

Water and Light News



EAST GRAND FORKS WATER AND LIGHT

October 2020

Cold Weather Rule Annual Notice

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule is designed to protect people who may have trouble paying their utility bills in the winter. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule applies from Oct. 15 to April 15.

The rule means that your utility cannot disconnect your residential electric service during the winter if the customer meets the following requirements:

1. Disconnect would affect the primary heat source.
 2. Customer has declared inability to pay on the form provided by the utility.
 3. Customer's total household income is less than 50% of the state median income.
 4. Customer enters and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- Please contact the East Grand Forks Water and Light Department at 773-1163 for more information on the above.

(This notice was also on the back of the September 2020 utility bills.)



Updates to the City Charter: The Charter Commission work included updating the language and correcting grammar without changing the intent of the charter. The list of major changes besides the minor corrections are as follows:

Chapter 4

- Rearranged order of chapter.
- Removed clerk/treasurer section and replaced with section identifying duties of City Administrator and section identifying duties of Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to meet current statutes and practice.
- Removed Office of City Health Officer as obsolete.

Chapter 7

- Updated Assessment Policy to meet state statute.

Chapter 9

- Added City residency requirement to serve on Water & Light Commission.

Chapter 10

- Chapter covering Official Publication added "newspaper or other mass media" to keep current with technology.
Changed Chapter regulating advertising for bids to follow state and federal guidelines.

HeatShare

HEATSHARE IS A SALVATION ARMY PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES EMERGENCY UTILITY ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH NO PLACE LEFT TO TURN.

THIS PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO EAST GRAND FORKS WATER AND LIGHT CUSTOMERS AND IS FUNDED THROUGH DONATIONS.

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WITH A DONATION.



2020-2021 Energy Assistance Program

Get Help With Your Utility Bills



THE ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HELPS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS PAY A PORTION OF THEIR HEATING & ELECTRIC BILL. PAYMENTS ARE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE HOUSEHOLD'S UTILITY.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE OR HAVE QUESTIONS, CALL TRI-VALLEY OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL IN CROOKSTON- 1-866-264-3729.

Why Give To HeatShare?

When you give to HeatShare, you are helping warm the lives of the elderly, disabled and others who have nowhere else to turn. HeatShare is a last resort for many who have no other resources available to safely get them and their families through the winter.

Administered by the Salvation Army, HeatShare is a voluntary program and helps the needy survive our long Minnesota winters by providing funds for heating bills and heating-related repairs.

Who Benefits From HeatShare?

-Senior citizens 55 years of age or older with low, fixed incomes and no alternate source of help.

-Those disabled by physical limitations and/or health problems, restricting their ability to maintain income to cover energy bills adequately.

-Those who have had an unexpected emergency within the last 12 months and as a result of the emergency cannot pay energy costs.

-Those who meet income guidelines and have received or applied for all other possible public funds.

Who Supports HeatShare?

Hundreds in our community help with HeatShare – Your neighbors – Your friends – People in big cities and corporations – People in small towns and self-owned businesses.

And you can help give the gift of heat too, by sending a tax deductible contribution with the form on this page. HeatShare is one way a small gift of kindness can make a big difference in someone else's life – *And you can make that difference*

How Else Can HeatShare Help?

- Energy Conservation and Education
- Budget Counseling
- Financial Assistance
- Family Counseling
- Social Service Information and Referrals

Your contribution will be used for those in need in East Grand Forks.



For financial assistance call the Salvation Army at 701-775-2597

For information about contributions, call: Salvation Army
– DHQ 651-746-3542,
www.thesalarmy.com

Yes, I want to contribute to HeatShare!

Yes! I want to give my neighbors the gift of heat this winter season

I am making a one-time gift of:

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

Utility Acct # _____

Date _____

Please make check payable to "HeatShare". Enclose your donation and this form along with your utility payment.

Your gift will be used to benefit those in need in East Grand Forks.

