

## Save Energy With Online Tools

With summer here and home cooling costs on everyone's mind, ECI REC wants to remind our residential members about our Watts \$mart e-tips.

This resource provides members with FREE energy tips and resources.

Signing up for the e-tips is a great way for members to get relevant, up-to-date information about a wide variety of energy topics. Visit [ecirec.coop](http://ecirec.coop), scroll to the bottom of the home page, and simply click on the Watts \$mart icon.



### #ElectricalSafetyMonth

In May, electric cooperatives across the country promote safety awareness to coincide with National Electrical Safety Month. Every year, thousands of accidents occur due to shock hazards, and ECI REC, a not-for-profit electric utility, is committed to educating the public about potential electrical dangers in the home.

In 2016, 475,500 structure fires (including residential fires) were reported in the U.S., causing 2,950 deaths, 12,775 injuries, and \$7.9 billion in property damage. According to the National Fire Protection Association, a residential fire was reported every 90 seconds.

Many home fires occur when electrical equipment is outdated or improperly used. "It is critical that the public understands their homes' electrical systems and the safety concerns associated with the latest residential technologies before bringing them into their homes," explained CEO Steve Marlow. "With newer technologies, such as solar panels, electric vehicles, and more electrical gadgets in the home, people need to ensure they have an electrical system that's compatible with the increased load."

To raise awareness of the importance of electrical safety, ECI REC will share a series of safety tips on our Facebook page during May.

Through electrical safety awareness and education, we can all play a part in preventing electrical hazards and injuries in the future. Together, let's plug into safety this May!



## Are You Considering an On-Site Generation System?

We are your on-site generation partner

Talk to us first—we can walk you through key points in the multistep process.

On-site generation is an investment that requires significant analysis and fact-finding, followed by careful evaluation of this information. Learn more by reading the “Your Distributed Generation Partner” news story on our website. You can also access the story on your smartphone by scanning this code.



Each year ECI REC assists members with interconnections. The current number of member on-site generation systems interconnected to the Cooperative’s grid is 63.

## Smart Meter Installation Update

Installation of approximately 1,300 smart meters on approximately 1,100 member accounts in the Lindahl and Shellsburg substation areas was completed in mid-April. By the end of April, 582 members within the BECCA substation area also received their new smart meters. The next postcard mailing will go to members in the Karr and Harrison substation areas. These 850+ meter change-outs are slated to be completed within the month of May.

**REMEMBER** to please keep your meter area(s) clear and accessible so Chapman Metering technicians can easily access it.

The ECI REC team is here to address any questions you may have about the new meters. Please feel free to call 877-850-4343 or email [ecirec@ecirec.coop](mailto:ecirec@ecirec.coop) if you have any questions.



**BUILDING A SMARTER COOPERATIVE**

## Co-op Connections® Program Puts Value in Your Wallet



Use your Co-op Connections Card online and at the participating businesses below and discover the value of being a co-op member at ECI REC!

E & T NAPA Auto Parts | Bill’s Pizza & Smokehouse | Okoboji Grill | Subway | Heartland Acres Agribition Center | Clingman Pharmacy, Inc. | Styles Unlimited | Cy & Charley’s Tire & Appliances | Frazier Nursery | In the Country Garden & Gifts | Michael & Dowd | *THE NEWS/Buchanan County Review* | Office Towne, Inc. | Berry’s Lanes, Inc. | Viking Sewing Center | Emmy Lou Candles | Cameron Clothing Company | Fabulous Fridays | Henkle Creek Mercantile | Polar Blair’s Den | BEST WESTERN PLUS Independence Inn & Suites | Modern Motel

## 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](mailto:coopconnections@ecirec.coop).



Use SmartHub to pay for FREE online! Discover, Visa, and MasterCard accepted. While you’re there, view your monthly usage data in helpful chart formats.



Click the Energy Resource Center icon at [ecirec.coop](http://ecirec.coop) to get electronics advice, access reference tools, and break down your monthly energy costs via a home energy advisor.