

energy update



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4 KEY FACTORS That Impact Energy Bills

You pay for the electricity you consume each month, but there are additional factors that impact your energy bills.



Fuel Costs

Before electricity can be delivered to your home, it must first be generated at a power plant or from a renewable source. The cost of fuels used to generate electricity fluctuates, which is why you see a power or fuel charge on your monthly bill. This monthly charge covers cost fluctuations without having to continually restructure electricity rates.



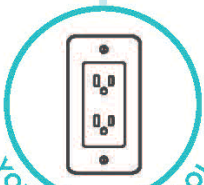
Service Costs

Your bill includes a monthly service charge, which recovers part of the co-op's ongoing investments in poles, wire, meters, system maintenance and additional costs necessary to provide electric service.



Weather

When temperatures soar or dip, your cooling or heating equipment must run longer and at maximum capacity, which can greatly increase your energy use. Extreme temperatures can also affect electricity market prices. When the need for electricity increases due to extreme heat or cold, the price of power typically rises.



Energy Consumption

This is the amount of electricity you use each month to power your home's cooling/heating system, appliances, lighting, electronics and more. The amount of electricity you consume is measured in kilowatt-hours, or kWh. You have control over how much energy you use, which can ultimately help manage your monthly costs.

YOU HAVE CONTROL

JOIN US

AT THE
FAIR!



Allamakee County
Wednesday, July 19th – 4-8 p.m.

Fayette County
Friday, July 21st – 12-4 p.m.

Clayton County
Wednesday, August 2nd – 4-8 p.m.

Wait 30
minutes



Safe
Electricity.org

2022 PATRONAGE DIVIDEND ALLOCATION

If you received electric service from Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative during 2022, the enclosed billing statement(s) will show your 2022 patronage dividend allocation.

Cooperative Message	
2022 Allocation	
Member No. XXXXX	
Patronage	\$1,300.00
Co-op Allocation	\$8.63
DPC Allocation	\$25.63

Total Allocation	\$34.26

The box identified as **Cooperative Message** shows the following:

- **Patronage** | The amount of business you did with the Cooperative in 2022.
- **Co-op Allocation** | Your share of the margins ACEC allocated based on your patronage.
- **DPC Allocation** | Your share of the margins received from Dairyland Power Cooperative based on your patronage.
- **Total Allocation** | The sum of Cooperative and Dairyland allocations credited to your patronage account.

What are Patronage Dividends?

An important difference between a cooperative, like Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, and other forms of business is that a cooperative's members have a financial stake in the business. When we close our books at the end of the year, we refer to the amount of left over (after we've paid the bills and recorded the expenses) as margins. These margins are then allocated to our members based on how much electricity they purchase (their patronage) during that year.

Instead of returning these margins to the members immediately, they are invested in the future of the Cooperative through the purchase of new poles, wires,

and other ongoing costs. On an annual basis, your board of directors reviews the total patronage dividend account. It determines what portion of that account, if any, is to be retired to members in the form of an actual dividend check. Receiving a patronage dividend check reminds you of who owns the Cooperative and is just one of the many advantages of cooperative membership.

It's important to keep your current address on our records, even after you have moved off the ACEC electric system, to enable the payment of patronage dividends to you in the future.

ELECTRICAL SURGE PROTECTION



Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative has selected HomeServe as the trusted provider of surge damage protection programs in your area. HomeServe's authorized, locally-based network of contactors will promptly repair your covered electrical products in the event of a surge, with up to \$3,000 annually with multiple service calls (a 30-day waiting period includes a money-back guarantee) for covered repairs. Covered appliances, electronics, and electrical devices are protected, no matter how old they are.

While surge damage protection is not required, you can now protect yourself against potentially sudden and significant out-of-pocket expenses. For the low cost of only \$4.99 per month, you can avoid the costs of potentially hundreds of dollars if your electrical products need repair, plus enjoy greater peace of mind as a homeowner. Complete the form you received in the mail, or contact HomeServe at 833-334-1874.

If you are a contractor and want HomeServe to list your business on their contractor list, contact HomeServe at 833-334-1874 or the Co-op at 888-788-1551. PlansACREC.com

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Source: Dept. of Energy

