co-op.