



# MIDSTATE CONNECTION

Office Hours: 7:00 am-5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday  
Closed Fridays & Holidays

Business Hours: 541-536-2126  
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935

## Retired Midstate Equipment for Auction

On Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m, we will hold an auction/sale of retired equipment. There will be multiple items priced for first come, first served sales. There will also be five silent auction closed bid items. Silent auction bidders will receive a form to privately bid. Auction results will be released Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Payments will be taken at the Member Service desk after you have selected your purchases.



**Pictured:**  
Dump Trailer,  
Cross Bed Truck  
Toolboxes,  
10HP Air Compressor

### The following items are up for sale/auction:

#### FIRST COME

##### Shop Equipment:

- UWS Aluminum Diamond Plate Cross Bed Truck Toolboxes
- Redi-Line Electric Generator/Inverter – 1600 Watt Output
- Symtech Headlamp Alignment System
- 2007 Ford F450 Hitch (new)
- Ford F550 bumpers (Four Available -Black/Chrome)
- GlyClean Antifreeze Coolant Recycling System
- Pacer Trash Pump
- Forklift Hook Forks
- 11R/22.5 Single Tire Chains
- Winch Bumper

##### IT Equipment:

- Several 24" 1080p LED Monitors with DVI and VGA Inputs
- Several double monitor stands

- Several Lenovo ThinkCentre M910s Desktop Computers - i5 processor, 32GB RAM, 1TB NVMe SSD
- LenovoTM ThinkStation® P410 Workstation
- Lenovo ThinkStation P330
- Several Lenovo Essential Wired Keyboard and Mouse Combo

##### Furniture:

- 5-high office filing cabinets (three)
- 5-high office shelving
- Picnic table

##### CLOSED BID

- Load Trail Dump Trailer - 6.5' Wide by 12' long w/6' slide in ramps. 10,000 GVWR
- Champion 10HP Air Compressor with Horizontal 120 Gallon Air Tank, 3-Phase
- Millermatic 200 MIG Welder
- Coleman Powermate 5500 Watt Portable Generator
- Service Body - Chevy Short Bed

For more information, contact Randy at 541-536-7240.

## Member Calendar Photo Contest is Open!

One of our members' favorite yearly events is MEC's calendar photo contest. We are excited to continue the digital photo format for this year's contest. We invite members to share their most beautiful, engaging, and fun photos for the chance to appear in our 2024 calendar. A total of 13 winners will be selected. Each monthly winner will receive \$50, and our cover photo winner will receive a grand prize of \$200.



Each person may submit up to five photos. Each photo should include:

- Photographer's name and address.
- A short description of what is shown in the photo. Preference will be given to photos taken within MEC's service areas.
- An email address and telephone number where the photographer can be contacted.
- Printed photo entries must be at least 300 dpi at 10 inches by 8 inches tall.

- Digital JPEG photos must be at least 300 dpi at 10 inches by 8 inches tall.
- Horizontal or landscape photos only. Vertical photos and files larger than 20 megabytes will not be accepted.

Digital submissions should be submitted online at [www.mse.coop/calendar-contest](http://www.mse.coop/calendar-contest) along with supporting information.

Printed submissions can be dropped off at our office or mailed to:

Midstate Electric Marketing Department, PO Box 127, La Pine, OR 97739.

By entering the contest, you agree to give MEC one-time rights to publish your photo in the calendar and to use it to promote the calendar contest in the future in print and social media. **Submissions are accepted until Monday, August 7, 2023.**

The contest is open only to members of MEC.

Let's get connected on social media so you'll never miss an update on MEC activities, programs, and contests.



# Energy-Saving Projects for the Weekend Warrior

Are you a weekend warrior? If you're considering home improvement upgrades that save energy and money, we've got a few project ideas for you—all of which can be completed in a day or less!

Here are three energy-saving projects that you can easily tackle whether you're a weekend warrior pro or a DIY dabbler.

## Get smart about home cooling and heating.

Cooling and heating your home typically account for a large portion of energy bills. Smart thermostats can help keep your cooling and heating costs in check, with ENERGY STAR®-certified models saving about 8% on annual energy costs.



Now that smart thermostats are more affordable (as little as \$70!), this simple upgrade makes for a fun, efficient weekend project. Smart thermostats offer a variety of bells and whistles, but the average model will allow you to set custom temperature schedules, adjust the settings from anywhere (from your phone), and over time, learn your cooling and heating preferences.

Your new smart thermostat will come with step-by-step instructions, but this project typically involves shutting off your HVAC at the breaker panel, disconnecting/removing the old thermostat, installing the new smart thermostat and connecting it to your home Wi-Fi.

Play it safe: remember to carefully read the installation instructions before you get started.

## Energy Department is Phasing Out Incandescent Light Bulb Sales



Starting in August, Americans will only be able to purchase LED lights from retailers as an official ban on most incandescent lightbulbs will be in effect.

The Department of Energy claims that discontinuing inefficient incandescent lights will save Americans nearly \$3 billion yearly on their utility bills.

Check out [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information on these rulings.

## Boost your greenery with a rain barrel.

If you've got a green thumb, you already know that rainwater is the best water for your outdoor plants. Rainwater is free of minerals, salts and treatment chemicals found in tap water or groundwater. It also contains helpful macronutrients to foster healthy plant growth.

Installing a rain barrel is an easy way to harvest large amounts of rainwater and reduce home water use—it's a win-win. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, one rain barrel can save a homeowner 1,300 gallons of water annually. Most residential rain barrels range in size from 50 to 90 gallons, so the size you purchase will depend on your watering needs.

The simplest way to install a rain barrel is positioning a plastic or wooden barrel directly under your gutter downspout. Basic piping may be required, but this is an easy way to harvest rainwater, and the barrel won't take up much space. Consider a cover for the top of your rain barrel to keep insects and small debris out of your harvested water.

## Create fresh savings with a DIY clothesline.

If you have enough outdoor space available, installing a clothesline is a great way to save energy. Not only will you save on dryer costs—in the summer, you can also save on cooling costs since unwanted heat from the clothes dryer won't be added to



your home (which makes your air conditioner work harder). Additionally, air drying is much gentler on fabrics and will keep your clothes and linens looking fresh longer.

You can create your own clothesline with two T-posts, wire and hook-and-eye turnbuckles. Depending on your soil, you may need a small amount of Quikrete to set the posts. Another option is installing the line between two trees. A typical load of laundry requires about 35 feet of line, so keep this in mind as you're determining the best location.

If an outdoor clothesline isn't an option, no sweat! You can easily create an indoor drying rack that folds to save space. Home improvement websites like [thespruce.com](http://thespruce.com) and [hgvtv.com](http://hgvtv.com) offer step-by-step tutorials for a variety of indoor clothes racks.

These are just a few simple ideas to help you save energy and money. So, get out there, roll up those sleeves and tackle a few projects.

Check out Midstate's website for additional energy-saving ideas and tips.

**Get a Nest Smart Thermostat for FREE:** Instant rebate available for residential members with electric forced-air or heat pumps. Visit our website for more info: <https://www.midstateelectric.coop/nest>

## Update Your Account Information

Do you have a new phone number, email, or mailing address? If so, please update your account information to help us better serve you. From billing inquiries, ballot mailings, capital credits, to newsletters, keeping your account information up to date is key.

If you have an Emergency Medical Certificate on your account, it is especially important to keep your contact information up to date so that we can notify you of any planned outages. MEC members with special medical needs can coordinate with their physician to fill out an emergency Medical Certificate to alert MEC if the member will be significantly endangered if electric service is terminated

during a planned outage.

If your account currently has an Emergency Medical Certificate, please notify MEC if the person with special needs no longer resides in the home. You may contact our office to update your account by calling 541-536-2126, option 3, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and we will be happy to assist you.



## Midstate Office Closed for Independence Day

MEC's office will be closed on July 4th, 2023. Outage line is available 24/7 at 800-752-5935.