



Members Help Members Through RECare Program

With support from members like you, ECI REC's RECare program distributes funds to low-income energy consumers in Benton and Buchanan Counties. Donations help pay these members' heating bills or the cost of winterizing their homes.

In 2024, 62 members donated \$7,313 to RECare. Some donated in one payment, while others had the Cooperative add a few dollars to their electric bills each month. No matter the size or frequency of the donation, it made a difference! We are proud so many of our members are digging into their pockets to help others.

RECare funds are distributed to qualifying members through community action agencies. Donations from our northern service area are administered by Operation Threshold, while donations from our southern service area are administered by the Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP).

To sign up for RECare or make a one-time donation, call **877-850-4343** or fill out and return the form to the right or at ecirec.coop (under Account Services, look down the list for Member Programs, then click on the RECare program).



Scan to fill out form online.

YES, I want to contribute to RECare.

- I will make a one-time contribution to RECare.
- I will contribute \$_____ per month to RECare. (I understand that this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.)
- My check is enclosed. (Make payable to ECI REC.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Account Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail form to:
ECI REC | Billing | PO Box 248 | Urbana, IA 52345-0248

QUESTIONS OR COMPLAINTS

If East-Central Iowa REC does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Commission by calling 515-725-7300 or 1-877-565-4450 (toll-free), writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069, or emailing customer@iuc.iowa.gov.

STAY SAFE AFTER A STORM



Clean up with care

Once the storm has passed, it is tempting to go straight into yard clean-up mode. However, take time for safety.

Do not go outside if there is a power outage. There could be a downed power line, which could cause electrocution. Sometimes, downed lines can be covered by branches, storm debris, water, snow or ice.

Keep these additional safety tips in mind:

- Do not trim trees/branches within 10 feet of a power line.
- Read all instructions and be familiar with equipment you intend to use.
- Do not use a chainsaw for the first time during cleanup.
- Follow all safety recommendations when using power tools.

- Carry a ladder horizontally instead of vertically.
- Look for overhead power lines before carrying a ladder.
- Always look up for overhead power lines before removing debris from gutters.

- Take your time. Rushing can result in serious injury.
- Wear proper shoes and clothing when using ladders and power tools.
- Call your electric utility to report branches in power lines; never try to remove them yourself.



Remember, wait until an outage is restored before going outside to assess the damage.

Safe
Electricity.org®



SHOPPING LOCAL?

You Can Save With Co-op Connections®!

You are eligible for deals from these local businesses when you shop with your **Co-op Connections Card.**

- Cy & Charley's Tire & Appliances
- Fabulous Fridays | Heartland Acres Agribition Center | Cameron Clothing Company
- Michael & Dowd | Styles Unlimited
- Berry's Lanes, Inc. | In the Country Garden & Gifts | Frazier Nursery | Henkle Creek Mercantile | Subway (Vinton)
- Viking Sewing Center

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

At least two days prior to digging

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Your Co-op Connections® Card offers you Healthy Savings and local and national deals. Use your card to start saving today! Questions? Email coopconnections@ecirec.coop.



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