



Mountain View Co-op Patronage Program

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is patronage? **Patronage is the distribution of the cooperative's earnings to its member – owners. It's paid based on the amount of business the member – owner does with MVC each fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). MVC pays local and regional patronage. Regional is paid by MVC purchasing from other Co-ops. Ex: CHS – Cenex, Land O Lakes.**
2. Can I become a member if I do not own a farm or ranch? **Yes. Anyone who is approved can become a member, including individuals and businesses.**
3. How long does it take to become a member? **It takes about 7 to 10 days with account approval.**
4. When will my bill be due? **Your account will be Net 30 and due on the 15th of each month.**
5. Is there a membership fee? **No. There is no fee to become a member.**
6. When is the patronage paid? **Patronage is paid out in December.**
7. How is patronage distributed? **Patronage is paid 40% in cash and 60% in equity.**
8. What is equity? **Equity is money earned through patronage and invested in the co-op for member – owner's future retirement. Equity retired is not taxable income.**
9. Do I pay taxes on patronage paid? **Patronage earned as income towards a farm or business is taxable.**
10. Do you offer patronage on bulk and transport loads of fuel? **Yes. Mountain View Co-op has a program that offers patronage to customers taking bulk and transport loads of fuel, including propane. Call the Energy Office at 406-453-2435 or 1-800-497-8290 for more information.**
11. What purchases qualify for patronage? **Mountain View Co-op pays patronage from the list below.**
 - a. Barley, Spring Wheat and Winter Wheat
 - b. Gas, Diesel, Oil, and Propane
 - c. Fertilizer, Seed, and Chemicals
 - d. Livestock Feed, Tires and Batteries, Store Merchandise, Steel/Wood, and Labor