

Elect GLE's Board of Directors - Vote!



Bill Scott
Great Lakes Energy
President/CEO

The presidential election has taken center stage for many months now and soon it will be time to cast your vote. But voting for politicians is not the only way we as co-op members can practice democracy.

Voting is also something you can do as a member and owner of Great Lakes Energy. It's your right as a member to elect a board member in your geographic district.

Every co-op, whether it's your credit union or a farm co-op – follows the basic principle of one member, one vote. Most often you are asked to vote to elect fellow members who will represent you on the board of directors. These folks are your friends, neighbors and fellow residents of our community.

For members living in districts 6, 8 and 9, this is your year to vote for a board candidate. For all other members, your opportunity to vote will next come in 2017 or 2018. You can also view information on the board candidates online at countrylines.com.

Members vote for director once every three years. In my case, I'm a GLE member from Emmet County. My next opportunity to vote will come in 2018.

Do you live in one of the following counties?

Allegan
Barry
Clare
Kent
Lake
Mason

Mecosta
Montcalm
Newaygo
Osceola
Ottawa

If you answered yes, you will find candidate profiles in the July/August issue of *Michigan County Lines* and a ballot on the outer cover. Simply cast your vote from the comfort of your home and drop the postage-paid ballot in the mailbox. Voting is that simple and convenient. If you lose or accidentally throw away the ballot, contact us and we'll send you another one.

Part of the value of being a cooperative member is everyone's vote carries equal weight. Whether it's a business with several owners or a small home with a single owner, each has one membership and one vote. In the case of a husband and wife, their joint membership entitles them to one vote.

The nine directors on the board are elected from each district for a three-year term.

Co-ops believe in the power of human connection and encourage your participation in the board election. If you live in districts 6, 8 or 9, please exercise your right to vote. It's the cooperative difference.

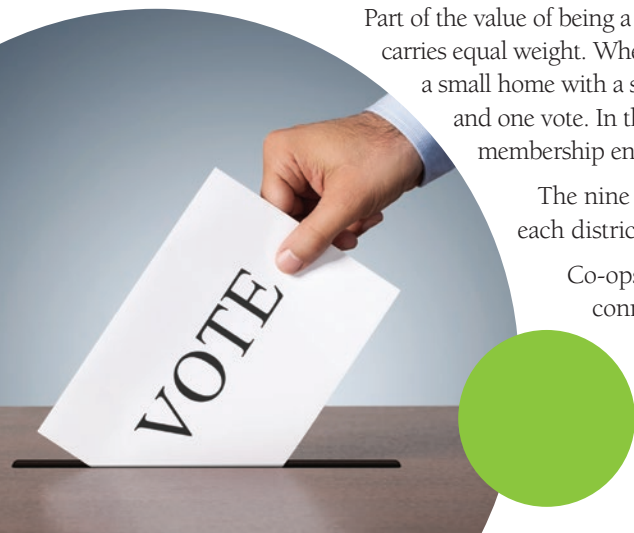
Help Keep Our LINEWORKERS Safe

Nails and staples left from signs hung on a utility pole may seem harmless, unless you're a lineworker working in darkness to restore power who doesn't see them. They can easily rip protective gloves, putting him at risk of being electrocuted.

Lineworkers may not see a bird house, plant hanger or other object on the pole either that could cause them to slip and fall.

For their safety, please don't attach anything to a utility pole.

The Great Lakes Energy lineworkers who help keep your lights on thank you.



Cool Savings

Stay comfortably cool with a heat pump this summer and enjoy the cool savings, too. Save all year long as well because heat pumps heat and cool.

Qualifying Great Lakes Energy members whose primary heating system is a heat pump (ground or air-source) can have it separately metered at a lower kilowatt-hour (kWh) rate.

The efficient electric heat rate offers a 3 cents per kWh credit year-round for qualifying ground-source heat pumps. Qualifying air-source heat pumps can receive the credit during the heating season (bills rendered November through May).

Electric heat pump must meet these energy efficiency standards to qualify for the lower rate:

Geothermal System - minimum requirements of EER 17.1 COP 3.6 for closed loop water-to-air; EER 21.1 COP 4.1 for open loop water-to-air; EER 16.1 COP 3.1 for closed loop water-to-water; EER 20.1 COP 3.5 for open loop water-to-water; EER 16 COP 3.6 for direct geexchange.

Air-Source Heat Pump - minimum requirements of HSPF 8.5, EER 12.5, & SEER 15 for split systems and HSPF 8, EER 12 & SEER 14 for package systems.

Rebates of \$500 (ground-source) and \$250 (air-source) are available for qualifying systems. For more information on the rebates and lower rate, call us at 1-888-485-2537, ext. 8957, or email us at: glenergy@glenergy.com.

Additional heat pump rebates up to \$500 are available through our Energy Optimization program. Visit michigan-energy.org or call 877-296-4319.

The Michigan Geothermal Energy Association offers more information about heat pumps and dealers in your area. Visit earthcomfort.com.



Looking Out for You

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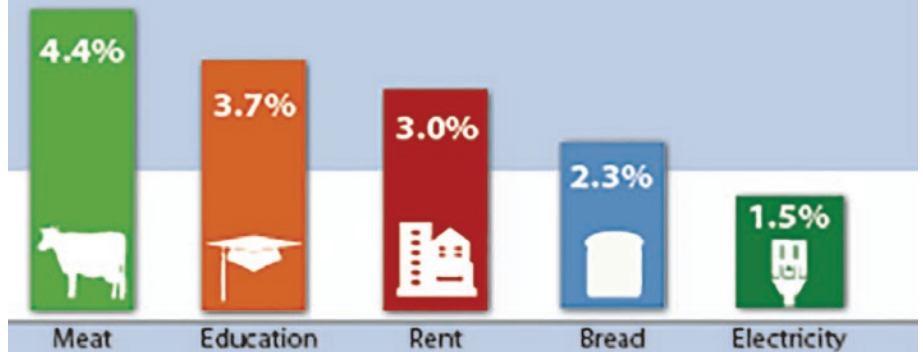
Great Lakes Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electricity Remains a Good Value

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increase of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.



Average Annual Price Increase
2010-2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

Tell us how we're doing! You could win a \$25 gift of energy

We'd like to hear from you. Have you had a positive interaction with a GLE employee either on the phone or in-person? Tell us about it and you could win a \$25 gift of energy.

Contact us with specific details of the interaction, including the employee name, by phone, mail or email. You can even post the comment through a form on our website or on our Facebook page. We'll print all of your great comments in our employee newsletter. Employees who are recognized will be entered in a quarterly, random prize drawing. Plus we'll award the member who submits the feedback for the winning employee a \$25 gift of energy!

We appreciate your feedback! We also welcome any suggestions or concerns with our service. While we won't print these in our employee newsletter, we will work with you to resolve your concern as quickly as possible.

CONTACT US WITH YOUR FEEDBACK TODAY.

Please be specific and include the employee name.
888-GT-LAKES | glenergy@glenergy.com
gtlakes.com/honorroll | facebook.com/greatlakesenergy