

High Speed Fiber Development Continues



Bill Scott
Great Lakes Energy
President/CEO

I'm pleased to report construction of a high-speed fiber internet network starts next month in our Petoskey service district that covers Emmet County, small parts of Charlevoix and

in the district, not just those who subscribe to the service. It will serve as the backbone for other supporting technologies that will enable us to improve our reliability and outage restoration capabilities.

The installation cost to bring fiber to the home will be included as part of the promotional offer when members enroll. We plan to offer three attractively-priced internet plans, including optional landline phone service.

Phone service can be purchased separately or bundled with fiber internet service at a discount.

The fiber service will be provided by a newly-created subsidiary owned by Great Lakes Energy. The subsidiary will be responsible for all project costs. Our plan is that there will be no negative impact on electric service or rates.

Should the initial phase of this project be successful, we will extend fiber internet to other service areas based on member demand and other factors.



Fiber internet service is coming to GLE members in the shaded areas above which includes most of Emmet County and small parts of Charlevoix and Cheboygan counties. Service to Beaver Island will be a form of high-speed internet yet to be determined.

We will keep you informed on this exciting new project as it develops in the months ahead through our publications, online at gtlakes.com or on our Facebook page.

Cheboygan counties and Beaver Island (see map).

In July, contracted construction crews will begin attaching fiber optic cable to our poles, a process which will be completed in 2020 or possibly sooner. This fiber cable will deliver high speed internet and phone service to members. The last step in the construction phase is extending the fiber cable into the homes and businesses of GLE members who become subscribers of this exciting new service offering.

If all goes as scheduled, a small number of GLE members will have high speed fiber service by the end of the year. In 2019 and beyond we plan to add many more new subscribers.

The addition of the fiber optic technology will benefit all GLE members



Now, you can make a greater impact in your local community with People Fund PLUS.

Choose a People Fund donation level in addition to your rounded-up amount. Your donations are awarded in the form of grants to local community nonprofit groups.

All People Fund contributors earn the chance to win a \$100 bill credit twice per year. In 2017, the People Fund awarded \$216,155 in grants to local nonprofits. Visit gtlakes.com to see the list of grant recipients in your area.

JOIN TODAY!

Working together, we can help enhance our local communities and meet the needs of so many.

Here's how it works:

\$65.42	Bill
\$00.58	People Fund Round-Up Amount
<u>\$ 2.00</u>	People Fund PLUS Amount (or any even amount you choose)
\$68.00	Total Bill

Sign up today by contacting us at

1-888-GTLAKES or visit gtlakes.com.

PREPARE FOR billing changes

Starting this month, your bill will have a fresh, new look with more information to help you better manage your energy needs. Other changes include:

- Many members will be reassigned a new account number. Please update your records with your bank or credit union with the new account number if you use their online services to pay your electric bill. Members who include their account number on their checks will want to use the new account number.
- Online accounts will need to be re-established. Old logins will no longer be supported. You can use your new or old account number for the initial setup of your new login.
- Online access will be available on the top of the GLE homepage, gtlakes.com. You will no longer be able to use my.gtlakes.com to access your account.

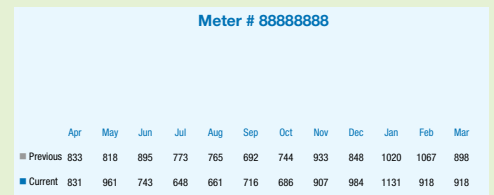
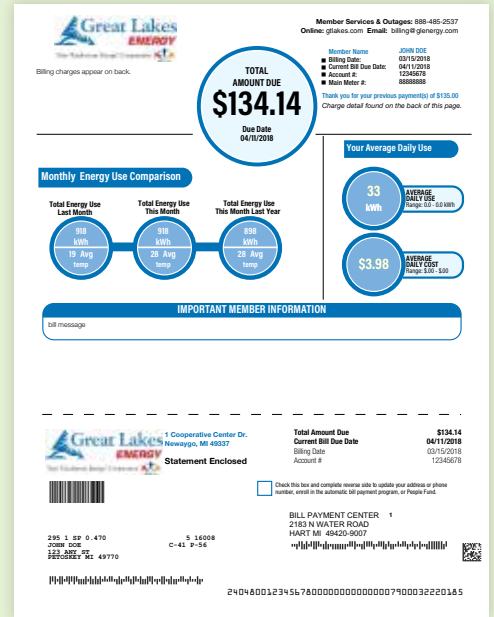
➤ The GLE app will change. You will need to download the new app. Visit the app store to do so.

➤ If you are enrolled in paperless billing, you will need to re-enroll in this option.

The changes are due to the implementation of a new billing software system designed to provide more features and better service for members.

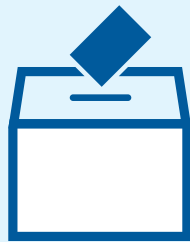
In addition to paying your bills and checking energy usage, you will be able to use the new mobile app and web solution to report service issues, power outages or contact GLE on other matters. GLE will be able to send important messages electronically to you, too.

New information on average daily kilowatt-hour (kWh) use and average daily cost will be shown. A bar chart will enable you to quickly see how your energy use during a month this year compares to the same month last year. ➔



Contact us at 888-485-2537 or glenergy@glenergy.com with any questions.

PLEASE WATCH FOR BALLOT NEXT MONTH



Great Lakes Energy members in director election districts 1, 2 and 7 will receive a mail-in ballot with their July/August issue of *Michigan Country Lines*.

Members in each district will vote to fill one director opening with three directors to be elected for three-year terms.

DISTRICT AREAS ARE:

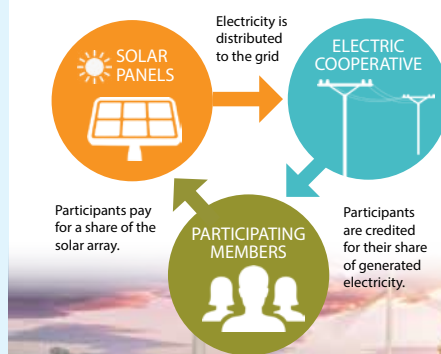
- District 1** - Emmet County
- District 2** - Charlevoix and Cheboygan Counties
- District 7** - Oceana and Muskegon Counties

The terms of directors Paul Byl of Shelby, Mark Carson of Boyne City and Paul Schemanski of Petoskey expire this year. The three incumbents plan to seek re-election.

In addition to the mail-in ballot, the candidates' profiles will appear in the July/August election issue that will be sent to members in districts 1, 2 and 7. Other members will not receive a ballot and candidate information with their issue.

Winners will be announced Aug. 22 at the cooperative's annual business meeting in Boyne City.

Community Solar Subscriptions Available



OPTION DETAILS

- 15-year agreement
- Credit of \$0.10/kWh generated
- \$600/panel upfront or \$10 monthly (for 5 years) payment subscription

\$150 rebate available until Nov. 30, 2018 for residential/seasonal members who pay upfront.

Visit spartansolar.com and subscribe today.



Looking Out for You

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Great Lakes Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.