

# THE INNOVATOR

Denison Municipal Utilities

January, 2019

## 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

2018 proved to be another very exciting, progressive and successful year at DMU. All of the DMU employees worked very hard to continue to provide the excellent electric, water and wastewater services you have come to expect in Denison. Listed below are some of the major highlights for the year:

- ◇ The completion of the relay project at our electric substations
- ◇ Continued upgrades at the water treatment plant of process equipment and pumps
- ◇ The start of a two year improvement project at the wastewater treatment plant
- ◇ The continued review of customer service processes and greater ease of customer payment options
- ◇ Moving toward a process to forward work orders to our field staff
- ◇ Working together with other community organizations to make it “A Wonderful Life”

Upgrading the utility infrastructure will continue to be the focus in 2019. These upgrades help to achieve the core purpose of DMU which is to provide the community of Denison with clean water, water reclamation and electric services.

As DMU begins a New Year of providing power it also wants to remind everyone public utilities really do power communities.

- ◇ Affordable and Dependable Services
- ◇ Local Control Answers to Customers, Not Shareholders
- ◇ Local Crews Mean Quicker Response Time
- ◇ Not-for-Profit Keeps Costs Lower and Invests Back Into the System
- ◇ Safety-Minded and Environmentally Conscious
- ◇ Face-To-Face Customer Service

On behalf of the DMU Board and employees I want to say that it has been a pleasure to serve you and we look forward to another very good year in 2019.

Rory Weis  
General Manager

You are always welcome to join us at the DMU Board meetings held every third Monday of the month at 4:30 pm at the DMU board room.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### 2019 NEW YEAR SAVINGS

**The New Year is a time for resolutions—a good time to make a fresh start. Developing an energy-saving strategy provides a real opportunity to cut costs and save you money. Here are some New Year Resolutions “Energy Savings Tips”:**

**Use LED light bulbs,  
Turn off your computer and monitor when not in use,  
Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 120° F,  
Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes,  
Check the insulation levels in your attic, exterior and basement walls,  
Make sure your appliances and heating/cooling systems are maintained, and  
Caulk and weather –strip your doors and windows that leak air in your home.**

### NEED HELP PAYING YOUR HEATING BILL?

You can apply for the 2018-2019 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, (LIHEAP).

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel and type of housing.

You will need to take: Proof of Income (most recent 3 months' check stubs)

Social Security numbers for all household members, recent heat bill, recent electric bill, and recent telephone bill.

You can apply at your local agency:  
West Central Community Action  
145 N. 7th St.,  
Denison, Iowa 51442



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

Denison Municipal Utilities  
P.O. Box 518  
Denison, Iowa 51442

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Community owned  
electric, water, & sewer



**DENISON MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**  
*"Essentials For Life."*

## How to prevent frozen Pipes and water meters.

Wicked winter weather can cause plumbing pipes to freeze and possibly burst, causing flooding and costly water damage plus a high water bill. Taking preventive measures can reduce and eliminate the risk of frozen pipes.

Pipes most at risk for freezing include: Exposed pipes in unheated areas of the home; Pipes located in exterior walls; Any plumbing on the exterior of the home.

Installing inexpensive foam pipe insulation is usually enough for moderately cold climates.

Heading South for the Winter?

For folks leaving their houses for an extended period of time in winter, additional preventive measures must be taken to adequately protect the home from frozen pipes.

Make sure the furnace is set no lower than 55 degrees.

Shut off the main water supply and drain the system by opening all faucets and flushing the toilets.

Call DMU to shut off the water at the curb box.



2019 Bright Energy Solutions energy efficiency incentive program changes.

### (Residential)

- ◇ Energy Star Screw-In LED Lamp rebates have changed to \$1.50 per lamp.
- ◇ Energy Star Heat Pump Water Heater rebates will be \$75 each.
- ◇ Energy Star Clothes Dryer rebates are removed from the program.

### (Commercial)

- ◇ Retrofit Lighting
- ◇ New Construction Lighting
- ◇ Food Service & Commercial Refrigeration Equipment
- ◇ Heating and Cooling—Programmable Thermostats

For more details call the DMU BES Representative at (712)263-3046 or stop at our office at 721 West Broadway, Denison.

## College scholarships available

**DMU in conjunction with Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) will be awarding scholarships this spring. The materials will be available in January with applications due in March. Any high school student whose parents are electric customers of DMU are eligible.**



**To encourage students to choose a career in electric line work and to then seek employment with municipal utilities, MRES is also offering (5) \$1,000 scholarships per year to a qualified student taking the Electrical Line Worker Program. This is for students entering the program at one of the following colleges: Minnesota West Community & Tech College, Northwest Iowa Community College, Mitchell Tech Institute, Minnesota State Community & Tech College, Dakota County Tech College. The scholarship needs to be used for tuition, books, and/or tools and supplies. For this particular scholarship, the students applying are not required to be electric customers of DMU. The scholarship is a one-time award only, students may not reapply.**

**More than thirty students from MRES member communities currently are benefiting from these programs, and we look forward to helping more students this spring.**

**Scholarship forms can be picked up at the Denison High School Counselors Office or for more information call our office at 712-263-4154.**