

The Nodak Neighbor

September-October 2026

Official Publication of Nodak Electric Cooperative
www.nodakelectric.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



**SERVING NEW GROWTH AND
IMPROVING RELIABILITY**

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Official Publication of the
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*This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

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September-October 2026
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*Nodak's offices will
be closed for the
following holidays:*

Veterans Day

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Thanksgiving

Thursday & Friday,
Nov. 26 & 27

On the cover: Grand Forks linemen Jared Lothspeich (in backhoe), Alex Schultz, and assistant line superintendent Derek Sondreal (behind transformer) install new equipment in a new housing development on the south end of Grand Forks.

ELECTRIC OFF-PEAK HEAT RATES BEGIN OCT. 1

Members with subtractive or separately metered off-peak electric heating systems will be charged the applicable off-peak rate for energy usage beginning Oct. 1. The off-peak rates will continue to be charged for energy usage through May 31, 2027. Current off-peak rates are \$0.070/kWh for long-term and \$0.082/kWh for short-term controlled systems. It is a good idea to inspect, clean and test your heating system before cold weather arrives.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR OFF-PEAK BREAKER IS ON PRIOR TO OCT. 1

Oct. 1 is the beginning of the heating season and the day members participating in the special electric heat programs will start receiving a lower rate on their electric heat.

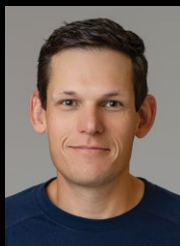
If you have a heat meter and turn the breaker off during the summer, now is the time to turn the breaker(s) back on, so you can make sure to get credit for the electric heat you use.

This is important! If the breaker(s) is turned off, your heat may still work. However, your heat meter will not record the electric heat you have used. There is no exact way to calculate what you may have used for heating and you will pay the full price.

DAILY CYCLING OF ELECTRIC STORAGE HEAT TO BEGIN IN LATE OCTOBER

Members heating with electric thermal storage, such as thermal storage room units, thermal storage furnaces or slab/in-floor heating, should turn on their heating system **prior to Oct. 15** to allow a heat reservoir to build up before daily cycling of loads begins. The actual date cycling begins varies each season. Thermal storage heating is controlled each day from 7 a.m. to noon and 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

NEW EMPLOYEE



Aaron Lundgren

In August, Aaron Lundgren began his employment with Nodak as an Energy Services Specialist. He is an East Grand Forks native and most recently was employed with Steffes Corporation as a facilities manager. Aaron, his wife Jessica and their two young boys like to go to the lake and do some fishing as a family. **Welcome, Aaron!**



Cole Johnson
Engineering Manager

Serving new growth and improving reliability

The 2026 construction season has been a busy one for Nodak Electric, with crews working throughout the service territory on new services, system improvements and replacement projects. So far this year, 63.5 miles of trenching have been completed and approximately 391,000 feet of underground cable have been installed. At the same point last year, Nodak had completed 40 miles of trenching. Crews have also installed 191 new electric services, with 435 work orders sent out for construction.

A significant portion of this year's work is focused on both

serving new growth and improving the long-term reliability of the electric system. Current projects include approximately 17.2 miles of new service construction, 16.6 miles of aging underground cable replacement and 34.7 miles of overhead line being converted to underground facilities. Nodak has also installed 25 three-phase transformers this year, helping provide the additional capacity needed for new and expanding loads across the system.

There is still a considerable amount of work ahead this fall. Approximately 16 miles of trenching and

110,000 feet of cable are currently pending, along with 15 additional three-phase transformer installations, and additional projects will continue to be added as new construction and system reliability needs arise. Nodak completed 103 total trench miles and installed 253 new services in 2025, and this year's construction activity continues to reflect the ongoing investment needed to maintain a reliable electric system while preparing for the future needs of our members.



THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

October is National Co-op Month, and Nodak Electric Cooperative is marking the occasion by celebrating what makes the cooperative business model shine. Our seven cooperative principles guide everything we do, and at the center of those principles are you, our member-owners. **Thank you for your continued membership and support!**

1

OPEN AND VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP

If you need electric service in our territory, you got it – no matter who you are! Our membership is open to anyone, and it's easy to become a member. In fact, this year we have already connected more than 190 new accounts!

2

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Our members are our owners, and they actively participate in policy and decision-making. Nodak's annual meeting is a great example of this principle in action, where members gather to elect the district board directors (who are member-owners like you) and ask questions about co-op operations. **Mark your calendar now for next year's annual meeting on April 8, 2027.**

3

MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Since you own the co-op, you have a voice in what happens to the money you spend on your electric bill every month. Once money is used for expenses to maintain a safe and reliable grid, the remaining margin is distributed equitably amongst the members as capital credits. That's right – money back!

4

AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Nodak is managed and controlled by members when it comes to rates, terms and conditions – not the Public Service Commission. That means we can make choices that benefit the membership. This doesn't mean the co-op is fully unregulated. Nodak still follows requirements regarding the environment, zoning, safety and more.



5

EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION

We're always looking for ways to share information with our membership. This newsletter is just one of the ways we do that. We also work on awareness campaigns like Watch the Wires (for power line safety) and Value of Electricity (for electrification and energy efficiency) to make sure you're getting the most out of your Nodak membership!



6

COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

Some of a cooperative's best resources are other co-ops, both their neighboring co-ops and co-ops across the United States. We work together through local and national structures to stay up to date on industry challenges, brainstorm solutions and assist each other after disasters.



7

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Everything Nodak does is to benefit and serve our members, so we work hard to develop (and give back to) the communities in which they live. We do this through supporting rural economic development loans and grants, community sponsorships and partnerships, and charitable programs like Operation Round Up.

GREAT REBATES

Add comfort and energy efficiency to your home with help from Nodak Electric!



ELECTRIC HEATING (Max rebate \$1,500)

Heating Systems	Rebate
Plenum heaters, baseboard, electric furnace and hanging unit heater	\$25/kW
Cable floor heat, electric boiler and brick storage unit	\$45/kW
Mini-split or air-source heat pump	\$150/ton
Ground-source heat pump	\$250/ton



ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS (Max rebate \$750 per charger)

Electric Vehicle Chargers	Rebate
Electric vehicle (EV)	\$50/kW
Commercial – forklifts, Zambonis, etc.	\$50/kW



WATER HEATERS (Max rebate \$550)

Electric Water Heaters	Rebate
55 gallon or less	\$125/unit
56-99 gallon	\$200/unit
100 gallon or greater	\$300/unit
Additional rebate for new building construction	\$100
Additional rebate for conversion from existing natural gas or propane to an electric water heater	\$250

Rebates are available to help you upgrade your heating and cooling system, water heater and chargers for electric vehicles. Nodak Electric offers these rebates to encourage load development, load retention and wise use of energy.

All electric technology rebates/incentives must adhere to the requirements of the Value of Electricity program. All systems must be new equipment and controlled on Nodak's off-peak program. A check will be issued to participating members after a visit from a Nodak technician.

Please call our Energy Services team at 701-746-4461 or 800-732-4373 if you have any questions about off-peak or the rebate program. Visit nodakelectric.com/rebates to learn more about incentives and criteria.

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	99	99	

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Blaine Rekken Editor **Sept. 1, 2026**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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THE MOST RELIABLE WAY TO PAY YOUR BILL? SET IT AND FORGET IT WITH **AUTO PAY**

At Nodak Electric, we recognize that our members lead busy lives, and managing bills may not always be a top priority. That's why we offer a variety of convenient payment options to fit your schedule. However, when it comes to reliability, Auto Pay is the most effective way to ensure your electric bill is always paid on time.

Why go automatic? Set it up and forget about it! Your payment is always made on time with no late fees, and no postal delays. Avoid this stress by selecting a secure, automatic payment method that suits you.

Getting started is simple, and enrolling in Auto Pay is easy. Please fill out the Auto Payment Authorization Form available at nodakelectric.com/autopay. Your payment will then be automatically withdrawn on the 25th of each month. No logging in. No stamps. No worries. Just peace of mind.

DO YOU PREFER MANAGING PAYMENTS ONLINE?

Pay online either through our website (nodakelectric.com/view-and-pay-your-bill) or Nodak's Smarthub app.

Still prefer traditional payment methods? No problem, those are still available too!

You can:



Drop your payment in our secure drop box.



Pay by phone.



Mail it in.



Visit our office.

Please note that postal delays are beyond our control, and automatic payments are the most reliable and worry-free option.



PRIDE OF DAKOTA HOLIDAY SHOWCASE



NOV. 13 & 14, 2026

ALERUS CENTER, GRAND FORKS

Friday: 12 p.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



WATCH THE WIRES THIS HARVEST SEASON

Harvest season is often ripe with distractions. Even when you're trying to beat the rain or finish just one more acre, you must remember to stay alert to the power lines around you. One wrong move can be dangerous – even deadly. Share this **safety checklist** with your team before heading to the field.

SAFETY CHECKLIST

- ▶ **Know where power lines are located** before moving equipment and **plan your route** to avoid low power lines and narrow road crossings.
- ▶ **Lower equipment and fold augers, booms and other extensions** before moving to another site.
- ▶ **Maintain a safe distance** of at least 10 feet from all overhead power lines.
- ▶ **Look up** before raising equipment.
- ▶ **Use a spotter** when moving oversized or tall equipment.
- ▶ **Stay alert when visibility is reduced** by dust, low light, rain or fog, when power lines can be hard to see.
- ▶ **Inspect equipment height** before moving combines, grain carts, sprayers or other tall machinery.
- ▶ **Avoid parking or storing equipment** directly beneath power lines.

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN.

If equipment contacts a power line or pole, follow these steps:

1 Stay inside the cab

2 Call 9-1-1

3 Wait for responders

IF THERE IS SMOKE/FIRE:



Cross your arms across your chest



Jump out with your feet together
(don't touch the ground and vehicle at the same time)



Shuffle or bunny hop far away
(feet always together)

SAFETY KIT

Take time to train all farm workers on power line hazards before harvest begins. If you would like a free Watch the Wires safety kit for your team, visit watchthewires.com for details.

WATCHTHEWIRES.COM

