

Photo: Kendra Thorson, July Calendar Photo Contest Winner

NEWSLETTER

July 2025

The Agralite Office Is Temporarily By Appointment Only

We are excited to announce that we have relocated to our new headquarters facility! While we are settling into this new space, please call ahead before stopping by. With contractors on-site, activity in the parking lot, and outside work in progress, scheduling an appointment will help us serve you better during this transition. Our office number is 320-843-4150 or 800-950-8375.

Out of respect for the ongoing work, we kindly ask that you hold off on any non-business visits or tours at this time. We're excited to show you around our new facility once everything is complete at our open house later this fall. Thank you again for your patience and support!

Ways to Pay Your Bill

Members are encouraged to pay their bill using these payment methods:

- **AutoPay:** Set it and forget it with automatic monthly payments. 1134000
- **Secure Pay:** Call anytime, anywhere at 855-938-3648.
- **SmartHub:** Our member-friendly web or mobile app helps you manage your account from anywhere!
- **By Mail:** PO Box 228, Benson, MN 56215
- **Drop Box:** Located outside our office building





**FREE YOUTH
BASEBALL CLINIC**

REGISTER
FOR FREE



TWINS.COM/CLINICS



**Join Us For Family-Friendly
Fun with the Twins!**

Parents/families are encouraged to stay to play with their children alongside the Twins clinicians.

Event Details:

Sunday, July 27, 2025
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Benson Baseball
Field in Benson, MN

**EMPOWERING
communities**

with innovative
and sustainable
energy solutions

FOR OVER
85
YEARS

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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



Summer Office Hours:
7:00AM - 3:30PM

Closed Friday, July 4th



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.

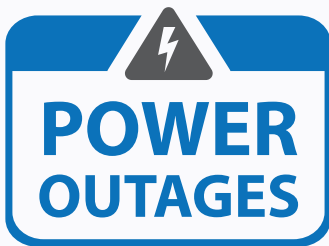
Energy Saving Tip:



During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes dryers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower. 633300

Running heat-emitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary.

Source: energy.gov



Call Day or Night
1.888.884.3887

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

July Energy Payment is due
August 20.*

*We accept Visa, Discover,
and Mastercard.



Agralite Electric Cooperative held its 86th Annual Meeting on June 10, 2025, at the Benson High School. A steak supper was grilled by the West Central Cattlemen's Association, followed by the business meeting.

The Board President, Warren Rau, gave his report, followed by the financial report presented by Agralite's CFO, Stephanie Wroblewski. She reported that the Cooperative's financial position remains strong, with net margins of \$1,955,280 for 2024.

Agralite's CEO, Jenny Stryhn, presented her report, which covered several topics including an update on the new headquarters facility, new logo, and upcoming community events. She also introduced Agralite's scholarship recipients.

Director seats in Districts 3 and 4 were up for election. Incumbents Bennett Zierke (District 3) and Steve Nelson (District 4) were re-elected.



The meeting concluded with a door prize drawing for bill credits.

Thank you to all our members that attended our 86th Annual Meeting!



Congratulations 2025 Scholarship Recipients



Dylan Mahoney
Morris Area High School
\$2,000 Electrician Scholarship



Cody Klepel
NDSCS
\$2,000 Electrician Scholarship



Jaycie Coleman
Ridgewater College
\$2,000 Electrician Scholarship



Micah Ulrich
Morris Area High School
\$2,000



Courtney Payne
Hancock Public School
\$2,000



Joshua Price
Morris Area High School
\$2,000



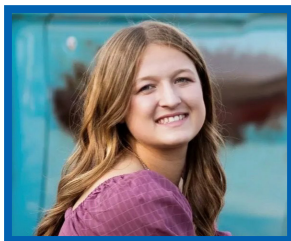
Brynn Nohl
Morris Area High School
\$2,000



Mitchell Moser
Morris Area High School
\$2,000



Charles Hanson
Morris Area High School
\$2,000



Krista Duncan
U of M Crookston
\$2,000



Anika Olson
Ortonville High School
\$1,000 Basin Scholarship

2024 Annual Report Corrections

There were two errors in the originally published 2024 Annual Report.

- On the Balance Sheet (page 3) – Cash and Cash Equivalents was misprinted as \$41,165,152. The correct figure is \$4,165,152.
- On the Balance Sheet (page 3) – Total Electric Plant was misprinted as \$904,035,023. The correct figure is \$90,435,023.

These errors were due to a data entry oversight during report compilation. We have corrected the errors and the updated version of the report was available at the Annual Meeting on June 10th. If you would like an updated report, please give our office a call. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Agralite Electric Cooperative

2026 Calendar Photo Contest

Back By Popular Demand!

Agralite is seeking local photographs for our 2026 calendar contest. Photos should be of a landscape, natural element, or interesting view from within the Agralite service territory. We want you to share the diversity and wonder of our local landscape.

Photo entries are limited to Agralite members and must be submitted by **October 3rd, 2025**.

Digital photos only. You must specify the subject of the photo and where it was taken. 1607900 Please include your contact information, account number, phone number, and address in your submission.

Selected photos will receive a \$15 bill credit. Cover photo will receive a \$30 bill credit. Photos will be selected by Agralite employees. Please limit 5 photo submissions per member - 1 winning photo per member.

Submit Your Photos To:
mchevalier@agralite.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Always be cautious of unsolicited calls (or in-person visits) to your home from companies claiming to conduct energy audits.



These are typically telemarketing firms that claim to be a third-party company or pose as a representative from your electric utility to gain access to homes and sell services with the promise of government rebates.

Many electric utilities provide energy audit services, but they are typically scheduled at the customer's request.



Source: Better Business Bureau

2025 FARMFEST PRIZES EGO ELECTRIC YARD TOOLS



2025 FARMFEST Cut out and bring this coupon to Farmfest for a chance to win a grand prize featuring EGO electric yard tools.

AUG. 5 - 7
Redwood Falls,
Minnesota



Visit Agralite Electric Cooperative, along with Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, at Farmfest 2025 and enter for a chance to win a grand prize featuring EGO electric yard tools.

FARMFEST 2025 • AUGUST 5 - 7 • REDWOOD FALLS, MN

Bring this coupon to Booth #2301.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

You must be a member of one of the participating electric cooperatives to win.



ANATOMY OF A DISTRIBUTION POWER POLE

A power line is used to carry electricity from generation sources to substations, then to homes and businesses. The poles holding these lines and equipment come in different sizes and can be made of metal, wood or fiberglass.

1. Insulators. Insulators support wires and prevent undesired flow of electricity. They are made of porcelain or polymer.

2. Utility pole. A wood, metal or fiberglass pole weighing up to half a ton. Typically 30-60 feet long, these poles are anchored 5-8 feet into the ground.

3. Fused cutout. Provides fault protection by acting like a circuit breaker and isolating the tap line from the main line.

4. Transformer. A device that reduces the high voltage to a level safe for delivery to the customer, such as 120 or 240 volts.

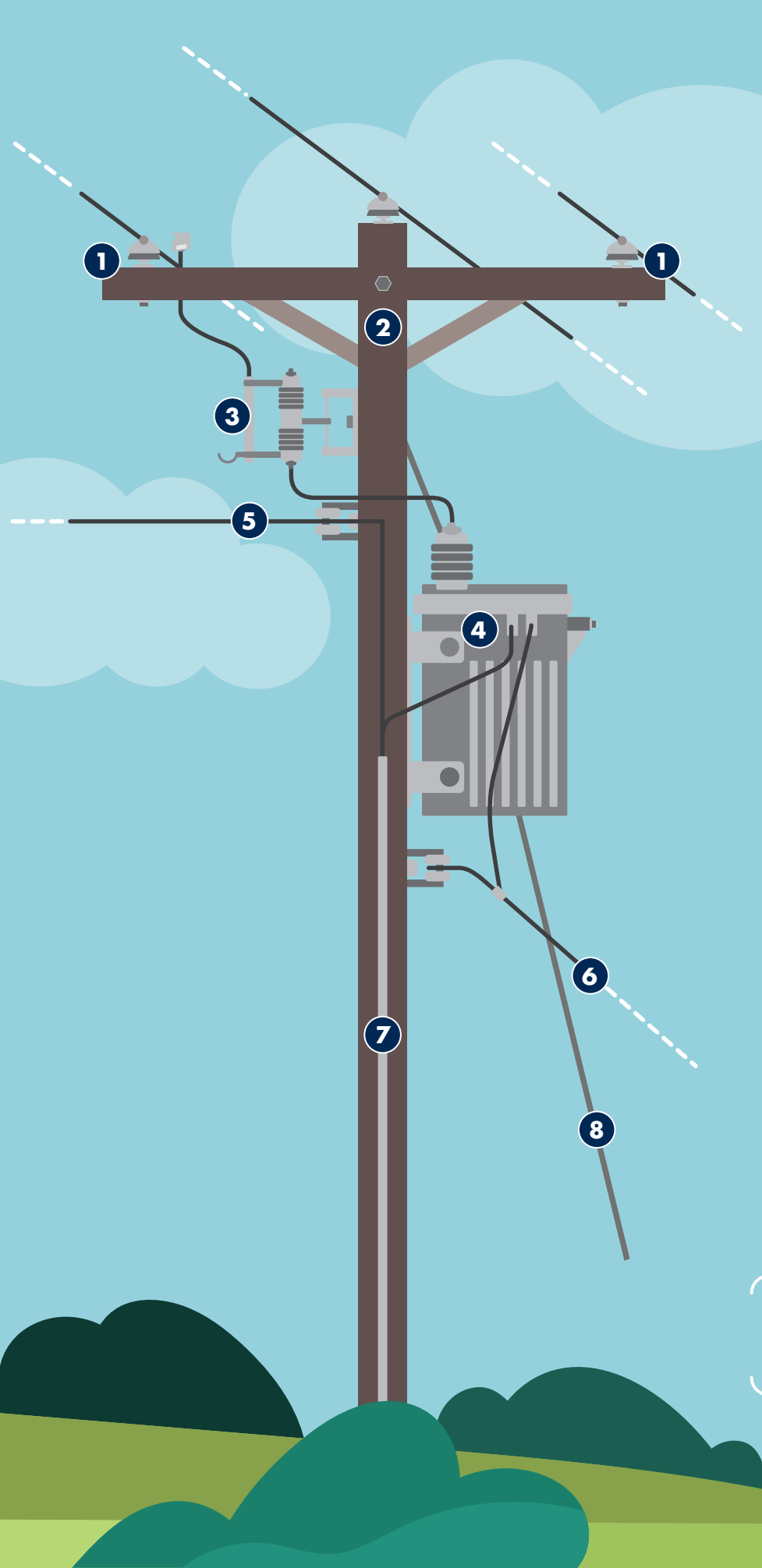
5. Main line neutral. This line is the neutral conductor in a distribution circuit.

6. Service drop wire. An overhead electrical line running from the utility pole to a customer's building or other premises.

7. Pole ground wire. This wire is connected to a metal rod driven 8 feet into the ground. Its job is to ground the electrical system.

8. Guy wire and anchor. A wire that helps stabilize the power pole.

Never nail posters or other items to power poles. These can cause a safety hazard for lineworkers.



CURRENT AGRALITE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Draeger, Clinton
District 1

Jeff Hufford, Morris
District 2 - Secretary/Treasurer

Bennett Zierke, Hancock
District 3

Steve Nelson, Starbuck
District 4

Orvin Gronseth, Murdock
District 5 - Vice President

Andrea Thomson, Benson
District 6

Warren Rau, Appleton
District 7 - President

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 2025

Board Chairman Warren Rau called a meeting of the Board of Directors of Agralite Electric Cooperative to order at 8:30 a.m., May 29, 2025. All members of the Board were present except Director Thomson. The agenda, minutes of the last meeting, the monthly disbursements, the payment of capital credits of deceased members, and Work Order #581 were approved.

Jonathan Messner, Manager of Member Services, reported on activities of his department for the month. He discussed load control for the month. He discussed large donation requests and a discussion was held. The Board approved a donation from REDLG admin fees to Danvers Fire & EMS and Kerkhoven Child Care and to apply for CoBank Sharing Success matching funds. He discussed the NRECA Connect Conference that he attended and presented at.

Stephanie Wroblewski, Manager of Finance/CFO, reported on activities of her department for the month. She discussed margins for the month of April. She discussed capital credit retirements and stated that checks should be mailed out by the end of the week. She discussed the Cold Weather Rule ending April 30th, and an ACH/Paperless "Switch and Save" billing promotion. She brought forth Policy 626 Personal Fitness Equipment and Wellness Room Use and the Board approved it.

The financials were given by Stephanie with a PowerPoint presentation.

WATER SAFETY WORD SCRAMBLE

Outdoor water activities and electricity never mix because water is a powerful conductor of electricity. When electrical devices or cords come into contact with water—like at a pool, lake or beach—it can cause serious electric shocks. Keep all electrical items far away from water and always follow safety rules when you're outside near water.

Read the sentences below, then unscramble the bolded letters to complete the safety tips.

1. Never touch electrical **csevier**, switches or plugs when your hands are wet.
2. Always place **lacertceil** items like radios, speakers or lights at least 10 feet away from the water's edge.
3. After using outdoor electronics, **ngulup** them and store them away from water to prevent accidents.
4. Keep extension **dsroc** far away from water sources to prevent tripping hazards.
5. Always pay attention to "no **wmsining**" signs, whether at the pool, beach or lake.



Tom Hoffman, Manager of Engineering & Operations, reported on activities of his department for the month. He discussed line crew projects and outages for the month. He gave an update on the new substations and related projects. 1126401 He discussed and showed pictures of a large house move that went through the Agralite system. He stated that Kolby Goff has been hired as a 1,000-hour Journeyman Line Worker.

Tom gave the safety report.

Jenny Stryhn, General Manager/CEO, reviewed her report to the board. She discussed recent meetings she attended, including the STAR Board Meeting and NRECA Legislative Conference. She gave an update on the new headquarters facility project and tentative move-in dates. She discussed the East River Managers Meeting

and proposed Bylaw amendments. She discussed the GRE Managers Meeting and Fixed Member Contracts.

The CFC Annual Meeting was discussed. Jenny will be the delegate for the CFC Annual Meeting and Stephanie will be the alternate. The Board voted against the proposed amendments to the CFC Bylaws.

Stephanie will be the delegate for the NCSC Annual Meeting and Jenny will be the alternate.

A roundtable discussion was held regarding the Minnesota Cooperative Summit at the University of MN, Morris in July.

The June board meeting was set for the 26th.

Being no further business came before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.