



# Calling All FENN REA Members



**FENN Rural Electrification Association (REA) will be holding the 2023 Annual General Meeting as follows:**

**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2023

**Start time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Big Valley Royal Canadian Legion Hall  
Main Street, Big Valley, Alberta

As an REA member you have the privilege of being able to attend your co-operative's AGM, held in your service area.

The AGM is the perfect time to network with both fellow members and your Board of Directors to discuss topics that are important to you as a member.

**The AGM will include:**

**President's Annual Report** – tabled by President Philip Jarmin

**Financial Report** – audited financials will be presented

**Vote** – as REA members you have the right to vote on identified agenda items



Not only is this a time to connect with other REA members, it an opportunity learn about the current issues that may be affecting your REA and to vote on items that may impact its future.

So mark your calendars now and plan on attending your AGM on March 20th!!



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



For power outages, emergency power troubles and service requests, contact the distribution system operator for FENN REA: **ATCO Electric**  
Phone toll-free: 1-800-668-2248

**FENN REA**  
Box 31, Fenn, Alberta T0J 1K0  
Phone: c/o Philip Jarmin,  
1-403-740-9384  
Email: fennrea@gmail.com  
www.fennrea.com

**Battle River Power Coop**  
Member Care & Billing  
Box 1420, Camrose AB T4V 1X3  
Phone toll-free: 1-877-428-3972  
Email: brpc@brpower.coop  
www.brpower.coop

# Surge Protectors Are Not All Created Equal!

Surge protectors are designed to protect electronic equipment from **power surges** (which last three nanoseconds or more) and **power spikes** (lasting only one or two nanoseconds). If a surge or spike is high enough, it can damage sensitive electronics such as computers, TVs, microwaves, etc.

The role of the surge protector is to divert the additional voltage caused by a surge away from the sensitive electronic equipment to the surge protector's ground.

It is important to note that surge protectors can, and do, burn out – so choosing surge protectors with indicator lights will tell you whether the device is functioning properly.

Picking the right protector is a matter of balancing the cost of the system against the cost of losing data or damaging actual electronic devices or equipment, so it is important to find the level of coverage that you are comfortable with.

To protect your equipment, you will need individual surge protectors for each outlet and they come in various levels; the basic power strip, the better power

strip and the surge station, which are large protectors that would fit under your computer.

Surge protectors come with different ratings that you need to consider.

- ➔ **Clamping Voltage** – There are three levels of protection in the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) rating – 330V, 400V and 500V. A lower clamping voltage indicates better protection.
- ➔ **Energy Absorption/Dissipation** – This rating, given in joules, tells you how much energy the surge protector can absorb before it fails. With this rating, the higher number indicates greater protection. Choose at least a rating of 200-400 joules, keeping in mind that 600 joules or more will give better protection.
- ➔ **Response Time** – There is always a slight delay as surge protectors kick in, thereby leaving electronic devices and equipment vulnerable. Look for a protector that responds in less than a nanosecond.



To find out what a surge protector unit is capable of, you need to check out the Underwriters Laboratories rating (see UL tag sample left). UL is an independent company that tests electronic products for safety.

Minimally ensure that the surge protector is listed as a **transient voltage surge suppressor**. This identifier means that it meets the criteria for **UL 1449** and is not simply a power bar.

## Regulated Rate Option (RRO)

The RRO rate may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you receive the default RRO rate.

For January 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.13500 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For February 2023, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate for FENN REA members is \$0.13500. The RRO rate is also listed on [www.fennrea.com](http://www.fennrea.com).

**Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit [ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).**

Information on FENN REA's Code of Conduct Compliance Plan can be found on our website: [www.fennrea.com](http://www.fennrea.com)