

# PLUGGED IN

MOUNTAIN PARKS ELECTRIC, INC.



WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH

## Second Pano AI Wildfire Detection Camera Now Live in Fraser

Mountain Parks Electric's second Pano wildfire detection camera is now live in Fraser, expanding early smoke detection coverage across more of MPE's service territory.



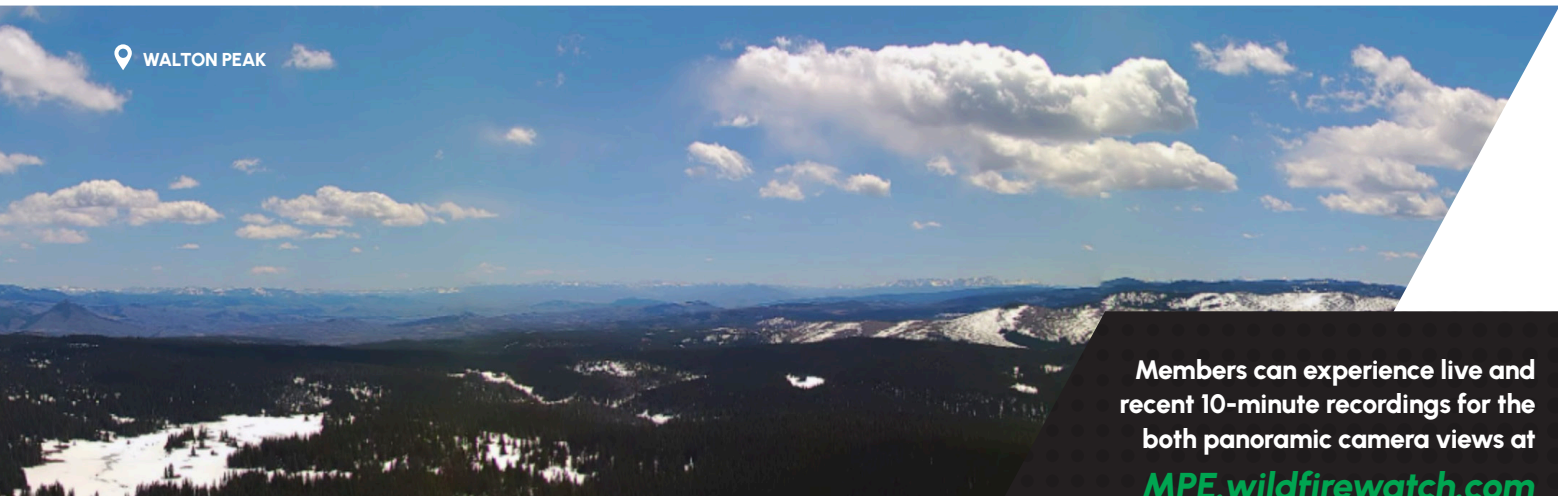
The Fraser camera went live on March 23, joining MPE's first Pano camera located on Walton Peak, which has been operational since September 2025. Together, the two cameras strengthen situational awareness in areas with elevated wildfire risk and help first responders detect potential fires earlier—often before a 911 call is made.

### Part of a broader wildfire strategy

The Pano cameras are one part of Mountain Parks Electric's broader wildfire mitigation efforts, which also include vegetation management, grid hardening projects, enhanced system settings during high fire danger, and close coordination with emergency responders.

While no single tool can prevent wildfires, early detection can make a critical difference. The sooner a fire is identified, the more options firefighters have—and the safer our communities can be. Mountain Parks Electric will continue working closely with emergency agencies and community partners as the 2026 wildfire season approaches.

WALTON PEAK



Members can experience live and recent 10-minute recordings for the both panoramic camera views at [MPE.wildfirewatch.com](https://www.mpe.wildfirewatch.com)

# Granby Aerial Inspection & Grid Hardening: **Nearing Completion**



**Crews are wrapping up follow-up work in the Granby area as part of Mountain Parks Electric's system-wide aerial inspection and grid-hardening effort.**

## **What is grid hardening?**

Grid hardening is the process of strengthening the electric system so it can better withstand events like wildfires, high winds, falling trees, and wildlife contact.

## **Why you may have experienced recent outages**

Two recent Granby outages occurred while crews were performing corrective maintenance on the system. Linemen must complete extensive training before being authorized to perform **hotline work**—maintenance performed while power lines remain energized and carry approximately **14,400 volts**.

When hotline work is underway, the affected portion of the system—called a circuit—is placed in a special protection mode known as a **Hot Line Tag, the most sensitive system protection setting**. During a Hot Line Tag, Power shuts off almost instantly—within approximately two cycles (there are 60 cycles per second) if anything contacts the line and causes a fault. This setting is used daily across our system and across the U.S. to protect linemen while they work

on energized lines. Under normal conditions, members typically do not notice any change in their electric service while this work is occurring.

In the recent Granby outages, a bird made contact with a line while it was set to Hot Line Tag for crew safety. Although inconvenient, the quick shutoff worked exactly as designed by rapidly shutting off power to protect both workers and the surrounding area.

## **The payoff**

Once this work is completed in Granby—expected within the next few weeks—and as similar work continues across the system in the coming months, members should see a stronger, **more resilient electric system with fewer outages over time**.

We appreciate our members' patience as crews complete this important safety and reliability work. **If you have any questions or for more information, contact MPE at 970-887-3378, ext. 3, or [memberservices@mpei.com](mailto:memberservices@mpei.com).**

## **Other Wildfire Protection Settings**

During elevated wildfire conditions—when restrictions are in place but crews are not performing hotline work—protective devices are typically set to a **"one shot"** setting, which operates within approximately four cycles. This provides additional wildfire protection while maintaining normal system operations whenever possible.



# TECHNOLOGY & PROCESSES = **SHORTER OUTAGES**

Through technological improvements and process updates, Mountain Parks Electric (MPE) is always working to shorten the amount of time members might experience outages. The outage that occurred in Kremmling at 6:03 a.m. on April 14, 2026, is an example of how well all the pieces have come together.

MPE's field devices and outage management system (OMS) detected a fault on the line that caused the outage affecting around 500 meters. Operations staff had come into the office early at around 6 a.m. and was able to use the fault data provided by SCADA to locate the fault within a span of 10 power poles, where linemen quickly located the issue. Power was restored within the hour.

Of course, not every outage will result in such fast restoration times. As we enter wildfire season, outage durations may be longer than usual because with the system on fire sensitivity settings, linemen must patrol the line until the cause of the fault is located.

One recent process change is to optimize existing staff to improve coverage in our dispatch area without hiring additional employees.

## HOW TO SIGN UP FOR MPE POWER **OUTAGE ALERTS**

### IN SMARTHUB

Stay informed during outages by signing up for alerts through SmartHub. You can receive alerts by **text message, phone call, and/or email**. You'll receive an alert when an outage begins at your service address and when power is restored.

#### Step 1: Log in to SmartHub at [mpei.com/SmartHub](https://mpei.com/SmartHub) or on the SmartHub App

If you haven't registered yet, choose "New User" and follow the prompts to create your account. You will need your current electric account number, name or service address.

#### Step 2: Go to Your Account Settings

Once logged in: Select "My Account" (or the menu ☰ in the app)

Choose "Settings," then "Manage Notifications"

#### Step 3: Choose How You Want to Receive Outage Alerts

Select "Service," then scroll down to "Power Outage Options," then choose how you want to be notified (you may select more than one option)

#### Step 4: Use the account selector at the top of the screen to select the Correct Account (If You Have More Than One)

#### Step 5: Save Your Settings

Save or confirm your notification preferences.

#### You're all set! SmartHub will now send you alerts when:

- An outage begins at your service address
- Power is restored

### Need Help?

MPE Member Services is happy to help you:

Call 970-887-3378, ext. 3

Or stop by the office during business hours

To update your contact information, please reach out to Member Services

# STAY ALERT

## Grand County Alerts

Grand County Alerts is a state-of-the-art emergency notification system that replaces the former CodeRED system and represents a significant upgrade in emergency communications.

### TO REGISTER:

- ▶ Visit [GCEmergency.com](https://GCEmergency.com) or scan the QR code and click on "Register for Grand County Alerts"
- ▶ Text "GCALERTS" to 67283, or
- ▶ Download the "Smart911" app from the App Store or Google Play

For help registering, call 970-725-3801 or email [OEM@co.grand.co.us](mailto:OEM@co.grand.co.us)



### Grand County Specific Needs Registry

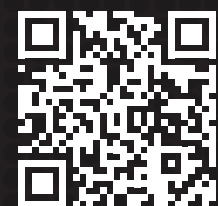
A database containing information about individuals who may require assistance in the event of a disaster or contact Abbie Baker at 970-725-3288 to find out how you can help.

[www.co.grand.co.us/1454/Public-Health-Emergency-Preparedness](https://www.co.grand.co.us/1454/Public-Health-Emergency-Preparedness)

## Jackson County Alerts

Jackson County wants to get every resident signed up for their alert system.

To register or find out more information about Jackson County Alerts, visit [www.nocoalert.org/jackson-county](https://www.nocoalert.org/jackson-county) or call Samantha Martin at 970-723-4660 or the Sheriff's Office at 970-723-4242.



**MPE Awards 26 Scholarships Totaling**

**\$106,100**

The Mountain Parks Electric (MPE) Scholarship Program recently awarded scholarships to 26 applicants, including 20 in the Academic Scholarship category and six in the Trade School and Electric Industry categories, for a total of \$106,100 from the unclaimed capital credits fund.

Scholarship recipients are recognized at MPE's Annual Meeting, this year held on Saturday, May 2, at Middle Park High School.

With more than 60 scholarship applications to review, the volunteer MPE Scholarship Committee had a challenging task this year. At the April 9 MPE Board Meeting, the Board of Directors approved the Scholarship Committee's recommendations and additional Trade and Electric Industry awards.

**View the full list of scholarship recipients at:**  
[www.MPEI.com/2026-scholarships](http://www.MPEI.com/2026-scholarships)

Recipients plan to enter into a wide range of academic programs, as well as varying technical and trade fields including electric linework, diesel and aircraft mechanics, aviation, and emergency medical services. In their essays, students shared stories of resilience and responsibility shaped by rural life, family commitments, first-generation college experiences, and a strong desire to give back to their communities.

While funds remain available in the Trade School and Energy Industry categories, applications will continue to be accepted throughout 2026.

Visit [www.MPEI.com/Scholarships](http://www.MPEI.com/Scholarships) for more information.

**TRADE SCHOOL AND ELECTRIC-INDUSTRY APPLICATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED**

Congratulations to Joules Snopek for winning the April Outdoor Photo Contest with this photo of Byers Peak, taken from Wapiti Drive in Fraser. Being new to the area, Joules said they "love getting to see Byers every day."

## 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.

