

YAMPA VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2021



MAILING ADDRESS

2211 Elk River Road
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS SERVICE CENTER

2211 Elk River Road
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487



ph 970-879-1160
tf 888-873-9832
fax 970-879-7270
web www.yvea.com



CRAIG SERVICE CENTER

3715 East US Highway 40
Craig, CO 81625



ph 970-824-6593
tf 888-873-9832
fax 970-824-7134



facebook.com/
YampaValleyElectricAssociation



@YampaValleyElec



instagram.com/
yampavalleyelectriccoop

Yampa Valley Electric Association is a cooperative that provides value to its consumer-members by delivering safe and reliable electric service in an environmentally and financially responsible manner.

YAMPA VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

BY STEVE JOHNSON GENERAL MANAGER



STEVE JOHNSON

We are all tremendously grateful to the people serving on the frontlines of COVID-19 in essential services. This includes health-care workers, first responders, grocery store clerks, gas station attendants, postal employees, delivery drivers, auto mechanics and so many more. Not only are they ensuring we have essential care, supplies and services, but they are often doing it while interacting with members of the public who could potentially make them ill.

The simplest way to thank someone is also the easiest way — just say, “Thank You.” When you encounter a service provider, express your appreciation. Be kind and ask how they are holding up. Not only are they dealing with their own worries and frustrations, they also have to face the worry, frustration and anger of the people they are serving. That is a lot to handle. Let them know you are grateful for their dedication and sacrifices as they work as needed 24/7/365.

Another easy way to say thank you to essential workers during COVID-19 is to place signs outside your house, on a car window or in a public space where they can see them. If you have children at home, this a wonderful project that will help keep them engaged while allowing them to get into the spirit of gratitude.

Many communities are now doing a daily salute to healthcare workers by applauding, cheering and sounding horns during their evening shift change. Check neighborhood Facebook groups and local newspapers to see what time this is

happening in your region — or just wait until you hear the ruckus in the evening and join in. If your community is not yet doing this, you can be the local leader who starts it.

Many frontline workers during COVID-19 are working longer hours. They’re serving us while their own family members are on their own at home. Help essential employees by supporting their

[continued on page 8]



Do you SmartHub?

Using SmartHub or our 24-hour pay-by-phone secure phone line is the most convenient way to pay your bill and we receive your payment immediately.

WITH SMARTHUB YOU CAN:

- Pay your bill
- View and track your usage
- Report and view outages
- Contact YVEA and more!

TO USE SMARTHUB

Download the app from your mobile device’s app store. To access via computer, visit www.yvea.com. To use our secure pay-by-phone service, call 970-871-2260. One of our member service reps is always happy to assist you with any of our services.

Essential Community Services

[continued from page 7]

family members. Pick up groceries for them when you do your own supply run. Or take that a step further and make some meals for the family so they have one less thing to juggle in their day.

Another way to help support their families is simply reaching out to make sure they are okay. Give them a call so they can vent about their worries. Write a card or a letter letting them know you are thinking about them.

A lot of hospitals are receiving meal deliveries which is wonderful, but don't forget other essential employees. If you want to show your support, consider buying lunch or dropping off some goodies to your primary care doctor's office staff, EMTs, police officers, firefighters or grocery clerks.

The absolute best thing you can do to thank essential employees is keeping yourself safe at home so we can stop the spread of COVID-19. Wash your hands often and

stay inside except for absolutely necessary trips for grocery shopping, medical appointments, picking up prescriptions, walking pets and helping the vulnerable. When outside, use social distancing to stay at least six feet away from others. Please wear your masks and remember, we are all in this together.

Thank you to all those who are doing their best to keep us healthy and safe.

Youth Camp

Awesome summer adventures await high schoolers (16-18)

Yampa Valley Electric Association is now accepting applications for the Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs. The camp is an all-expense-paid trip for high school students between the ages of 16 and 18, as of June 2021.

The Youth Leadership Camp will take place July 17-22. This weeklong adventure brings together about 100 students from across Colorado and Wyoming to the mountains near Steamboat Springs. Students will learn about the cooperative



business model and leadership skills that will serve them well throughout their life. There is also plenty of time set aside for

campers to explore and enjoy the mountains and take advantage of Colorado's great outdoors.

Yampa Valley Electric Association covers all costs to participate in the program, including travel, lodging and food. The only cost to the students is spending money for souvenirs or extra snacks.

Interested students must complete an application form. For more details about the Youth Leadership Camp, visit <https://www.yvea.com/youth-leadership-camp>. **Application deadline is January 15, 2021.**

New Year, New Internet!

What will your New Year's resolution be this year? Are you starting a new business?

Taking courses online? Wanting to improve your gaming skills? Have you joined an online fitness routine? Want to connect more with family and friends? If the answer is yes, Luminare Broadband is the internet provider for you. Offering speeds up to 1 gig on a redundant fiber optic network that is not

affected by weather or the number of people using the internet, Luminare's network will help you accomplish your goals.

No throttling or data caps, download and upload speeds that are the same, and friendly local customer service set Luminare apart. Luminare Broadband has four different packages to suit your needs starting at 100 mbps, and we also offer optional add-ons such as Managed



WiFi to assist in device setup and trouble shooting. And the 804Mesh will extend your WiFi signal to those hard-to-reach places in your home or business. **Visit our website at www.Luminarebroadband.com or call 970-GIG-DEAL (970-444-3325) for more information.**

New Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rates

On January 1, 2021, YVEA implemented an electric vehicle charging station rate designed to recover costs on its co-op owned public EV charging stations. Currently there are Level 2 co-op-owned stations at the Craig and Steamboat campuses available for any EV driver to use. YVEA will soon have a Level 3 fast charger in the town of Yampa.



These fueling rates are as follows:

- Rate code 61 for all association-owned EV Level 2 charging stations: 15 cents per kilowatt-hour plus \$1 per hour if charging more than 3 hours.
- Rate code 62 for all association-owned EV Level 3 charging stations: 25 cents per minute plus 20 cents per kWh.

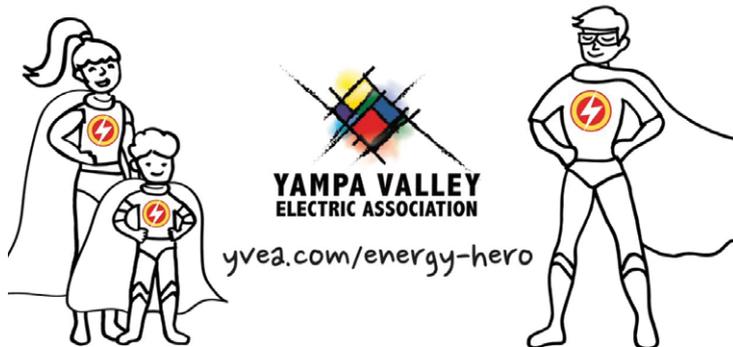
Both of these rates are the recommended rates furnished by the Colorado Energy Office. They are designed to align with our mission to be fair and equitable and recover costs associated with delivering power and maintaining these units for the drivers who use them. Visit www.yvea.com/yvea-rates-colorado-and-wyoming to view rate sheets.



New heat tape video on YVEA website

Many members in our cold climate use heat tape to prevent ice from forming on roofs and gutters and to prevent pipes from

freezing. Yet, most members do not realize how these increase their electric bills. Energy Hero has a new heat tape video on YVEA.com to answer questions and recommendations on how to use heat tape. **Learn more at yvea.com/energy-hero**, be an Energy Hero and fight energy waste!



The mission of Operation Round Up is to extend the principle on which electric cooperatives were built over 75 years ago: neighbor helping neighbor. “Small change that changes lives” is the foundation upon which Operation Round Up is built. It strives to strengthen and improve the communities we live and work in.

EXAMPLE A bill of \$34.65 becomes \$35 for a donation of 35 cents.

By saying “YES” to Operation Round Up, the extra pennies go to charitable organizations throughout YVEA’s territory. The average amount per year is \$6. Sign up at www.yvea.com/operation-roundup.



Interested in Backup Power?

Get your name on the list for our spring and summer 2021 standby generator program



YVEA offers Briggs & Stratton 12-kilowatt and 20-kilowatt Fortress generators with 10-year warranties. The transfer switch is a direct power transfer switch and is exclusively offered by YVEA within its service territory. Installed costs range from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The standby generator program is offered to YVEA residential consumer-members who own the property on which the generator will be

installed. The generators will be permanently installed and provide backup power for your entire home.

If you are interested in YVEA installing a standby generator at your home, please visit the website at www.yvea.com/standby-generator-program to fill out an interest form. **For questions, please send an email to generators@yvea.com or call the Energy Solutions Department at 970-871-2267.**

YVEA Lineman Trent Parrott and Chase Westberg Assist Craig Police Department

On December 11, Yampa Valley Electric Operations Manager, John Cromer received a call from Craig Police Department Community Service Officer Hannah Wood regarding a cat stuck in a tree overnight. John sent over Chase and Trent right away who provided help using a bucket truck. The cat was rescued and reunited with its grateful owner. #PowerOnTogether #Community



A YVEA bucket truck assists in getting a cat down from a tree. [▶](#)

[▶](#) YVEA lineman Trent Parrott hands off the cat to a Craig police officer.

YVEA #PowerOnTogether Campaign

Like most companies this year, Yampa Valley Electric Association and Luminare Fiber were not able to have our holiday Christmas party. As a way to show our gratitude to our employees, YVEA/Luminare management and board of directors gave employees Steamboat Chamber bucks and Craig Spree Dollars to show our support for our communities by shopping local.



[▶](#) YVEA Employee Anna Daniels (left) and her son shop at the Trading Post.



[▶](#) YVEA Employee Megan Moore-Kemp and her son shop at Ski Haus.