



# PLUGGED IN

MOUNTAIN PARKS ELECTRIC, INC.

## Clean Power Program 2025 Retrospective

Mountain Parks Electric is pleased to report another successful year for the Clean Power Program. This program is a 100% voluntary, member-funded program. Its mission remains simple and relevant — to financially assist MPE members who install local, renewable resources and large-scale electrification and efficiency projects. Rebate recipients "pay it forward," contributing to the program so rebate dollars are available for future renewable, electrification, and efficiency projects.

**In 2025, our members contributed a total of \$49,368. MPE awarded \$33,026 toward worthwhile projects, including:**

- Distributing \$500 rebates for 16 residential solar arrays
- Supporting the non-profit Sustainable Grand with funding for local energy auditor training and free weatherization workshops
- Offsetting costs of low-income weatherization and a large energy efficiency project for the North Park Pioneer Museum

**In addition to rebates for renewable energy in 2026, the Clean Power Program will offer the following rebates:**

- **Electrification:** Up to \$2,000 per home for all-electric developments for eligible initiatives (from the MPE Rebate Program). No natural gas can be utilized at the development. There is a maximum total award of \$50,000 per development. Pre-approval is required.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Up to \$2,000 per home for large-scale efficiency projects on existing multifamily properties for eligible initiatives (from MPE Rebate Program). There is a maximum total award of \$25,000 per development. Pre-approval is required, and initial energy audit results must be provided in the application.
- **Education:** Up to \$10,000 per year for third-party entities to perform education and outreach related to renewable energy, electrification, and energy efficiency. Pre-approval is required.

For more information, visit [www.MPEI.com/CPP](http://www.MPEI.com/CPP) or contact Megan Moore-Kemp at [mmoore-kemp@mpei.com](mailto:mmoore-kemp@mpei.com) or 970-887-7051.

### 2026 Year-end Financial Statement: Clean Power Program

**BEGINNING BALANCE:**  
**\$100,327**

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**  
**\$49,368**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES:**  
**\$33,026**

**ENDING BALANCE:**  
**\$116,669**

**Looking forward to 2026,  
we have increased the  
residential renewable energy  
rebate from \$500 to \$1000.**

This is to help our members offset increased expenses with the discontinued federal tax credit and a fee now assessed during the net metering application process.

# Winter Storm Preparation in Colorado's High Country

MPE members are not strangers to winter storms. In many regions in our service territory, we get hundreds of inches of snow each winter. No matter how many winters you've spent up here, it's still a good idea to take some time to make sure your home is ready for the worst.

## How to Prepare for Winter Storms

Great winter storm preparation for your home comes long before the storm arrives. Here are a few things you can do right now to be ready:

- Help keep the cool air out by sealing cracks and drafts, improving insulation throughout your home and in your attic, and adding weather stripping.
- Make sure trees are not growing into your power lines—if they are, give our Operations Department a call at 970-887-3378, option 5.
- Keep a **winter storm emergency kit** at home and in your car.

### YOUR WINTER EMERGENCY KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:

	Warm clothing, including hats and gloves		Mini snow shovel and snow scraper
	Blankets or sleeping bag		Booster cables
	Flashlight		Non-perishable snacks, like protein bars
	Portable cell phone charger		Extra water

- **Stay up-to-date on weather conditions** through weather sites and apps, such as NOAA, AccuWeather, and WeatherBug, that deliver severe weather alerts. You can also sign up for your county's emergency alerts.

Now is the time to make sure you're ready for Colorado's next big storm.

## Staying Safe During a Storm

When storms and outages do happen, it's essential to keep yourself safe and warm.

- Stay indoors, seal rooms, and wear layers to retain heat. In a pinch, you can stuff towels and rags underneath doors to keep the heat in.
- Don't use open flames, gas ovens, or charcoal grills for heating to avoid fire hazards and carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Keep faucets dripping to prevent freezing pipes.
- If you use a generator, follow generator safety tips and backfeed prevention guidelines.

## Reporting Power Outages to MPE

Here's what to do if you are an MPE member experiencing an outage:

1. Do not approach downed lines or try to remove limbs or trees from the line.
2. Keep in mind that your MPE meter is programmed to automatically report an outage. We are probably already working to restore power before you give us a call.
3. During an outage, our phone systems get overwhelmed, which may lead to long wait times or dropped calls. Keep in mind that we are probably already aware of the power outage.
4. Check the MPE outage map at [mpei.outagemap.coop](http://mpei.outagemap.coop).
5. If you do not see a widespread outage, or your neighbors have power, check the master breaker to your home's main circuit panel.
6. You can report an outage online through your SMARTHUB account. You can also call our 24/7 outage line at 970-887-3378, option 1.
7. We provide outage updates on our Facebook page and website. Follow along for restoration progress.



Keep in mind: A little preparation can make a big difference in safety and comfort during a winter storm.

# Sustainable Grand Workforce Development

## FREE CONTRACTOR TRAINING

More and more homeowners in Grand County are investing in energy improvements to make their homes more comfortable, lower their winter utility bills, and reduce environmental impacts. From sealing drafts and improving insulation to installing heat pumps or solar, these upgrades are becoming increasingly common—and increasingly important for mountain living.

But like many high-elevation communities, our area faces a familiar challenge: we need more local contractors who can perform this work. Right now, much of the demand is being met by contractors traveling from outside the county, which increases wait times, raises costs, and creates bottlenecks for homeowners who want to move forward with improvements after a home energy assessment.

To support this growing need, Sustainable Grand has launched a Workforce Development Project to expand the number of local contractors trained in key residential energy-efficiency trades. Through this initiative, Sustainable Grand aims to increase the availability of insulation and air sealing contractors, as well as heat pump and solar installers—all essential components of modern, energy-efficient homes. This initiative is proudly supported by Mountain Parks Electric and is included in the cooperative's New ERA Community Benefits Plan.

**As part of this project, Sustainable Grand will be offering free contractor training in February and March, along with assistance for equipment funding and trade incentives to help reduce startup and participation costs for interested contractors.** Training will cover the basics of residential building science, energy efficiency, air sealing, insulation best practices, and electrification technologies suitable for cold climates.

This project benefits both residents and the local economy: homeowners get improved comfort and lower bills; contractors gain new skills, revenue opportunities, and support; and money spent on upgrades stays here rather than leaving the region.



If you are a contractor, tradesperson, builder, HVAC professional, solar installer, or simply interested in entering this field, Sustainable Grand would love to hear from you.

Please reach out to learn more about the training schedule, requirements, and available incentives at [helen@sustainablegrand.org](mailto:helen@sustainablegrand.org).

[www.sustainablegrand.org/about/contact-us](http://www.sustainablegrand.org/about/contact-us)



## Director Election **DEADLINE**

**Candidate Packets are due no later than 5 p.m. on March 3, 2026, for those interested in running for this year's director elections, which includes District 2 and District 5.**

Items in the packet that need to be submitted by the due date include the director election petitions (requiring at least 15 qualifying signatures) and the candidate questionnaire. The packet also includes information about the elections, candidate guidelines and qualifications, and a copy of the relevant MPE bylaws.

Candidate Packets are available at MPE's offices in Granby and Walden and can also be mailed to candidates upon request.

For more information, visit [www.MPEI.com/2026-Director-Elections](http://www.MPEI.com/2026-Director-Elections).



# MPE 2025 Rebate Program Retrospective

MPE applauds members for taking advantage of the MPE Rebate Program in 2025 as added incentives are introduced in the 2026 offerings. Rebates help members save money on electrification and efficiency products and projects.

In 2025, MPE members received a total of  
**\$76,253 in rebates.**

The highest participation was in electric outdoor equipment. A total of 62 members got rebates to electrify their tools, such as electric lawn mowers, snowblowers, leaf blowers, and chain saws.

Thanks to MPE's strong partnership with Sustainable Grand, the next highest participation was in energy audits, with 54 members taking advantage of a \$250 rebate toward their professional home energy assessment. This far surpassed the number of audits from the prior year.

MPE gave out 41 rebates toward installation of electric vehicle chargers, for a total of \$22,583, and 14 members unlocked rebates for heat pumps, resulting in a total amount funded of \$22,750.

Looking forward to 2026, the rebate program offerings remain except for changes to two categories:

1. **An increase in the insulation rebate from \$250 (or 15% of the project cost) to \$750 (or 50% of the cost, whichever is less).** The decision to increase this rebate was based on the number of members getting energy audits whose assessment report recommended adding or increasing insulation.
2. **Expanding the scope of the rebate for heat pump water heaters.** Now, the rebate can be used to replace an existing electric water heater. The rebate formerly required fuel switching from gas to electric.

MPE continues to emphasize the heat tape timer rebate, which was introduced in 2025. Heat tape is one of the primary causes of high bill concerns for our members. Adding timers on heat tape helps our members control their costs.

**MPE's rebates are available while funds last. For more information and to submit rebate applications, visit [www.MPEI.com/Rebates](http://www.MPEI.com/Rebates).**



Congratulations to January's winner in our Outdoor Photo Contest, Alex Kessock, who submitted this stunning fox photo.

Alex shared that this "vibrant 'Christmas local' (was) spotted in Tabernash... It represents the daily adventures we are lucky enough to have right outside our front door in Grand County."

## Enter Our Outdoor Photo Contest, Win Prizes!

Send us your best seasonal outdoor shots for a chance to be featured in our next newsletter, on social media, and possibly in a future MPE photo calendar.

Winners will be selected monthly. In addition to social media tags and promotion, winners will be entered to win a \$500 gift certificate to B&H Photo.

Visit [tinyurl.com/mpephotocontest](http://tinyurl.com/mpephotocontest) or scan the QR code to submit your photos!

Photos must be received by the 20th of each month.

