



Photo: Janae Olson, October Calendar Photo Contest Winner

Agralite Electric Cooperative NEWSLETTER

October 2024

New Headquarters Update *by Jenny Stryhn, General Manager*

The Agralite Electric Cooperative leadership team, employees, integral members of Gardner Builders, Mohagen Hansen Architecture, and CoBank gathered on Friday, September 13th, to celebrate the beginning of Agralite Electric Cooperative’s new headquarters project. Rep. Paul Anderson and Sen. Torrey Westrom were also in attendance.

Agralite Electric Cooperative is replacing its current 60-year-old headquarters with a new 63,000 square foot building and a larger, secured pole yard. “The additional space, as well as new work and storage areas, are needed to support the Cooperative’s growing fleet and operations now and far into the future”, Stryhn said. The new headquarters will feature infrastructure designed to improve operational efficiency and support advanced technologies. The projected cost of the project is \$16 million. Expected completion is in late 2025. The new facility will be located on the existing footprint west of the existing cooperative headquarters.

“This new building I feel represents the vision that the founders of Agralite Electric Cooperative had 80 years ago. That is, to bring a better standard of living to our rural community. With the help of our entire team, we believe we will have a building designed with both safety and efficiency in mind. It will represent the success and growth of your cooperative over the past 80 years, as well as the goals for the future to continue to bring you safe, reliable, and affordable electricity going forward. The added space for equipment storage and maintenance, as well as a more efficient office and meeting area, will enable us to continue to meet those goals.” - Warren Rau, Board President



For more information and updates throughout the construction process, visit our website at www.agralite.coop and read our monthly newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the Agralite Electric Cooperative office at 320-843-4150.

EMPOWERING

communities with innovative, sustainable energy solutions

FOR OVER

80
YEARS

CONTENTS

Page 1 ► New Headquarters Update

Page 2 ► A Fresh Look For Our Future: A New Brand For A New Building, 2024 Energy Tour, Find Your Account Number And Win, Energy Saving Tip

Page 3 ► Co-ops Power Communities With Purpose, 2024 Farmfest Grand Prize Winner, National Fire Prevention Week Tip

Page 4 ► Co-ops Power Communities With Purpose Cont., Cold Weather Rule, Know The Difference (Energy Star Labels)


Page 5 ► Cybersecurity Tips For A Safer Digital World, Trick Or Treat: Don't Let Electrical Mishaps Be Your Halloween Trick

Page 6 ► Board Meeting Minutes, Seven Cooperative Principles Crossword Puzzle

Agralite Electric Co-op

We're member-owned!

320 US-12, Benson, MN
(320) 843-4150
1-800-950-8375
www.agralite.coop

 Like us on Facebook



Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:30 pm



Touchstone Energy®

Agralite is a Touchstone Energy® Cooperative.



Find your account number and win a \$100 credit!

If your account number (as it appears on your monthly electric bill) is one of the [four account numbers](#) hidden in this issue, give our office a call by the end of the month and you will receive a \$100 bill credit. If more than one member finds their account number in a single issue, \$100 will be split equally amongst them.

Congratulations

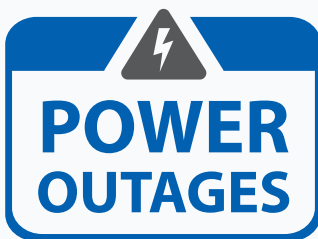
to Robert Simmonds for finding his account number in the August newsletter.

Energy Saving Tip:

If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency upgrades to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 empowers homeowners to save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the upgrades by up to 30%. A few upgrades covered through the IRA include: new exterior doors, windows, insulation, heating/cooling equipment, and other major appliances. If you have completed or are considering an efficiency upgrade, visit www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for tax credits.

Source: energystar.gov



Call Day or Night
1.888.884.3887

[Do not call the office for outages](#)

October Energy Payment is due November 20.*

*We accept Visa, Discover & Mastercard.



A Fresh Look For Our Future: A New Brand For A New Building

Agralite Electric Cooperative is proud to announce the launch of our new logo and brand identity as part of the ongoing evolution of our cooperative. We have changed and grown over the years, and we are refreshing our brand to better reflect who we are. After careful consideration, we have chosen a new logo that intentionally clarifies the services we provide and honors our legacy while revitalizing our image as a modern and adaptable utility provider.

Agralite Electric Cooperative engaged a marketing firm that has a decade of experience in the utility industry, helping companies like ours tell their stories in a more creative, appealing, and effective way to help us with this rebrand.

We're excited to introduce our refreshed logo as part of a phased approach that aligns with the opening of our new building. This thoughtful rollout ensures a smooth transition without unnecessary disruption. During this process, you may notice a mix of the old and new logos on items from the Cooperative. This phased transition makes economic sense. By updating items as our current supplies run out, we can ensure financial responsibility, avoiding the costs of discarding perfectly useable materials. Rest assured, everything will fully align with our new branding by the time our new building opens.

Throughout the transition, we are committed to maintaining the quality and service you expect from us, even as we adopt our new brand identity. 848001 The culmination of this logo refresh will coincide with the grand opening of our new building, symbolizing a new chapter for Agralite Electric Cooperative.

2024 Energy Tour

Twenty-four of Agralite's members, along with members from Meeker Cooperative, enjoyed a three-day luxury coach tour to North Dakota's coal country August 21-23. They saw how electric power is generated at a lignite coal plant, how a coal-gasification plant produces natural gas, and visited the North Dakota History Museum.

This fun and educational trip included a tour of these facilities:

- Basin Electric Power's Antelope Valley Power Station near Beulah, ND
- Great Plains Synfuels Plant
- Coteau Properties Freedom Coal Mine
- Garrison Dam Hydropower Generation Plant
- The North Dakota History Center
- Lewis & Clark Riverboat Dinner Cruise

