

SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

PRINTABLE WALLET CARD

1. Print on tabloid (11" x 17") sized paper.
2. Cut out wallet card on solid black outline.
3. Fold wallet card in half on vertical dashed line so the printed sides are facing outward.
4. With the side B facing toward you, fold into thirds, folding the right side first, followed by the left.

SIDE A	FIRST FOLD	SIDE B
 <p>COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.</p> <p>CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.</p> <p>NRECA A Touchstone Energy Cooperative</p> <p>The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) is the national service organization for more than 900 not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives and public power districts providing retail electric service to more than 42 million consumers in 47 states and whose retail sales account for approximately 12 percent of total electricity sales in the United States.</p> <p>Learn more at NRECA.coop</p> <p></p>	 <p>SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES</p> <p>NRECA A Touchstone Energy Cooperative</p>	<p>VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP Cooperatives are voluntary organizations open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.</p> <p>MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefitting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.</p> <p>DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote), and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.</p> <p>AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.</p> <p>EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.</p>