



WATTS CURRENT

Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative
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December 2021

Win a trip to Washington, D.C. - Rural Electric Youth Tour 2022

An all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. June 18-24, 2022 along with a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one young person from this area.

Contest applicants must currently be a high school sophomore or junior. However, the parents DO NOT have to be RVEC member-owners.

Based on an open book exam and essay, the top three applicants will be doing face-to-face interviews. RVEC will award one contest winner a one week all-expense paid trip to the U.S. Capitol. The winner will also receive a \$500 scholarship to use during their first year of college or secondary school. Applications must be received by January 7, 2022. The open book exam and study materials will be mailed to you after January 7, 2022

Further information and applications may be obtained by contacting RVEC at 712.659.3649 or <http://youthtour.iowarec.org/> or <http://youthtour.coop/>.



YOUTH TOUR CONTEST APPLICATION

Student _____

Address _____ Telephone # _____

School _____

(Must currently be a high school sophomore or junior to enter)

We certify that we are the parents or legal guardians of the above youth and give our permission for the youth to participate in the trip to Washington, D.C. should he or she be declared the winner; and further agrees that his or her entry will become the property of the Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative.

Date _____ Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Mail to: Youth Tour Contest, RVEC, PO Box 486 Glidden, IA 51443

Patronage Retired

Your Board of Directors allocates excess margins to your patronage account by year based on the percentage of dollars you paid to RVEC during that year. Your Board of Directors approved retiring the general patronage allocated for 1997, 1998 and partial retirement for 1999. If you were a member-owner during that year, your check was issued the beginning of December. We ask that you cash your check promptly.

Every year the Board of Directors reviews the Cooperative's financial position to determine when additional refunds will be made. 18.17.04

— CEO Comments —



Jim Gossett

Member-owner economic participation is one of the seven cooperative principles followed by RVEC and rural electric cooperatives across the country. RVEC member-owners contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative.

As a member-owner of RVEC, you are accumulating equity in the co-op as you use electricity each year. In fact, each member-owner has a patronage allocation account on file which tracks the credit or equity accumulated each year. The cooperative is a not-for-profit organization, but when we experience additional income over expenses at the end of the year - referred to as margins - we allocate that extra money back to our member-owner.

These funds are allocated to your patronage allocation account and returned to you over time when the board determines that it is financially feasible to do so. In October, the RVEC Board approved the retirement of allocated patronage for all of 1997 and 1998 and a portion of 1999. If you were a member-owner in those years, you should have received a patronage retirement check the beginning of December. This is RVEC's patronage system at work for you, the member-owner. 08.28.01

In April of this year, the Directors elected to make a one-time early retirement. This was a portion of the 2020 patronage allocation to the member-owners. Like the allocation, your share of this special retirement is calculated from the amount of kilowatt hours you purchased in 2020.

Allocation and retirement (return) of patronage to member-owners is an important difference between electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities. RVEC does not have stockholders.

It is the responsibility of your Board of Directors to set sound financial policy and the duty of management to properly care for the assets of RVEC. We are pleased to provide you, the member-owner, with these returns of equity in your cooperative.

If you have any questions call our office at 712.659.3649 or for more information, visit the Patronage Capital section of our website: <https://www.rvec.coop/content/patronage-capital-credits>.

Basin Scholarship

Dependents of members of RVEC are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship to be provided by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, power supplier of RVEC.

The scholarship program is designed to encourage and recognize the achievements of a student living on electric cooperative lines. The scholarship must be used for educational costs and the student must enter college in the fall of the school year for which the scholarship is given. The applicant must be a student who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time graduate or undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

This scholarship is awarded without regard to other awards, loans or financial assistance the applicant may have obtained. Award of the scholarship is based on the following criteria: SAT/ACT scores, grade-point average, work experience, participation in school and community activities, a statement by the student explaining his/her educational and career goals and a written recommendation by a third party.

Applicants may get an application form from RVEC. Application forms are due back to RVEC by **January 25, 2022**. For more information, contact Jill Hannasch at 712.659.3649 or 800.253.6211 or e-mail jillh@rvec.coop.

2022 Momentum is Building Conference for Contractors and Builders

Area builders and contractors are invited to learn about energy efficiency technologies at the 2022 Momentum is Building (MIB) Conference, scheduled for Feb. 3 and 4 at the Meadows Event Center in Altoona. A major draw for electricians, plumbers and HVAC professionals is the opportunity to earn CEU credits at the conference. MIB attendees can also network with industry professionals, hear from recognized industry energy efficiency and building trades experts and gain insight on trending technologies. Registration is now open at www.MomentumsBuilding.com.



It's a Boy!!

First Class Lineman Matt Schwarzkopf and wife Bailey became proud parents. Reed was born on September 20th. Congratulations!!

Sponsored and organized annually by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives® of Iowa, the Momentum is Building Conference also connects Iowa's construction industry with the local services and resources available from electric cooperatives, serving nearly 650,000 Iowans in all 99 counties.

"Helping inform local contractors about cutting-edge energy efficiency and beneficial electrification technologies is important to Iowa's electric cooperatives," said Ryan Cornelius, vice president of corporate relations at Corn Belt Power Cooperative. "For over 25 years, the Momentum is Building Conference has provided both electric cooperatives and contractors an opportunity to come together to provide rural Iowans with safe, efficient and cost-effective home comfort solutions."

Weldon Long, a bestselling author and sales expert, will open the conference on Feb. 3 as he talks about achieving personal and professional greatness in the face of adversity. Comedian Greg Warren will close out the conference on Feb. 4 as he shares humorous stories of overcoming setbacks throughout his life.

MIB 2022 will be held at the Meadows Event Center 22.33.02 beginning at 8:00 AM on Thursday, Feb. 3 running through Noon on Friday, Feb. 4. Registration for the event is available online at MomentumsBuilding.com. Early Bird registration is available until Jan. 19.

For more information about the conference, please contact Director of Safety & Member Services Brady Boell at bradyb@rvec.coop, 712.659.3649 or 800.253.6211.

All of us at Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative (RVEC) wish you and your family a joyful holiday season!



Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative (RVEC)

will be **CLOSED** for

Christmas Day
December 24th (observed)

2022

New Year's Day
December 31st (observed)

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Published monthly by
Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative

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Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative
(RVEC) is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.



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**Raccoon Valley
Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
Reliable • Affordable • Responsible



Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

Property Taxes Paid

Property taxes are used to help fund such important things as education and city and county government. You might not be aware of it, but your Cooperative pays property taxes. RVEC receives a tax bill for the poles, wires, transformers, etc. out on the line and another tax bill for the office and warehouse. RVEC pays taxes in nine different counties that we serve. 38.35.03

The following is a breakdown of the property taxes paid in 2021.

County	Taxes Paid
Audubon County	\$3,491
Buena Vista County	\$139
Calhoun County	\$640
Carroll County	\$42,753
Crawford County	\$50
Greene County	\$2,993
Guthrie County	\$379
Ida County	\$68
Sac County	\$20,812
Total	\$71,325

Complaint Procedure

The Iowa Utility Board requires that all non-rate regulated utilities post the following notice to its membership:

If a member-consumer has a problem with his/her service, please write or call:

Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 486 • Glidden, Iowa 51443 • 712.659.3649

If the member-consumer's complaint is related to Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative's (RVEC) service rather than its rates, and RVEC does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the:

Iowa Utilities Board

1375 E. Court Avenue • Room 69 • Des Moines, Iowa 50319
877.565.4450

Spot Your Number

Read Watts Current and watch for your location number. If you spot it, call RVEC by the 20th of the month and you will receive an electrical bill credit for \$25.00.