



Wright-Hennepin

Cooperative Electric Association

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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News Release

WRIGHT-HENNEPIN AWARDS OVER \$9,800 TO THE RIVERWORKS THRIFT STORE

Rockford, Minn. (October 20, 2014) — Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) recently presented the RiverWorks Thrift Store, a WH commercial member, with a \$9,802 grant to help with the installation of energy-efficient equipment at its store in Rockford, Minn. Energy grants are awarded to businesses that install energy-efficient equipment, reducing electricity consumption. As a non-profit organization, the RiverWorks Thrift Store qualified for these funds to assist with conservation.

The RiverWorks Thrift Stores qualified for the funds to help cover the costs of a new rooftop HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) system. The new system is estimated to reduce electricity use by more than 5,200 kilowatt hours annually.

“We are very thankful that WH presented us this grant. As a nonprofit organization, the RiverWorks Thrift Store needs to be aware of its expenses, as utilities can be a huge part of our operating budget. The less we spend on utilities, the more we can use at our thrift store. This will help us accomplish our vision of connecting the community, creating hope and creating a quality of life in which all people thrive,” said RiverWorks Executive Director Denise Kesanen.

Each year, WH invests more than \$500,000 on residential and commercial conservation programs per requirements of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, including about \$100,000 in energy efficient grants to commercial customers.

“This was the best possible scenario to implement improved energy efficiencies while benefiting a great charitable organization like RiverWorks. As Denise points out, everyone in the community benefits from this project,” said WH Key Account Executive Lane Wilson.

WH is a member-owned non-profit electric utility that provides electric power to Wright County and the western part of Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen in this area since 1937 and currently serves more than 46,000 electric accounts. The utility started its security division in 1989 that provides local home security solutions as well as monitors alarm systems for almost 60,000 customers in 32 states and three Canadian provinces.

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