

HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC



We're Accepting Applications for High School Leadership Trip to D.C.

Pella Cooperative Electric will send one student on an all-expenses paid Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C. in June.

At PCEA, one way we invest in the next generation of rural Iowa leaders is by participating in the National Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program. We're looking for high school sophomores or juniors with a passion for government and public service to apply for a once-in-a-lifetime trip to our nation's capital in June.



One student will be selected from eligible candidates to attend the 2023 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., from June 17-23 along with 40 other student leaders from Iowa. The Iowa Youth Tour group will join with hundreds of students from across the country as they learn more about electric cooperatives and American history and come home with a greater understanding of their role as an American citizen. Students will also learn about U.S. government and meet with their members of Congress. On the trip, students take in the sights of D.C. as they visit monuments, museums, and historical landmarks. Students who go on Youth Tour often call it the trip of a lifetime!

We are accepting Youth Tour applications through March 24. Children of PCEA member-consumers are eligible to apply. The student must be a current sophomore or junior or currently hold the status equivalent to a sophomore or junior in an accredited home-based school. To download the application visit pella-cea.org/youth-tour.

For more than 60 years, Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives have been sending deserving students to D.C. This program is a great resume builder for student leaders and a wonderful opportunity to kick-start one's passion for government affairs or advocacy. Make sure to apply for Youth Tour 2023 by March 24!

Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2615 Washington St.
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

1-800-619-1040
www.pella-cea.org
service@pella-cea.org



Open weekdays: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm;
excluding holidays



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Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See pella-cea.org > Non-discrimination Statement for more information.

Scholarship Applications Due March 17

One of Pella Cooperative Electric's principles is a concern for community. Through this principle, we believe in empowering our youth through scholarship opportunities to students looking to pursue a higher education.

PCEA awards \$1,000 scholarships in our service territory annually - one per school district - to encourage and recognize the achievements of area students.

These districts include:

- Grinnell
- Knoxville
- Lynnville-Sully
- Newton
- North Mahaska
- PCM
- Pella Christian
- Pella High
- Pleasantville
- Twin Cedars
- Home school student in any of the above districts

To apply, visit pella-cea.org/scholarships and download the application to complete. Return all application materials by either mail or email to:

MAIL

Pella Cooperative Electric
Attn: Emma Henning
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

EMAIL

ehenning@pella-cea.org



For students not in either of the Pella districts, applications are due to the PCEA office by March 17, 2023 by 4:30 p.m. Pella students should have applied through Dollars for Scholars by February 28.

Thank You for Attending Stan Eysink's Open House

On behalf of the Cooperative and Stan Eysink, thank you for attending Stan's retirement open house on Friday, December 16th. Stan had an amazing turnout. His last official day at the Cooperative was December 30th. Congratulations again Stan! Enjoy your retirement!



2023 Annual Meeting to be Held at Pella Christian High School

The PCEA Board of Directors and staff will host the 2023 Annual Meeting and dinner at the Pella Christian High School on Tuesday, April 4.

The Cooperative will be serving a dinner prior to the business meeting. The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the business meeting following at 7:00 p.m.

Watch for more information about the Annual Meeting and how to vote by mail in next few issues of HighLines as well as on our Facebook page and other social media pages.



Members enjoying dinner at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Added Danger in Car Wrecks with Power Poles

Winter months can bring snow, ice, and windy conditions, which create additional hazards for drivers. Should an accident occur, it is important to be prepared. Automobile crashes always present danger, but when electricity is involved, the decisions made in the moments after the accident are crucial.

In order to prepare for cold temperatures, snow, and ice, perform regular maintenance on your car to check that batteries are charged, tires have sufficient tread, and windshield wipers are in working order.

In case of emergency, pack a kit that includes blankets, flares, a flashlight, and a window scraper. If you are stranded in your car after an accident, watch for signs of frostbite or hypothermia. Do not stay in one position for too long, stay awake, and do not overexert yourself as this could put strain on your heart.

Due to the potential for a winter storm to bring down your power lines, individuals should only venture outside if absolutely necessary. Slow down when driving in icy conditions, and always keep your eyes on the road to look out for hazardous conditions or downed power lines. Also watch for debris near down poles and lines, as it may be energized as well.



If you see a car in an accident with a power pole, your first instinct may be to rush toward the vehicle to offer help. Always remember to keep your distance from the vehicle and all electrical equipment that has been damaged. Instruct those in the car to stay inside until the power has been shut off.

If you must exit the vehicle because it is on fire, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Keeping your feet together, shuffle or "bunny hop" to safety. Doing this will ensure that you will not have different strengths of electric current running from one foot to another.

Keep in mind that a downed line does not need to be sparking to be energized. It is best to assume all low and downed lines are energized and dangerous.

Never drive over a downed line because that could pull down the pole and other equipment, causing additional hazards. If you see a downed line, do not get out of your car. The safest place is inside the vehicle. Contact 911 to have the utility notified immediately.

For utility crews, repairing damaged power lines is especially dangerous during storm conditions. The increased hazards mean that extra time and attention must be dedicated to ensure that power is safely restored. Have patience while linemen work in these adverse conditions to turn the power back on, and remember to exercise safety and be prepared for driving in dangerous winter conditions.

Have a Complaint? Here's How to Report It

Pella Cooperative Electric strives to provide excellent customer service to each of our members. If a member has a problem with his/her service, please write Pella Cooperative Electric, P.O. Box 106, Pella, IA 50219, call toll free at (800) 619-1040, or email us at service@pella-cea.org. We will work to resolve any issues.

If a member's complaint is related to service disconnection, safety or engineering standards, or renewable energy and Pella Cooperative Electric

does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by:

- Calling (515) 725-7321 or toll-free (877) 565-4450;
- Writing to 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines, IA 50319-0069; or
- Sending an email to customer@iub.iowa.gov

