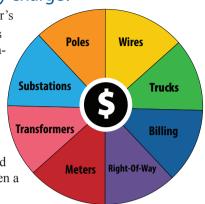
## **FACILITY CHARGE EXPLAINED**

### What is the facility charge?

A cooperative member's share of the cooperative's fixed costs to include nonenergy related expenses such as poles, wires, transformers, metering devices, substations, and all other necessary equipment, operations, and administration needed so power is available when a member wishes to use it.



## How much is the facility charge?

The facility charge is a set charge shared equally among the entire membership that is used to pay for system-wide infrastructure upgrades necessary to keep electricity reliable and affordable.

## How does meter density affect the facility charge?

Meter density is the number of meters per mile of electric line. Jackson Electric has approximately five meters per mile of line, compared to an investor-owned or municipality electric utility that has anywhere between 60-100 meters per mile of line. Because an electric cooperative has less meters per mile of line to share this cost, the facility charge is higher.

Historical Fact: Electric cooperatives were formed because investor-owned utilities didn't want to serve the rural areas as there wasn't any profit in doing so. Investor-owned utilities receive more revenue per mile of line with a higher meter density which factors into their lower facility charge.

# DIRECTOR DISTRICT NOMINATIONS DUE DISTRICT #1, #6, AND #9

Nomination packets must be returned in person to the Jackson Electric office no later than Friday, February 14, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

Call for District Director Nominations was published in the January 2025 issue of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*.

## GET TO KNOW JACKSON ELECTRIC'S YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Thirty-nine area high school juniors and seniors are participating in the 2024-2025 Jackson Electric Youth Ambassador program. This month highlights the sixteen juniors from four area school districts. Students participate in monthly meetings and activities. This program teaches leadership skills, expands knowledge of cooperatives, and offers opportunities to participate in several community service projects.

### **Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan(Lincoln)**







Brody DeHaven



Levi Marek

#### **Black River Falls**



Samantha Berra



Anton Cassidy



Anna Janowski



Roman Madvig



Libby Moldenhauer



**Hannah Tubbs** 



Reece Youngthunder



Owen Zenz

### **Blair-Taylor**



Kelsey Lien



Billy Miller

#### **Melrose-Mindoro**



Eric Herzberg



**Brett Peterson** 



Jayce Stetzer

## PREPAID BILLING

## PAY YOUR ELECTRIC BILL ON YOUR OWN SCHEDULE

#### How does it work?

- Prepaid billing allows you to pay for your electrical usage in real time. Rather than wait until the next billing cycle to pay for usage from the prior month, you pay for energy as it is consumed. Your meter is read (or in some cases estimated) daily and the amount of energy used is deducted from your available prepaid credit balance.
- When your credit balance drops below \$25.00 (-\$25.00), you will receive a low balance alert through an email and/or text message.
- When your credit balance is depleted (\$0.00), your account is automatically disconnected.



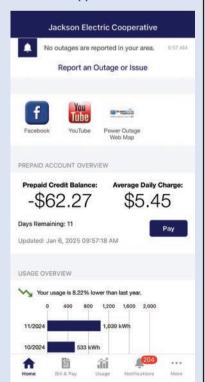
QUESTION	ANSWER
Are all accounts eligible?	Residential accounts that have a meter regularly communicating with the Jackson Electric office are eligible. This will be verified PRIOR to enrollment.
	Prepaid is not recommended for households requiring a continuous flow of power due to a medical necessity.
Do I have to sign an agreement?	Yes, a Prepaid Billing Agreement must be signed and on file prior to enrollment.
How much does it cost to sign up?	Half of the total/outstanding balance plus the to-date (unbilled) usage must be paid PRIOR to enrollment. In addition to the account being at a \$0.00 balance to enroll, the account must have a minimum credit balance of \$25.00 (-\$25.00).
	Prepaid meters are still assessed the same charges as a traditional residential account (facility charge, tax, Commitment to Community), with the exception of late fees. Monthly charges are prorated to a daily charge.
When is my meter read?	Meters with good communication are able to take readings every 15 minutes.
How do I add	A payment can be made through any of our payment channels.
money to my account?	<ul> <li>Mailed payments <u>are not recommended</u> due to the time sensitivity of prepaid billing.</li> <li>Online payments through SmartHub or our secure payment phone number <u>are</u> <u>recommended.</u></li> </ul>
How will I know when my balance is low?	Notifications are sent from SmartHub based upon the notification preferences. (A registered SmartHub account using a valid email address is a requirement of this program.)  • A low balance alert will be sent every day that the account reaches below a \$25.00 credit balance (-\$25.00).  • Disconnection notice will be sent when the account reaches a \$0.00 balance.
When will my service be disconnected?	Service will be disconnected when the account balance reaches \$0.00.



QUESTION	ANSWER
How do I get my service reconnected?	You must make a minimum payment of \$25.00 to establish a credit on your account.
Are there late or disconnect fees?	Prepaid billing accounts are not subject to late fees or disconnect fees. However, nonsufficient funds fees (\$30) still apply and will be added to the prepaid balance along with the returned payment.
Can I make a payment arrangement?	Payment arrangements are not offered for prepaid billing accounts. Any Energy Assistance payments will be posted when received.
Can I switch back to traditional billing?	Once enrolled, you must remain on prepaid for one year. A security deposit may be requested when switching back to traditional billing depending on credit history.
I'm ready to enroll. What do I do?	Contact Jackson Electric's office. A member service representative will discuss the prepaid billing program with you and determine your eligibility. A prepaid agreement and payment are required for enrollment.

#### PREPAID BILLING SMARTHUB NOTIFICATIONS:

Prepaid notification on cell phone SmartHub app:



E-mail notifications received through SmartHub:



#### **Daily Prepaid Balance Alert**

The current prepaid balance is -\$39.86 for account

Daily Usage: 34 kWh Daily Bill Amount: \$5.04

Please note that a credit balance will show a (-) in front. A positive amount indicates an amount due.

To make a payment, use the Pay Now button below, call 833.679.0919, or inperson at our office. It is not recommended to mail your payment.

Please contact our office at 715.284.5385 with any questions.

Thank you.

Pay Now

#### **Prepaid Low Credit Balance Notification**

The prepaid credit balance is running low for account . At this time the balance is -\$16.99.

A credit balance is indicated with a (-) in front. A payment due will show as a positive amount.

For continued service, please make a payment. Use the Pay Now button below, call 833.679.0919, or in-person at our office. Because this is time-sensitive, do not mail your payment.

Please contact our office at 715.284.5385 with any questions.

Thank you.

Pay Now



## **DECEMBER PHOTO CONTEST WINNER**



The winner of the December 2024 photo contest was "Winter Magic," submitted by Jackson Electric members Hamilton and Mary White. "Winter Magic" showcases how electricity enhances the 'magic' of Christmas.

The White's received a \$25 energy credit on the January billing statement.

# **SAFETY MESSAGE**





715.284.5385 Customer Service

800.370.4607

Outage Reporting 855.222.DARK (3275)

Diggers Hotline 800.242.8511 833.679.0919 Card Payments www.jackelec.com 📑 🔽 🛅 in

N6868 County Road F Mailing Address:

Black River Falls, WI 54615

Office Hours: Mondays - Thursdays, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fridays, 7:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Board of Directors: Gary Woods, President

> Chris Curran, Vice President David Peasley, Secretary-Treasurer

Jerry Huber, Dairyland Power Representative Dan Smrekar, Kristi Hanson, Brian Huber,

Troy Torkelson, Les Dokkestul

Kevin Babcock, General Manager/CEO

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

