



Nobles Cooperative
Electric

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Exciting things are happening at your co-op

Nobles Cooperative Electric (NCE) is committed to improving the quality of our members' lives. Because of our commitment, just a few months ago we announced the cooperative's purchase of an electric vehicle. The Tesla's arrival has made an impact on our members' and communities' perception of electric vehicles. We've been to parades, car shows and meetings to showcase and educate members on electric vehicles. We even offer free test drives daily with "Every Day is an EV Day at NCE".

If you have a predictable commute each day and a second car for long trips, or if you like the idea of a gasoline-free driving experience, an electric vehicle may be right for you.

NCE is deeply committed to supporting and empowering our members by introducing new technologies that provide opportunities for growth and development. That's why we are excited to announce a credible new resource to make our community unique. An 8' x 12' GroShed! This is a prefabricated, fully-automated, plug, fill and plant hydroponic gardening system that will be delivered this fall. Not only will we

Cover photo: Fresh local produce sustainable all year long in a hydroponic gardening system.

produce healthy, locally-grown food, but we will showcase this as an educational opportunity to the community and an option for growing vegetables all year. NCE's *Living Green* will be open to the public for tours. We expect 4-H and FFA groups to visit us, along with other community organizations and farmers. This gives homeowners and farmers the ability (539-38-035) to have fresh produce all year even in sub-zero temperatures—helping our community become more self-sufficient. Food can take 2,000 miles to travel to your table. *Living Green* can be grown in your backyard and produce over 30 heads of lettuce every week with very little maintenance.

NCE's *Living Green* GroShed was made possible from grants acquired through Great River Energy, one of our wholesale power suppliers, Nobles County Community Services and Southwest Health and Human Services.

We anticipate our produce going to the local food shelves and schools. We can't wait to plug, fill and plant to make *Living Green* fresh produce.

Energy saving tip

Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5 to 15 percent.

Source: energy.gov

Mark your calendar

Aug. 17 NCE's Rib Cook-Off

Aug. 25 Electric bills due

Sept. 2 Labor Day

Our office will be closed. Linemen will be on call for outages.



August Auto Pay Winner Don Kunzweiler

Take a minute to sign up for Auto Pay and you may win a \$25 credit on your electric bill. A winner is chosen each month. Members who are already saving time and money with Auto Pay will be automatically entered in our monthly contest.



Manager's Message



Why drive electric?



Kelsey Fuerstenberg
returns from Youth Tour



A word from your General Manager **Adam Tromblay**

Making room for safety

We all want the best for the people in our lives – our family, friends, community and others. That includes you, our members.

It's why we make safety a top priority at NCE and devote time and energy to making everyone aware of how to stay safe around electricity.

For instance, if you're working with tall ladders, cleaning gutters, trimming (30-14-5) trees, or undertaking other projects outside, we remind you to look up and stay safely away from overhead power lines, especially those connected to your



Find your location number and win a \$10 credit

If you find your location number (as it appears on your monthly electric bill) in this issue, you will receive a \$10 credit.



Thank you Logan Taylor!

Summer helper Logan Taylor was a valuable asset to the cooperative this year. He performed ground maintenance, helped in the warehouse and assisted in setting residential generators. Soon Logan will be headed back to school. He is a senior at Adrian High School.

home.

If a project involves digging, be sure to call 8-1-1 a few working days in advance to get underground utilities marked.

Help children understand the importance of staying away from electric utility equipment, to never climb trees near power lines, and to fly kites in wide open spaces safely away from power lines.

Know how to prepare for and

stay safe after storms and other natural disasters that could leave behind hidden electrical hazards, such as downed power lines and submerged electrical devices.

These are just some of the safety measures that we want you and everyone to know.

We don't want anyone to take a chance that could end in tragedy, and to help, we're a partner in the Safe (10-2-67) Electricity program. We encourage you to visit SafeElectricity.org, where you'll find life-saving information presented in videos, interactive games for children, online teacher resources and much more. We have the safest, most reliable electric system of any country in the world, but we aren't content to rest on those laurels. We value your safety and well-being and we'll continue working to educate everyone on important safety considerations.

After all, aren't you and the people you care about worth it? We think so. In fact, we know so.



Why electric vehicles? Savings, convenience, environmental benefits

As someone who has always driven a gasoline-powered vehicle, it can be difficult to think of making the switch to an all-electric car.

But with how affordable they are becoming, the convenience of “fueling up” at home and the added bonus of knowing you’re positively impacting the environment, it could be a more practical option than you first think.

Cost savings

While electric vehicles (EVs) are less expensive to own and operate than a traditional gas-powered vehicle over the long-term, they can cost more up-front to purchase. That’s where incentives come into play. For example, the federal government offers consumers a tax credit to put toward the purchase of a new EV, which can significantly lower the price tag. The primary cost of an EV is its battery, but innovations in design and manufacturing have driven battery prices down more than 80 percent between 2010 and 2018.

Once (13-3-36) you own an EV, the fuel cost savings start adding up. Elec-

tricity prices are far more stable than gas prices, and EVs are three times more energy efficient than gasoline-powered vehicles. This means that a typical EV can travel about 43 miles on \$1 worth of electricity. While total savings depend on current gas prices and your driving habits, someone who drives 12,000 miles per year could save \$1,300.

Convenience

You already charge all your personal electronics at home – why not your vehicle, too?

NCE offers another cost savings solution, this time on a home EV charger. By enrolling in the ChargeWise program, you’ll be able to receive a rebate for up to \$500 to offset the cost to install an EV charger controlled on an off-peak rate.

Another convenience factor of EVs is that very little maintenance is required beyond changing windshield wipers and tires. They have fewer moving parts to break down – no carburetors, spark plugs, starters/alternators,

etc. – which means they’re also more reliable than their gasoline-powered counterparts. EVs are also extremely quiet since they don’t produce combustion noise (35-5-71).

Environmental benefits

Overall, EVs have better environmental attributes than traditional vehicles because of their higher efficiency, lower energy consumption and no tail-pipe emissions.

Plus, utilities like NCE and its wholesale power provider Great River Energy are producing energy from many renewable sources, including hydro and wind. As the source of electricity gets greener, so does the vehicle.

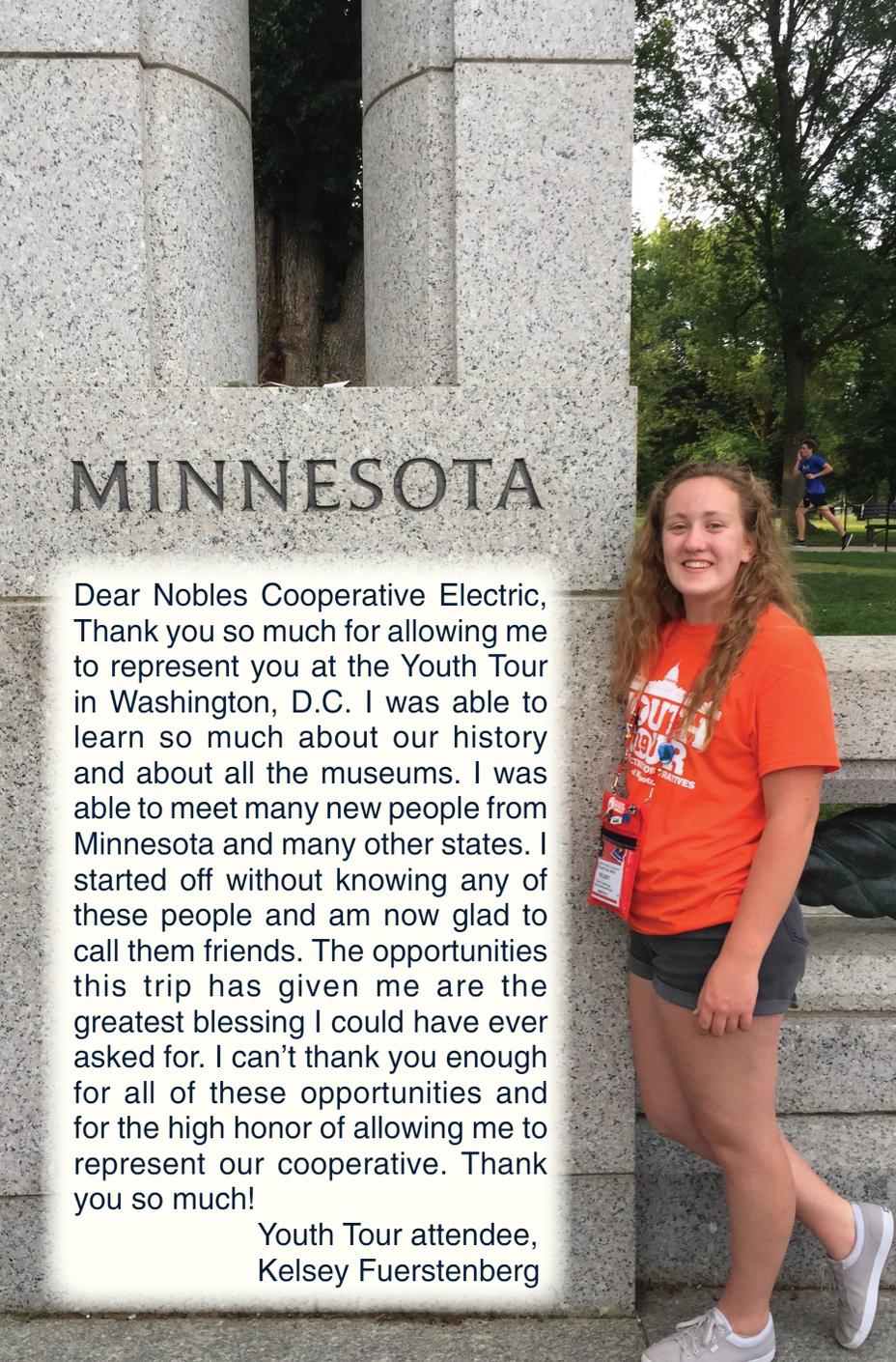
There’s even a program you can enroll in once you own your EV that will ensure that you are “fueling” your vehicle with 100 percent wind energy for its lifetime at no additional cost. By signing up for Revolt, NCE will dedicate wind energy renewable energy credits on your behalf to offset the energy used to power your vehicle.

WHY DRIVE ELECTRIC? BECAUSE IT WILL CUT YOUR FUEL COSTS IN HALF.

The electricity costs of an electric vehicle are comparable to \$1.14/gallon gasoline.



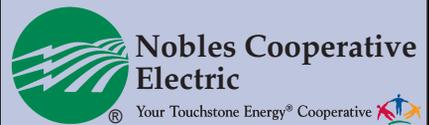
Remember “Every Day is an EV Day” at NCE. Call to test drive the Tesla today!



MINNESOTA

Dear Nobles Cooperative Electric, Thank you so much for allowing me to represent you at the Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. I was able to learn so much about our history and about all the museums. I was able to meet many new people from Minnesota and many other states. I started off without knowing any of these people and am now glad to call them friends. The opportunities this trip has given me are the greatest blessing I could have ever asked for. I can't thank you enough for all of these opportunities and for the high honor of allowing me to represent our cooperative. Thank you so much!

Youth Tour attendee,
Kelsey Fuerstenberg



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General Manager

Adam Tromblay

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Next Board Meeting

September 19, 2019

This cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Country Cupboard

Black Bean & Corn Salsa

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 bag frozen corn, thawed | 2 cans Rotel |
| 1 bell pepper, chopped | Red onion, chopped |
| 1 can black beans, drained and rinsed | Cilantro |
| Dressing: 3 T. lime juice | 1 tsp. olive oil |
| 1/2 tsp. cumin | 1/2 tsp. pepper |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | |

Mix together and toss with dressing. Let set a couple of hours. Serve with Fritos.

Send your favorite recipe with **tomatoes** to Nobles Cooperative Electric, ATTN: Tracey, P.O. Box 788, Worthington, MN 56187-0788. Entries must include your name, address, telephone number and NCE location number. All entries must be received by August 25. The winning recipe will be featured in the next edition of *Current Matters* and the winner will receive a **\$10 credit** on their electric bill.

Julie Sandhurst
Avoca