



# Light Reading

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## **College and Lineman School Scholarship Winners Announced**

For its fourteenth year, Inland Power has awarded scholarship to the dependents of its members. These 18 students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to further his or her education at an accredited university or college or a lineman school.

### **College Scholarships:**

- Cynthia Bauder, Mead
- Brandon Duckett, Otis Orchards
- Jessi Fink, Odessa
- Emily Foreyt, Colfax
- Ilea Graedel, Davenport
- Nathan Hutchens, Spokane
- Daniel James, Valleyford
- Blair Kelly, Spokane
- Alicia Mielke, Harrington
- Kristina Peterschick, Rosalia
- Erika Schiermeister, Loon Lake
- Jared Sol, Newman Lake
- Lacey Taylor, Chattaroy
- Abby Vander Linden, Spokane
- Justin Wood, Davenport

### **Lineman School Scholarships:**

- Anthony Christianson, Cheney
- James Huling, Oldtown
- James Tetric, Pomeroy

“We commend these young adults, and we are proud to be a part of their higher education. As a non-profit electric cooperative for the last 70 years, supporting our future community and business leaders is part of the cooperative way,” said Inland Power and Light Board of Trustees President Michelle Caird. ■

## **Know How Much You Own**

**Inland Power and Light Allocates 2008 Capital Credits**

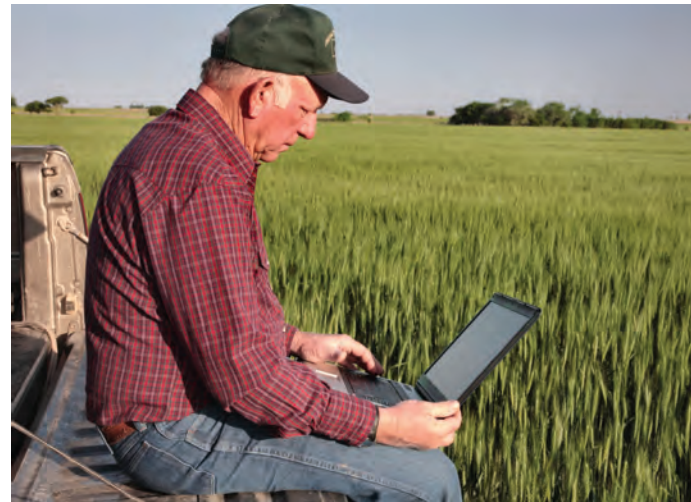
Everyone who receives electricity from Inland Power and Light is a member and partial owner of the co-op, and this June members will find out how much of the co-op they own. Annually Inland Power and Light assigns a percentage of ownership to each member based on the amount of power used over the course of 2008.

You will find your 2008 capital credit allocation printed on your June bill, or if you don't receive a bill in June, a letter will be sent to you.

Capital credits are calculated by Inland Power based on the amount of electricity that you purchased. The credits begin to accumulate automatically once you start buying power from Inland.

Capital credits become available once the board of trustees authorizes a refund at some time in the future.

Until they are refunded, they provide much needed equity to finance operations, system improvements and to cover the cost of maintaining the electric distribution system and plant.



*Whether you receive your bill online or printed, you will find your 2008 capital credit allocation on your June statement, or if you don't receive a bill in June, a letter will be sent to you.*

In December 2008, Inland's board of trustees refunded \$1.5 million in capital credits. In the past decade, they authorized \$12.5 million in capital credit refunds.

Capital credits will remain in your name. Be sure we have your current mailing address so the refund checks reach you when the time comes.

Inland Power and Light members can be confident they own something no market can take away. ■

## Turn Off Your Paper Bill with eBill

Switching to electronic billing and payments would make a big environmental impact.

According to PayItGreen, if you paid all your bills online, the average American household could save:

- 6.6 pounds of paper
- 171 pounds of greenhouse gases. This is the equivalent of not driving 169 miles; planting two trees and allowing them to grow 10 years; or preserving 24 square feet of forest from deforestation.
- 63 gallons of water
- 4.5 gallons of gasoline.

Set up your electronic bill with Inland Power today. It's easy. Simply click on "my account" at [www.inlandpower.com](http://www.inlandpower.com). You will be prompted to join. Be sure to have your member number handy. |

Catherine Markson  
Communications Manager  
[catherinem@inlandpower.com](mailto:catherinem@inlandpower.com)  
Inland Power and Light  
320 E. Second Ave  
Spokane WA 99202  
(509) 747-7151



Inland Power and Light Company is a member-owned, non-profit electric cooperative.

## Protect Yourself from Lightning

According to the National Weather Service, lightning kills an average of 62 people each year in the United States. In 2008, 27 people died from a "bolt out of the blue." The majority of these fatalities occurred outside, but caution must be taken indoors as well.

Follow the tips below to keep you and your family safe from lightning this summer:

- Seek shelter immediately if you hear thunder; lightning is not far away.
- Find shelter in a substantial building or in a fully enclosed vehicle with the windows rolled up.
- Do not seek shelter under trees, picnic or rain structures, or in open-frame vehicles. Avoid objects like electric wires or metal fences.
- If you cannot find shelter in a building or closed-frame vehicle, keep your feet together and crouch on the ground using the "lightning crouch:" feet together, squat low, tuck head, and cover ears.
- If you are inside, do not plug or unplug anything during an electrical storm.



- Do not use corded telephones – phone use is the number one cause of indoor lightning injuries in the United States. Avoid contact with other electrical equipment like computers.
- Avoid contact with water, pipes, washers, or dryers.

If a person is struck by lightning, call 911 and care for the victim immediately. You cannot be harmed by touching the victim after he or she has been struck by lightning. |

Sources: National Weather Service; Safe Electricity.org and written by: Chris Grammes

## Saving Energy While on Vacation

Summer is a great time to take a vacation. However, unless you take action, your home appliances won't get a break and your next energy bill may be business as usual. Before you leave, take a minute and follow these simple steps. You can minimize energy use in your house and maybe save a few dollars for your next vacation.

**Water Heater**—Unless you have a tankless unit, your water heater will keep running to keep the water warm until you get back. Turn down the setting to as low as possible to reduce this "standby" heat loss.

**Air Conditioner**—Turn off your air conditioner or set the thermostat to 85°

or higher. To avoid coming home to an overheated house, use a programmable thermostat and set it on vacation mode to re-cool your house shortly before your expected return.

**Lights**—Turn off all lights in your home before you leave. You might want to have an outdoor or indoor light for nighttime security. Consider a timer. This will limit the illumination to only a few hours a day and help to make it look as if someone's home.

**Electronics**—There may be a "phantom load" haunting your empty home. Digital displays, instant-on features, and remote controls consume energy while not in use. Unplug all electronics while you are away. |