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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Washington Electric Co-op Earns Gold Level Governor's Award
for Workplace Wellness**

Third consecutive year electric co-op has been recognized for healthy practices

East Montpelier, Vt: Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC) was recognized for its commitment to health and wellness with a Gold level Governor's Award on March 21. The award was presented by Gov. Phil Scott; Mark Levine, Vermont Health Commissioner; and Janet Franz, chair of the Vermont Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports at the 2019 Worksite Wellness Conference in Burlington. WEC General Manager Patty Richards and Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson were honored to receive the award.

This is the third consecutive year WEC has won the Governor's Award for workplace wellness. The Gold level award, new this year, is the state's highest. The award recognizes Vermont businesses and organizations that show exemplary commitment to health, fitness, and work-life balance. According to the Governor's Council, the 129 workplaces that received awards this year demonstrate efforts that support Vermont's special brand of fitness and fun while keeping productivity up and health care costs down.

"As a cooperative electric utility, our team works extremely hard under challenging conditions," said Richards. "We are fundamentally committed to safety, health and work-home life balance. It's part of our culture. That's evident in every metric, whether you look at our record of more than 1,000 days without a lost time accident, employee training sessions addressing healthy lifestyles, the bounty of healthy produce from our worksite community garden, or WEC's commitment to community and volunteer projects."

Washington Electric Co-op is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility founded in 1939. WEC serves approximately 10,800 member-owners in 41 towns throughout Washington, Orange, Caledonia and Orleans counties with power generated from 100 percent renewable sources. WEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer. For more information please visit washingtonelectric.coop or call 802-223-5245.

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