



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

Protect yourself, your neighbor and your community: **Prevent grass and brush fires**

Grass and brush are excellent fuels for fire, making fires involving ground cover and foliage extremely dangerous and destructive. Grass and brush fires, which are often referred to/generalized as wildfires in the U.S., can travel up to 15.5 miles per hour and can spread to tens of thousands of acres within a few hours of ignition.

In North America, the peak season for grass and brush fires is between June and August, but they can occur year-round. While they are most common in desert areas and locations experiencing prolonged drought, grass and brush fires can occur anywhere that weather conditions are dry and winds are high.

Grass and brush fires can occur naturally when lightning strikes the ground or when high winds bring down power lines, both of which can cause a spark and ignite a fire.

However, 85% of wildfires are caused by humans. The more common causes include burning debris, using hot equipment on grass, improperly discarding cigarettes, leaving campfires unattended and intentionally setting a fire.

To keep your family safe from grass and brush fires, follow these safety tips:

Be aware of any Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches issued by the National Weather Service.

Never build a campfire, shoot fireworks, burn debris, use a barbecue pit or initiate a controlled burn when warnings are in effect. Before engaging in any of these activities, check local ordinances.

If engaging in these activities, never leave the area unattended and keep a shovel, bucket of water, fire extinguisher or other fire suppression tools on hand.

If you see a downed power line or other damaged electrical equipment, notify the Midstate Electric office immediately at 541-536-2126. Never approach a downed power line or try to move one; stay at least 50 feet away from the area and warn others to do the same.



Grass and brush fires can travel up to **15.5 miles per hour** and can spread to tens of thousands of acres within a few hours of ignition.

Source: National Fire Protection Association

Do not park cars, trucks, boats or recreational vehicles on dry grass or shrubs. Always keep vehicles properly maintained to avoid sparking and overheating.

Use an approved spark arrester on all internal combustion engine-powered equipment used on your property, such as lawnmowers, chainsaws, tractors and trimmers. Check and replace spark arresters periodically. For more safety tips, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Submit your photos for the Member Calendar Photo Contest before the August 7th deadline!

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. Digital submissions should be submitted online at 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.



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



What's Your Story?

Everyone has a story, Let us help you tell yours!

Midstate's Ruralite magazine features hometown heroes, community members just like you every month. If you have a story or know of a story you would like us to tell, please email us at marketing@mse.coop. We will follow up with you to learn more. We can't wait to hear your stories!

Help Protect Affordable and Reliable Electricity

Electric co-ops are built and run differently than large investor owned utilities. As a member-owner of a co-op, you understand the distinct local challenges we face, and your perspective is important and deserves to be heard.

If we stand united behind common priority issues like opposing the removal of the Snake River Dam, we can help influence elected officials who are making policy decisions that impact the co-op and our way of life.

Please join our network of electric co-op members working together to make our voice heard. The Voices for Cooperative Power (VCP) network gives you a platform to join the conversation about energy policies.

We need you to join us in saying no to breaching the dams and protecting our hydropower. Let's keep Oregon green together!

SCAN ME



Sign up today for regular updates and to find out how you can get involved at <https://voicesforcooperativepower.com> or scan the QR code above.

SAVE THE DATE: MIDSTATE'S EV TAILGATE EVENT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!

There will be a lineup of electric vehicles displayed, including our new Ford F-150 Lightning! MEC employees will have prizes and information to share about our EV programs. Check our social media, website, and newsletter for all of the details soon!



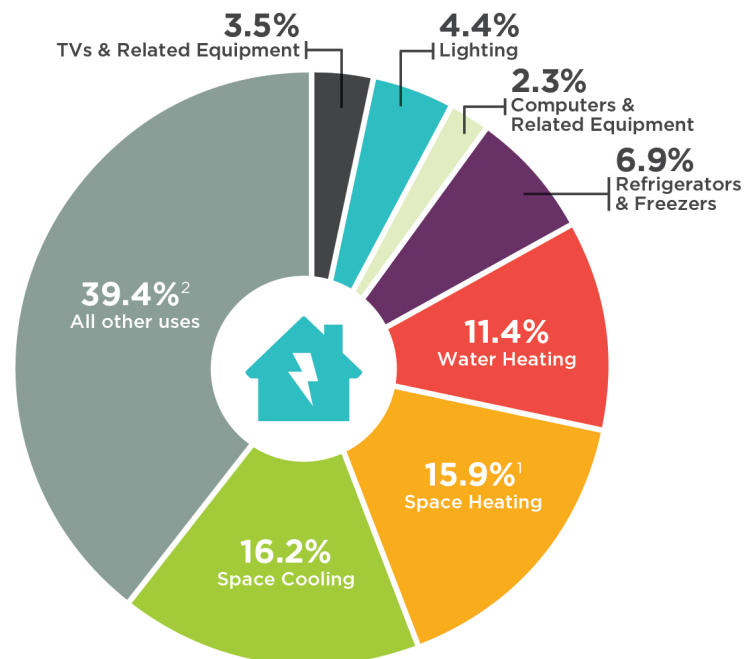
Delegates had the honor of meeting 93-year-old Korean War Veteran, William Groves, at the Korean War Memorial.

Youth Tour Delegates Visit Washington, D.C.

Oregon Youth Tour delegates returned home from a busy trip to Washington, D.C. in June! They toured several monuments, Arlington National Cemetery, National Archives, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, and the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial. They also visited Mount Vernon, Ford's Theater, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Delegates learned about the impact electric cooperatives have on their community, gained leadership skills, and met with members of Congress and Senate. Investing in our young members is just one of the many ways we are making life better, the cooperative way.

How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses" below) accounts for the largest percentage of electricity consumption in American homes.



Source: Energy Information Administration 2022

¹Includes consumption for heat and operating furnace fans and boiler pumps.

²Includes miscellaneous electronics, clothes washers and dryers, cooking equipment, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.