



Freeborn Mower
Electric Cooperative

People. Power. Possibilities.

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: 11/23/2022

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Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up Donates One Million Dollars

The Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up has announced it recently hit a one-million-dollar milestone.

Albert Lea, MN, November 23, 2022

The Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up program has awarded more than \$1,000,000 in grants to local community organizations since the start of the program in 2003.

Over the past 19 years, Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up has changed and grown and now awards grants to nonprofit organizations in Freeborn and Mower Counties for projects and events that benefit our communities.

“This is an incredible achievement and is all solely due to the generosity of our members,” stated Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative’s President & CEO, Jim Krueger. “What a difference this amount of support has made in our local area throughout the years.”

Operation Round Up is a nonprofit program that is administered by a five-member board of trustees and operates separately from Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative (FMEC). The Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up Current Board of Trustees are Sandy Forstner, Darrell Ingvaldson, Joni Osmundson, Brenda Wichmann, and Rhonda Allison.

“Thank you to Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative members for making Operation Round Up a huge success!” said Sandy Forstner, Board of Trustees Chairperson.

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Recent organizations receiving grants have included fire departments, youth organizations, food banks, schools, museums, and libraries.

Thank you to our members for rounding up your monthly electric bill to make these grants possible, and thank you to our board of trustees for your time and commitment to this successful program. “Every grant awarded impacts our communities,” said Dawn Schroeder, Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative’s Communication Specialist. “Giving back to the communities we serve is one of our core principles, and our cooperative is proud to help improve the quality of life where we work and live.”

The Freeborn Mower Operation Round Up is an opt-out program. FMEC members’ electric bills are automatically rounded up to the next nearest whole dollar amount. The monthly contribution could be as little as a penny but never more than ninety-nine cents. The average donation is approximately \$6.00 per year and is tax deductible. If you wish to opt-out of the program, please contact our office.

Applications are reviewed quarterly. Nonprofit organizations interested in applying for an Operation Round Up grant, are invited to visit our website at <https://www.fmec.coop/operation-round>. The next deadline to apply is December 15, 2022.



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Committed to serving our members by providing power to their lives for over 85 years!