



NEWSLINE



September 2023

Tyler Officer Returns From Youth Tour '23

Each year the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) organizes and leads Minnesota's student delegation to Washington, D.C. for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Itasca-Mantrap was proud to sponsor Tyler Officer, an incoming junior at Park Rapids High School.

Officer traveled to our nation's capital in June with 35 other students from Minnesota, to join 1,400 high schoolers from around the country to participate in the

Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

"This trip was unlike any other organized trip I have been on before," said Officer, "It was an amazing experience being able to meet and become friends with other students from co-ops from all over Minnesota and around the country."

You can hear more about Officer's trip to Washington, D.C. when he gives his presentation at the next Annual Meeting!





CEO Update - By Christine Fox, President-CEO

Recently, our cooperative has undergone a few organizational changes that will strengthen our ability to achieve our strategic objectives. These changes required position adjustments within the cooperative and the addition of a new position. In preparation for interviews, I have reflected on the many ways being a cooperative makes Itasca-Mantrap unique and, in my opinion, better.

Itasca Mantrap's decisions are made locally by directors who live right here in our community.

Itasca-Mantrap is owned by our members, who elect directors to represent them. Everyone who receives electricity from the co-op is a member. Each member has a say in how the cooperative is run. You can express your opinions about the operations of the co-op by reaching out to our office, contacting a Board Member, or even running for the Board yourself.

Itasca-Mantrap seeks opportunities to connect with our members.

Not only do we encourage you to share your opinions, but we also make strides to reach out to you. We schedule opportunities for you to share your thoughts by hosting co-op events such as our annual meeting, end of the summer social, apps and amps, member appreciation day, etc. We appreciate the opportunity to hear from you. In fact, we will be conducting a survey to gather your feedback on cooperative programs and services so that we can plan for the future. You can read more about the survey in this newsletter. Also in this newsletter, we are asking you to provide us with your e-mail address if we don't have it on file. This provides yet another way to communicate with you. We strive for great communication with our members and are proud of our reputation as a recognized trusted energy advisor. We not only power our community, but we also empower our members.

Unlike for-profit utilities, Itasca-Mantrap is committed to keeping more money in your pocket.

We also strive to help you maximize the value you receive from our services and offerings. Itasca-Mantrap makes rebates and other money-saving programs available to our members.

Itasca-Mantrap makes investments in our local system.

The money you pay for electricity stays with your cooperative. Itasca-Mantrap uses these funds to pay for the electricity you used, or we reinvest those funds to improve and strengthen the service reliability of our local system. Your money is not used to pay unknown shareholders in unknown parts of the world. We invest it in our cooperative within our community and when our equity position allows, we return it to you in the form of a capital credit retirement.

Most importantly, we are unique in that you – our members – are at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you!



EV Ride and Drive Event

@Itasca-Mantrap

Thursday, September 21, 2023

4:00PM-7:00PM

Learn about EVs,
Itasca-Mantrap EV programs,
rebates and more!

Electric Vehicle



FAQs

Most automakers are transitioning many of their new vehicles to electric-only models over the next 10 years. Regardless of the type of car you drive today, the electrification of the transportation sector is well under way.

We have received inquiries about electric vehicles from Itasca-Mantrap members. Below are some frequently asked questions.



Why is Itasca-Mantrap communicating about electric vehicles?

Consumer interest in electric vehicles (EVs) is growing and Itasca-Mantrap is providing information about EV charging requirements so that our members can make an informed decision when considering an EV Purchase.



Can I charge my EV using my existing outlet or do I need a special outlet?

All EVs come with a 110-volt-compatible (level 1) charging unit which can be plugged into any standard household outlet. An eight-hour overnight charge will provide travel for 36 - 40 miles a day. If you typically drive longer distances or are in a hurry, a level two charger, which requires a special outlet, takes about half the time and provides about 180 miles of range over an eight-hour charging period.



Does the outside temperature affect the range of an EV?

Outside temps, particularly cold weather, can impact the range of an EV. Unlike a gas-powered vehicle, where the heat is mostly coming from the engine, an EV must produce cabin heat and manage an optimal battery temperature with energy that comes from the battery, which can reduce battery range.



Will an EV meet my daily driving needs?

If you are like most Americans and drive an average of 30 miles a day, an EV can easily meet your daily needs.



What incentives are available for EVs?

Itasca-Mantrap offers a rebate towards the purchase and installation of a level 2 EV charger when combined with an EV rate. There are also a variety of tax credits, rebates, and other incentives available for new/used EV purchases. Visit www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/409 for more information.



Should I let my co-op know if I purchase an EV?

If you purchase an EV, please let us know so we can better serve you. As more Itasca-Mantrap members buy EVs, it's helpful to know where they're located in our area so we can ensure we have the necessary infrastructure in place to meet charging needs and provide reliable power to our local homes and businesses.

Whether you're ready to make an EV purchase or have more questions, we want to help you research to make an informed decision. Call us at (218) 732-3377 or email us at itasca@itasca-mantrap.com to get started today.

Powering the Future:

Unveiling a new look for Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative!

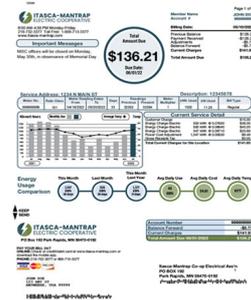
Launching October 2023!

NEW LOGO!



ITASCA-MANTRAP
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEW BILL PRINT!



Team Member News



Congratulations to Mike Kasperek who accepted the Materials/Facility Specialist position in July.

Mike will now manage the Cooperative's purchasing, warehousing and inventory, ensuring our Team Members have the equipment and supplies necessary to continue providing exemplary service to our members. He will also maintain the Itasca-Mantrap grounds and facilities.

Mike joined Itasca-Mantrap in August 2017 as a Member Service Representative after having worked in the electric cooperative industry for over 21 years.

Congratulations Mike!

Board Report: Meeting Highlights

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Itasca-Mantrap Co-op. Electrical Ass'n. was held on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Itasca-Mantrap office.

A quorum of directors was present.

Approved:

- Consent agenda
- May financials, subject to audit
- Bank resolution for Itasca-Mantrap Trust accounts
- Reschedule August Board meeting to August 24, 2023

- 2024 Annual Meeting date for June 12, 2024.
- Revisions to Board Policies 3.34, Educational Assistance and 7.12, New Membership and Service Guidelines
- CoBank Incumbency Certificate
- 10-year contract extension with Great River Energy (GRE)
- Director Utke to attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Regional Meeting in Des Moines, IA.
- CEO report
- 2022 Reliability report
- Directors and CEO Fox reported on meetings attended on behalf of the Cooperative

Reviewed:

- Changes to Itasca-Mantrap's membership
- GRE Power Cost Adjustment detail for May 2023
- Minutes of the June 13, 2023 Annual Meeting

Reports heard:

- Operations and Safety report
- Marketing and Member Services report

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.



Member Satisfaction Survey

Itasca-Mantrap has commissioned NRECA Market Research Services to conduct a confidential e-mail survey, to begin in October, of a random sample of our Members.

The purpose of the survey is to explore Members' views on programs and services the cooperative may offer. Conducting the survey using scientific research standards will enable us to use the results to make plans for the future.

By understanding what our Members want and need, Itasca-Mantrap will be able to provide you with the service you expect and the programs that best meet your needs and those of our community.

NRECA Market Research Services guarantees complete confidentiality of your individual responses. You will not be identified in any way, unless you ask us to contact you.

The survey results are compiled and reported to Itasca-Mantrap as group totals. Please be candid in your responses so that co-op management has an objective assessment of your views.

There are no right or wrong answers. We look forward to sharing the results of this survey with you.

Again, if you are contacted, we ask for your participation and thank you for your input and time.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system? Home heating accounts for a large portion of winter energy bills, and no matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment.

Combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings can save about 30% on your energy bills.

Source: Dept.
of Energy



Having your email on file allows us to continue improving our service to you!

If you haven't added an email to your account call 218-732-3377 or scan the QR code.



Happy Labor Day!

Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 4.



ITASCA-MANTRAP ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

OFFICE LOCATION

16930 County 6, PO Box 192
Park Rapids, MN 56470

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Phone: 218-732-3377 or 888-713-3377
Fax: 218-732-5890
E-mail: itasca@itasca-mantrap.com
www.itasca-mantrap.com

GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

1-800-252-1166
www.gopherstateonecall.org

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Dist. 1 – Brian Behrens, Chair
Dist. 2 – Patricia Roehl, Director
Dist. 3 – Terrence Cook, Treasurer
Dist. 4 – Al Czczok, Asst Sec Treas
Dist. 5 – Nancy M. Utke, Director*
Dist. 6 – Tim Kivi, Secretary
Dist. 7 – Dan Breitbach, Vice Chair
President-CEO – Christine Fox
*GRE Director Representative

Itasca-Mantrap is an equal opportunity provider and employer.