



NEWSLINE



April 2022

Remember to #ThankALineworker on April 11

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 11

Itasca-Mantrap lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done.

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 11. Given the dedication of Itasca-Mantrap's lineworkers, both on and off the job, take a moment to acknowledge the many contributions they make to the local community. If you see their family members around town, please offer them a thank you as well.



Itasca-Mantrap Lineworkers



Chris Bungert



Jerry Byer



Dan Cox



Casey Davis



Clay Eberhart



Parry Eidsmoe



Kevin George



Chad Grande



Mike Moen



Andrew Sandberg

Director Nominations Open

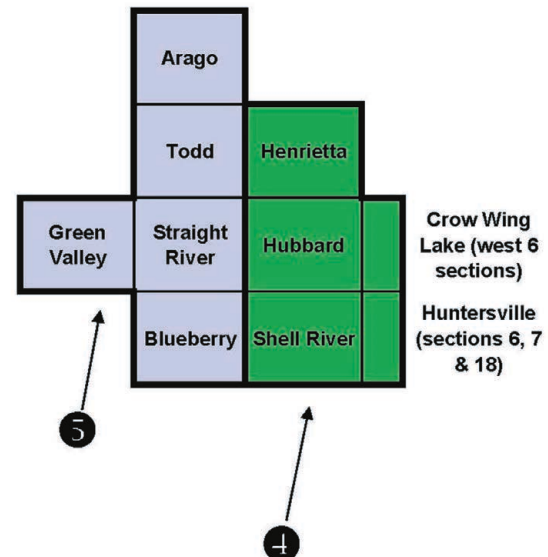
Nominations are open for director candidates who live in district 4 and district 5. Nominees must meet eligibility requirements as specified in the Itasca-Mantrap Bylaws. Copies of the bylaws are available at www.itsasca-mantrap.com and at our office.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate, call our office to request a director candidate packet. The packet contains the nomination petition form and other information.

DISTRICT 4 – includes Henrietta, Hubbard, Shell River, Crow Wing Lake (west 6 sections), and Huntersville (sections 6, 7 and 18) Townships.

DISTRICT 5 – includes Arago, Blueberry, Green Valley, Straight River, and Todd Townships.

Completed petitions and forms must be received in the Itasca-Mantrap office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11.





CEO Update - By Christine Fox, President-CEO

There has been a lot of talk about climate change and emissions targets over the years in places like Paris, Washington D.C., and St. Paul.

But did you know, there has been a lot of action taking place in Park Rapids? And it is benefiting families and businesses within our territory. Your electricity is getting significantly cleaner while remaining safe, reliable, and affordable.

Itasca-Mantrap is on the path to clean energy, and we believe Itasca-Mantrap's members have the best electric service around, whether you value cost, reliability, environmental responsibility—or all three.

In partnership with our wholesale electricity provider, Great River Energy (GRE), Itasca-Mantrap will dramatically reduce the energy we receive from coal. Next year, we

will meet Minnesota's goal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 80% from 2005 levels—27 years before the 2050 target. Yes, incredibly, I said 27 years!

Further, our renewable energy portfolio – which already meets Minnesota's renewable energy standard of 25% – will nearly triple in output by 2025.

This strategic shift to change the way GRE generates electricity has occurred intentionally for over a decade, demonstrated by the closure of two power plants and the recent sale of a third. These advances toward clean energy have allowed GRE's wholesale power rate to remain flat and is projected to remain flat for years to come, despite recent inflation.

Since wholesale power is expected to remain flat, and with wholesale power being Itasca-Mantrap's largest expenditure, this is great news for Itasca-Mantrap members. That being said, I cannot predict what will happen to Itasca-Mantrap rates to our members due to inflationary costs of

other Itasca-Mantrap expenditures. However, I can say that any rate increases will be much less dramatic than would have otherwise occurred.

Itasca-Mantrap and Great River Energy are in the strong position we are today because of the way we do business, as cooperatives. Cooperatives are owned by those we serve, governed by democratically elected directors, and guided by a simple goal: to do what's best for the membership, in every scenario. We are an owner of Great River Energy in the same way you are an owner of Itasca-Mantrap. Your Itasca-Mantrap directors have faced decisions that will have wide-ranging and long-lasting effects. They take into careful consideration the impact their decisions will have on the environment, reliability, community, and the state and local economy. Through it all, they have focused on doing what's best for Itasca-Mantrap's membership. By continuing to listen to our members and work with partners like Great River Energy, Itasca-Mantrap will remain innovative and nimble and deliver on our promise to members for generations.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

• March and April are employee appreciation and line-worker appreciation months and as such I would like to thank all the team members on our Itasca-Mantrap team. I cannot say enough about how remarkable each of them is. Everyone contributes their unique style which synergizes into the best team ever. You will notice that we call ourselves team members and not employees. This is because we work together as a team to accomplish our mission of serving our members.



While we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day, we also want to celebrate all of the Itasca-Mantrap team members, who support our lineworkers, other team members, and our members.

We appreciate you!

Shop local with Co-op Connections!

Don't forget your Co-op Connections card when you are out shopping locally! Simply show your Co-op Connections card at any local participating business to save. Participating businesses have a Co-op Connections sticker on the business' door or cash register. This free program is one more way you benefit from being a cooperative Member.

Co-op Connections® Card



Itasca-Mantrap

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Abigail's Attic Antiques, Collectables & New Gifts	612-720-8833	5%-10% off store wide, excluding new gifts
Amish Oak & Americana Furnishings	218-732-9544	10% off storewide, non-sale
Aune's Kauppala Gifts & Collectibles	218-573-2520	5% off storewide, non-sale items
Aunt Belle's Confectionery	218-732-7019	10% off any regularly priced item
Beagle and Wolf Books & Bindery	218-237-2665	10% off one Midwest Connections pick
Bella Caffé	218-732-7625	Free flavor in coffee drink
Beyond Juice	218-732-0422	10% off
Blue Sky Beads	218-652-3212	10% off when you spend \$30, excluding commissioned pieces
Brothers Self Storage	218-255-7057	10% off any size unit or 15% off 10x10 unit (1 year term limit)
Character Challenge Course	218-760-8442	Buy 1 combo package (\$50), get \$20 discount towards second
Citizens National Bank	218-732-3393	\$50 in Chamber Bucks for one originated Consumer Loan; \$20 deposit in your account after opening E-Checking account
Delaney's Sports	218-732-4281	Free fatheads with a \$5 tackle purchase
Dorset Corner Liquor	218-732-1770	10% discount on wine purchase, excluding sale items
Ecowater Systems	218-732-4332	1 year supply of salt with purchase of a new residential water softener & reverse osmosis system together
Evergreen Gifts & Fun Park	218-732-9609	5% off any purchase
Flying W Gardens	218-732-9782	10% off trees, shrubs & perennials, non-sale only
Haas Printing, Inc.	218-732-1430	10% off on color copies
Hafner's Greenhouse	218-732-8033	10% off storewide, non-sale items
Jerry's Budget Auto	218-732-8809	10% off service and repair on small engines
Kathryn's on Main	218-366-2231	10% off any one regularly priced item
Max Bailey Photography	218-732-7979	10% off original print order
Minnesoda Fountain	218-732-3240	10% off total purchase, cannot be combined with other discounts, not valid on sale items
New Frontier Resort	218-732-3643	5% off lodging for stays over three days
Orton's Menahga BP	218-564-4545	5 cents off per gallon
Orton's Park Rapids	218-237-2220	5 cents off per gallon
Owl's Nest Resort	218-252-2105	10% off weekly rate
Park Rapids Auto Centre	218-732-7210	5% off parts and labor
Park Rapids Building Supply & Rental	218-732-7633	5% off, non-sale items
Park Theatre	218-732-3461	Free bag of popcorn with purchase of ticket
Pixie Point Resort	218-652-2342	10% off
Quietwoods Resort, LLC	218-675-6240	10% off new lodging and camping reservations
Rapids Spirits Liquor Store	218-732-0998	10% off wine purchase, may not be used with other discounts
Smokey Hills Outdoor Store	218-237-5099	25% discount on any live bait
Strandell Kennels	218-652-6502	5% off training service & puppy purchase, \$3 off daily boarding services (limit 2 days)
Tamarac Resort & Campground	218-573-3262	5% off five-day stay or more

The Flower Boutique	218-237-7449	15% off storewide
The Wild's Resort & Campground	218-573-3515	15% off
Tim Parker Family Glass	218-237-2300	10% off all windshields
Utke's Country Pine Furnishings	218-732-3860	5% off in-stock merchandise. Present card at time of purchase
Warnick's Janitorial Service	218-732-5019	20% discount on any service, excluding house cleaning
3rd Street Market	218-732-9063	Free coffee with purchase of a pie

SIGN UP FOR ITASCA-MANTRAP TEXT NOTIFICATIONS

Text "ITASCA" TO (888) 713-3377

Itasca-Mantrap offers text message notifications to our members! Text message notifications provide a simple and convenient way to receive important notices related to your electric account, such as:

- Report an outage via text
- Receive outage status updates
- Notifications of scheduled outages

*Text message charges may apply.
Members may opt out of text notifications.



APPS & AMPS



Let's talk watts! We invite you to join us at The Outpost in Huntersville to enjoy delicious appetizers, and powerful conversation. Learn more about the benefits of being a member and receiving your power from Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative.

DATE: Wednesday, May 11

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

WHERE: The Outpost in Huntersville

RSVP by Friday, May 6 if you plan on attending.

Board Report: Meeting Highlights

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Itasca-Mantrap Co-op. Electrical Ass'n. was held on Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Itasca-Mantrap office.

A quorum of directors was present.

Items discussed or Board action taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Heard the Operations and Safety report and the Marketing and Member Services report.
- December financials were received and filed subject to audit.
- CEO Christine Fox gave her monthly CEO report.
- Heard quarterly reports for Board Expenses, Strategic Plan, Safety Incidents, Financial Ratios and Vegetation Management.
- Approved the retirement of Itasca-Mantrap capital credits through 2004 and Great River Energy (GRE) capital credits through 1992, totaling \$1,061,721.99, not including estate retirements.
- Approved the Average Retail Cooperative Energy Rates (ARCER) for residential, small commercial, large commercial and irrigation accounts.
- Reviewed the 2021 Distributed Energy Resource Facilities report.
- Approved revisions to Board Policy 7.14 – Identity Theft Prevention Program and adopted Board Policy 7.20 – Member Privacy and Confidentiality.
- Reviewed plans for Strategic Planning sessions in March 2022.
- Approved a vote in favor of changes to GRE's transaction to sell Coal Creek Station and the HVDC system.
- Approved a vote in favor of GRE's wind energy purchase.
- Designated Director Utke as delegate for a GRE special meeting on February 9, 2022.
- Directors and CEO Christine Fox reported on meetings attended on behalf of the Cooperative.

The April meeting of the Board of Directors is Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Can You Dig It?



An underground utility line is **damaged once every 9 minutes** because someone didn't call 811.



Call 811, the "Call Before You Dig Number," at least **2 business days** prior to digging.



811 locators **do not detect** underground sprinkler systems, invisible fences, data communication systems, private water systems, or gas piping to a garage.



Even if you have previously had underground utilities marked, **utilities can shift**, so it's best to call before starting a new project.



Once **all of your utilities** have been located, then you can start your digging project!

Learn more at

 **Safe Electricity.org**



Manage your electric bill when it is convenient for you. Use the SmartHub app to access your account 24/7.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

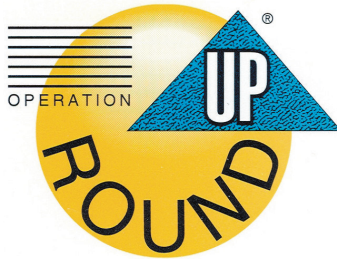
When streaming content, use the smallest device that makes sense for the number of people watching. Avoid streaming on game consoles, which use 10 times more power than streaming through a tablet or laptop.

Streaming content with electronic equipment that has earned the ENERGY STAR® rating will use 25% to 30% less energy than standard equipment.

Source: Dept. of Energy



Source: energy.gov



Your continued support of the Operation Round Up® program to help local civic and charitable organizations is appreciated.

Thank you!



AGI UPDATE

Itasca-Mantrap crews will be out in the field installing new meters as part of our advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) system. The new meters will improve reliability and give you more tools and opportunities to manage and save energy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(218) 732-3377
(888) 713-3377
www.itsca-mantrap.com

ITASCA-MANTRAP COOPERATIVE

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.itsca-mantrap.com



GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

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

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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