

CONTRACTOR INSIGHTS

 STEARNS ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION | FEBRUARY 2024

2024 ENERGYWISE® REBATES

QUALITY INSTALL AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP

HSPF 8.2 - 8.9 \$500
HSPF ≥ 9 \$800

GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP

\$150 / ton (10-ton max.)

NEW DUAL FUEL REBATE

\$200 (9 kW min.)

THERMAL STORAGE SPACE HEATING

\$50 per kW (5 kW min.)

NEW MARATHON WATER HEATER

(purchased from Stearns Electric)

\$300 80+ gallon on Stored Water or Peak Shave programs

\$100 50+ gallon on Peak Shave Program

ELECTRIC WATER HEATER

(contractor/member supplied)

\$100 50+ gallon on Stored Water or Peak Shave programs

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER

\$500

2024 ENERGY STAR® REBATES

DUCTLESS ASHP

\$300

REFRIGERATOR OR FREEZER

(with recycling of old unit)

\$50

CLOTHES DRYER

\$25

DEHUMIDIFIER

\$25

HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER

\$300

ECM WATER HEATER CIRCULATING PUMP

\$50

LED YARD LIGHT (must be 50-100 watts)

\$30

ECM MOTOR (for replacements only)

\$50

POOL HEATING

Pool ASHP \$400

Pool Pump VSD \$200

OTHER 2024 REBATES

WIFI THERMOSTAT

\$25

ENGINE BLOCK HEATER TIMER

\$5

In order to receive the EnergyWise® rebates, members must enroll in the associated program, if applicable.

Visit stearnselectric.org for complete details.

SAVE THE DATE: CONTRACTOR DINNER

March 21, 2024 • American Legion, Melrose

Save the date for our 2024 Contractor Dinner on Thursday, March 21 from 5-7:30 p.m. at the American Legion in Melrose. Everyone who attends will be eligible to win electric tools in our door prize drawing! Join us for free dinner and to learn more about our enhanced rebate website, the 2024 residential and CI & A rebate program, our brand new Trusted Partner program and more! Attending earns you a spot on the 2024 Preferred Vendor list. *This will be the only Stearns Electric-hosted Contractor Meeting in 2024.*

PREFERRED VENDOR AWARD 2023

At the upcoming Contractor Dinner, we will draw winners for the 2023 Preferred Vendor Awards. Seven of our Preferred Vendors from 2023 will win four (4) tickets each to the St. Cloud Rox Party Deck on July 10, 2024, compliments of Stearns Electric's Energy Services team. Food and beverages will be provided. Your company must be present at the Contractor Dinner to win!

2024 PROMOTIONAL CALENDAR

Stored Water Promotion: January 1 - April 30, 2024

Members who purchase an electric water heater and enroll in the Stored Water Heating Program will receive the normal rebate and have the option for an additional \$100 rebate or free water delivery to their home.

ASHP Promotion: May 1 - August 31, 2024

Stearns Electric members can earn additional rebate dollars if they install an ASHP that meets the qualifications of the program. Learn more at our Contractor Dinner!

EV Charger Promotion: September 1 - December 31, 2024

Members who purchase an electric vehicle charger receive the normal rebate and are entered to win an electric snow shovel valued at \$350.

ONLINE REBATE APPLICATIONS

Members can submit online rebate applications for most of our rebates! Please direct Stearns Electric members to the website, stearnselectric.org/rebates, to submit their rebate applications online. Members can also download the applicable rebate application in PDF format and submit it by mail or email. Online rebate applications are available for both residential and CI & A programs!

MEMBERS ONLY
We offer both residential and commercial, industrial and agricultural rebates for our member-consumers. Upgrade to more efficient equipment and you'll save energy and money every month. Funding for rebates is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



APPLIANCES
Rebates are available for qualified home appliances such as refrigerators, freezers and clothes dryers.



HEATING AND COOLING
Rebates are available for heat pumps, mini-split heat pumps and air conditioning systems.



WATER HEATING
We have rebates available for members who are installing low water heaters or equipment.

COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE
Members can help reduce the amount of electricity needed during critical times and in periods of peak demand! Our programs help farmers and commercial members lower energy costs.



IRRIGATION SYSTEM
For participating in our Irrigation Incentive Program, our members receive a discount on the energy rate and demand charge for that season.



AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT REBATES
Stearns Electric Association offers Energy Efficiency rebates to help our agricultural members to more energy efficient.



INTERRUPTIBLE PROGRAM
The Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Interruptible Program (CI&A) provides rebates for our Program Participants and customers who save energy costs.



LIGHTING
Rebates are available for LED panel lights.



OTHER
We have additional residential rebates available for engine block heater timers, variable speed pool pumps and more.



COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL
Learn more about the rebates available for our CI & A members.



Home Energy Tip
Reduce outdoor lighting with its outdoor-rated equipment (LED bulb).



COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT REBATES



Home Energy Tip
Turn computers and monitors off when not in use.

PREFERRED VENDORS 2024

ELECTRICIANS:

- Absolute Electric
- AMS Electric
- Beam Electric
- Brooten Electric
- Central MN Electric
- Centre Electric, Inc.
- CN Electric
- Essler Electric
- Grey Eagle Electric
- Millwood Electric, Inc.
- Oak Electric
- Reuter Country Electric
- Sunset Electric
- Torborg Electric

HVAC CONTRACTORS:

- Advanced Heating & Cooling
- Air Max LLC
- Albany Heating, AC & Service
- Allen's Plumbing
- Alternative Energy Systems
- Arrow Mechanical
- Ballou Plumbing & Heating
- Blair's Heating & AC
- Gilk Plumbing, Heating & AC
- H&S Heating, AC & Residential Service
- Hommerding Plumbing, Heating & AC
- HVAC Shop
- Kleinschmidt Plumbing, Heating & AC
- Kohnen's Heating & AC
- Lyon Sheet Metal & Heating
- Mechanical Brothers
- Mechanical Energy Systems
- Mid Central Heating & AC
- Precise Refrigeration, Heating & AC
- Trisko Heating & Plumbing
- Voss Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

HANDS-ON TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for ways to practice wiring an electric water heater or air source heat pump to a Cooperative Demand Response Unit? Stearns Electric is now offering a free hands-on load management training opportunity for area contractors through the all-new Load Management Training Wall. Monthly trainings are limited at the St. Joseph office. Contact Michelle at energyservices@stearnselectric.org or (800) 962-0655 to book your spot.

CONTACT US:

Stearns Electric Association
29643 Frontage Road, PO Box 816
St. Joseph, MN 56374

(800) 962-0655
energyservices@stearnselectric.org
stearnselectric.org

YOUR ENERGY SERVICES TEAM



From left to right: Jeff Miller, energy management electrician; John Pantzke, manager of energy services; Jamie Plumski, energy management electrician; Allan Gregory, energy services representative lead; and Michelle Christiansen, member service representative and office coordinator.

Stearns Electric's Energy Services team is in the office Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Please call (800) 962-0655 or email energyservices@stearnselectric.org to speak with someone.

COST COMPARISON

Have you ever wondered how the cost of home heating with electricity compares to fuel? Or the cost of water heating? We have a tool for you! We recently updated our EnergyWise Cost Comparison Chart showing the breakdowns of home heating, ASHP savings and water heating. Visit stearnselectric.org/contracors to see the full Cost Comparison handout.

COST COMPARISONS

HOME HEATING COST COMPARISON

The chart to the right shows the price you would need to purchase fuel at to beat the EnergyWise rate for electric heating.

Heat Type	Efficiency	Electric Resistance		Air Source Heat Pump		Ground Source Heat Pump				
		100% Efficient	250% Efficient	100% Efficient	250% Efficient	350% Efficient	100% Efficient			
Electric		6.30c	kWh	11.72c	6.30c	kWh	11.72c	6.30c	kWh	11.72c
L.P. Gas	95%	\$1.60	gal.	\$2.99	\$0.64	gal.	\$1.19	\$0.46	gal.	\$0.78
	80%	\$1.35	gal.	\$2.51	\$0.54	gal.	\$1.01	\$0.39	gal.	\$0.65
	85%	\$2.18	gal.	\$4.05	\$0.87	gal.	\$1.62	\$0.62	gal.	\$1.05
Fuel Oil	70%	\$1.79	gal.	\$3.33	\$0.72	gal.	\$1.33	\$0.51	gal.	\$0.86
	95%	\$1.75	therm	\$3.26	\$0.70	therm	\$1.30	\$0.50	therm	\$0.93
Natural Gas	95%	\$1.75	therm	\$3.26	\$0.70	therm	\$1.30	\$0.50	therm	\$0.93
	80%	\$1.48	therm	\$2.75	\$0.59	therm	\$1.10	\$0.42	therm	\$0.78

The cost of heating a home will vary based on several factors, including the size of the home, heating fuel type, heating system efficiency, insulation of the home and even how the home is used. The chart above compares various heating system efficiencies and fuel types to Stearns Electric's rates. As an example, if you have an 80% efficient propane boiler, you would need to purchase propane for less than \$1.35 to beat the EnergyWise rate for electric heating.

CONVERGE TO DEMAND RESPONSE UNIT UPDATE

The change-out from Converge to Aclara demand response units (DRUs) continues for Dual Fuel metered sites throughout our service territory. This multi-year project has encountered some hurdles, but progress continues.

DRU Conversions Completed:

- Dual Fuel Sites - 1,430
- Irrigation Sites - 611
- Electric Vehicle Charger Sites - 82
- Interruptible Gen-Set Sites - 128



FORD LIGHTNING ADDED TO STEARNS ELECTRIC FLEET

Our Energy Services team has added an all-electric Ford Lightning to its fleet. A separate meter has been installed to record the electricity consumption required to replace its gasoline counterpart. Our Stearns Electric electricians will each take turns driving it for a month at a time. They will also track their experiences, likes and dislikes about the vehicle. Come see it at our 2024 Contractor Meeting!