



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Operation Round Up?

Operation Round Up is a community service program adopted by the PPCS Board of Directors on September 2, 1993, to help provide opportunities for long-range enhancement of the quality of life within our communities. Funding for Operation Round Up is provided by members of PPCS who volunteer to round up their monthly energy bills to the next dollar.

How are Operation Round Up funds used?

Operation Round Up funds are distributed to organizations (primarily non-profit groups with a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status), that will benefit individuals and families within the communities served by PPCS. Grants will be awarded to support programs and projects that enhance the quality of life within our communities. Examples include emergency assistance (fires or natural disasters), public safety, health care, self-sufficiency, basic human needs, education, cultural environment enhancements, and combating economic and social problems.

Grants will not be awarded to benefit:

- Lobbying, political and religious organizations
- Veteran and fraternal organizations
- Fund-raising dinners, raffles and other events
- Individuals/families (other than emergency)
- Capital fund campaigns
- National fund drives
- Advertising
- PPCS for unpaid charges, including energy bills

Are Operation Round Up grants limited to cooperative members? No. You don't have to be a member of PPCS to apply for assistance. Grants may be made to organizations, individuals and families within the communities served by PPCS. Grants will generally be awarded to non-profit organizations with tax-exempt status under IRS Code 501(c)(3).

How will the program affect my energy bill?

PPCS will "round up" your monthly energy bill to the nearest dollar. For example, if your energy bill is \$41.20, it will automatically be rounded up to \$42, with the additional 80 cents going to the Operation Round Up fund. Your Operation Round Up donation appears as a separate line item on your monthly energy bill.

What is the average annual donation by a member to Operation Round Up? The average donation is 50 cents each month, or \$6 annually.

Are cooperative members required to contribute to Operation Round Up? No. Participation is strictly voluntary. PPCS members can opt out at anytime by contacting us at info@piercepepin.coop or 715-273-4355, 800-924-2133.

Who is responsible for administering the Operation Round Up Program? The PPCS Board of Directors is responsible for administering the Operation Round Up program according to Guidelines set forth under Board Policy 1.30 and the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the cooperative.

How do I apply for Operation Round Up funds? Organizations, individuals and families who wish to apply for a grant must submit a completed application by the specified deadline. Operation Round Up [instructions and applications](#) are available online, or contact the cooperative office at 715-273-4355 or 800-924-2133.

How often does the PPCS Board of Directors review Operation Round Up applications? Applications are reviewed quarterly by the PPCS Board of Directors. Applications must be received by: March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15.

Are Operation Round Up® donations by members tax deductible? No. PPCS is not a charitable organization exempt under I.R.C. section 501(c)(3), so "round up" donations are not tax deductible.