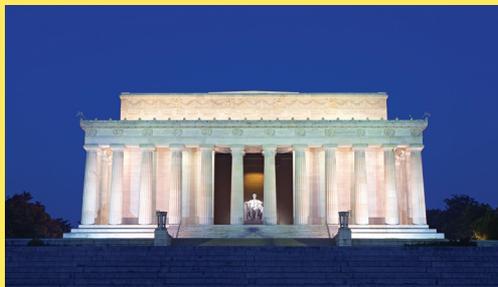




# MIDSTATE CONNECTION

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

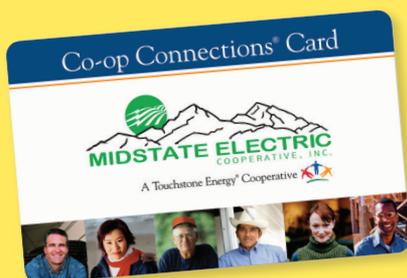
Business Hours: 541-536-2126  
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935



## Last Call - Washington D.C. Youth Tour

MEC will send one student delegate to the Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. June 18-25, 2020. This all expenses-paid trip is a unique opportunity for a high school sophomore or junior whose parents are MEC members.

Call [541] 536-2126 option 5 for additional information. The deadline to apply is Thursday, January 30, 2020.



## Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Update

The Co-op Connections Card is a money-saving member benefit program that provides valuable local and national discounts. The most widely used benefit of the card, the pharmacy discount, has saved members \$1,007,592 since June 2009.

Call [541] 536-2126 for additional information or if you need a Co-op Connections Card.

### Friends Stay Connected



## Oregon Legislature Returns to Salem

The Oregon State Legislature will return in February for a short 35-day session. The leaders of both the House and Senate—along with Gov. Kate Brown—have made it clear that passing a cap-and-trade bill similar to California’s will be a priority. Electric cooperative’s believe this complex, contentious issue is not suited for a short legislative session.

As a BPA customer—using close to 100 percent carbon-free hydroelectric power— this should not be a concern to Midstate Electric Cooperative. However, legislation of this nature can have far-reaching effects depending on the approach taken by the state government. With assistance from the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association and other organizations, MEC will be engaged throughout the 2020 session. We will advocate for outcomes that have neutral or beneficial effects on our members.

We may need to call on our political grassroots advocates to band together to contact elected officials to impact the political process. If you are not an



ORECA-Action member, please join today. Go to [www.mse.coop](http://www.mse.coop) and click on the ORECA-Action Grassroots button on the upper right of the home page or call [541] 536-2126 option 5.

**Thank you for your support!**

## Board Districts 5, 7 and 9 Up for Election in 2020

Director positions on the Board of Midstate Electric Cooperative for Districts 5, 7 and 9 are up for election at the Annual Meeting on May 9, 2020:

### District 5

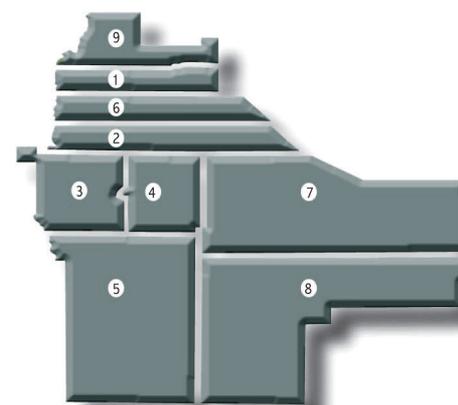
Current Director – Ken Wilson

District 5 (Chemult) is described as: North boundary is an East-West line one mile north of Highway 58 Junction. West boundary is the Douglas-Klamath County line. South boundary is a line four miles south of Hub City Chrome [formerly Thunderbeast Park] on Highway 97. East boundary is the Klamath County and Lake County Line.

### District 7

Current Director – Alan Parks

District 7 (Fort Rock) is described as: North boundary is the Deschutes County and Lake County line. West boundary is the Klamath County and Lake County line. East boundary extends due north from the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road and the Christmas Valley Highway and due South down the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road, extending to Picture Rock Pass. South boundary is the Lake County and Klamath County Lines, with a jog North to Picture Rock Pass.



### District 9

Current Director – Lee Smith

District 9 (Sunriver) is described as: North boundary is the Cascade Lakes Highway. West boundary is the Lane County and Deschutes County line. South boundary is Spring River Road [and its extension east and west.] East boundary is eight miles east of Highway 97.

# La Pine Christmas Lights Parade



The annual La Pine Christmas Lights Parade was held on Saturday, December 7. There were approximately 30 entries that participated in the nearly 2-mile loop route that begins and ends near the La Pine High School. MEC is pleased to announce that our "We Keep Your Lights On" entry won Best of Class Large Truck.

**Happy New Year! We are looking forward to serving you in 2020.**

## Local High School Students Participate in MEC Career Day

Midstate Electric Cooperative recently held a career day for high school students within the co-op's service territory. The event, hosted on November 19 at MEC's headquarters, gave 60+ attendees the opportunity to learn firsthand about potential careers at rural electric co-ops.

The four-hour curriculum began by explaining that electric co-ops are unique because they are not-for-profit, member-owned electric utilities. They are operated for the benefit of the members, rather than to earn profits for investors. A brief history of MEC was also provided.

Students visited with the co-op's employees to learn about their different professions, career paths, skills, education requirements and the day-to-day expectations for their professions. Highlighted careers included administration, marketing/communications, information technology, engineering, mechanic, staking, metering and linework.

Following a boxed lunch, the students learned about electrical safety through MEC's high voltage safety demonstration provided by the co-op's linemen. Safety around power lines and equipment outside of the home was discussed. The linemen explained that electricity



can jump through the air to conductive objects. This was illustrated as kites, branches, irrigation pipe and even a squirrel [the fake stuffed animal kind] came close to the live wire on the trailer.

Gilchrist, La Pine and North Lake High School staff worked with MEC to encourage students to attend the career day. These types of community partnerships are beneficial to our young people and expand their potential career options.

Over the next five years, America's electric co-ops will hire nearly 15,000 employees nationwide to replace Baby Boomers reaching retirement age. Co-op jobs are solid with competitive pay and benefits and MEC wanted to provide that information to their student members.



## MEC 2020 Events Calendar

- Jan. 1**  
New Years - Office Closed
- May 4**  
Scholarship Applications Due
- May 9**  
Annual Meeting
- May 25**  
Memorial Day - Office Closed
- June 1**  
Calendar Photo Contest Opens
- Aug. 10**  
Calendar Photo Contest Deadline
- Sept. 7**  
Labor Day - Office Closed
- Nov. 26**  
Thanksgiving - Office Closed

Save the Date - Midstate Electric Annual Meeting - Saturday, May 9, 2020



## The Center of Member Engagement

Manage your electric account 24/7 by accessing SmartHub at [www.mse.coop](http://www.mse.coop).

With SmartHub, you can:

- Pay your bill online
- Monitor energy use
- View billing history
- Receive notifications via email or text message
- Report outages and track outage restoration progress
- Check MECs news feed

