

Lyon REC News



FEBRUARY 2021

Phone : 712-472-2506 or 1-800-658-3976 ~ Website : www.lyonrec.coop

Office Hours : Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

2021 POWER COST ADJUSTMENT (PCA)

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative has used a PCA to adjust its rates to reflect the changes in the cost of the power it purchases from L & O Power Cooperative (L & O). L & O purchases bulk power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric). L & O Power Cooperative has informed us that its rates will increase for 2021. The changes in the PCA (if any) is the result of the estimated cost of any difference in rate components, demand vs energy, in the 2021 estimated usage.

In the December 2020 newsletter, I provided estimated PCA rates for 2021. The PCA rates for 2021 have been calculated. The 2021 PCA rate for regular energy will be \$0.03428 per kWh compared to the current 2020 PCA of \$0.03421 per kWh. The Farm and Residential Rate cost for 1,000 kWh will be \$0.07 more in 2021 over 2020 costs. The Base Year or year this calculation is based on was 2006.

There will be no change in the PCA rate for the dual fuel and electric heat rate in 2021. The 2021 PCA for dual fuel and electric heat will be \$0.01450 per kWh. The Base Year is 2006.

The 2021 PCA rate for energy used in the Casino Resort rate will be \$0.01594 compared to the current 2020 PCA of \$0.01309. The cost for 1,000 kWh will be \$2.85 more in 2021 over current 2020 costs. The Base Year is 2010.

2021 ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE (EEAC)

In 2010, Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative began collecting an EEAC to implement its Energy Efficiency Program as filed with Iowa Utility Board. This plan was required by legislation passed by the Iowa Legislature. Each year the EEAC will be recalculated by first looking at the amount collected in the previous year (2020) compared with amount paid out for program expenses for that year (2020). The under collection or over collection will be added to or deducted respectively from the estimated expenditures needed to meet the program goals for 2021. Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative has completed a new five-year energy efficiency plan that is effective as of January 1, 2020. Based on these calculations, the 2021 EEAC will be as follows:

Farm and Residential	0.97%
Small Commercial	0.00%
Large Commercial	0.00%
Public Buildings	0.00%
Casino Resort	0.00%
Electric Heat / Dual Fuel	0.97%



Prices Effective March 1, 2021 for Marathon Water Heaters



Size	Price	Tax	Total	Rebate	Final Cost
50 Gal W.H.	\$1000.00 plus tax	\$70.00	\$1070.00	\$0.00	\$1070.00
85 Gal W.H.	\$1360.00 plus tax	\$95.20	\$1455.20	\$200.00	\$1255.20
100 Gal W.H.	\$1525.00 plus tax	\$106.75	\$1631.75	\$200.00	\$1431.75

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Save the date {03.22.2021}

Due to Covid- 19 , Lyon REC Annual meeting will be held virtually on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. Details on how to participate virtually will be in the Annual Meeting Notice that will be coming in the mail soon and also in the March Newsletter as well as Facebook.

SIMPLE APPLIANCE REPAIRS CAN BE A BIG JOB

It's tempting to do maintenance and simple repairs on large appliances like the refrigerator, dishwasher and washing machine. Beyond the safety risk that comes with touching electrical components, however, here are some practical red flags.

- 1 Electrical replacement parts often have to be ordered from the manufacturer and are non-refundable. If you misdiagnose a problem or order the part in the wrong size, you could be wasting your money.
- 2 Washing machines and refrigerators are heavy. Trying to lift or move them so you can get access to the back or bottom of the appliance can be back-breaking work-literally if the DIYer doesn't do it properly.
- 3 Some appliance manufacturers will not honor a warranty if an appliance repair isn't performed by a qualified professional.
- 4 If a licensed electrical inspector does not examine the repair, an insurance company could claim that the homeowner was negligent.
- 5 Once a DIYer gets the appliance torn apart and realizes he or she cannot diagnose or fix the problem, the machine will be out of commission until a pro can come and put it back together. How long can your family go without its clothes dryer or dishwasher?



Even handiest DIYers should call pro for electrical repairs

Home improvement TV shows make household repairs look easy. But when it comes to electrical repairs, DIYers should move over and make room for a pro.

Working with electricity is risky business. Anyone who tinkers with wiring or circuits could suffer electrocution or shock, or could start a fire. High-voltage items are especially dangerous to work on, even for professionals.

So even if it seems that the talented DIYer in your home has the skills to fix just about anything, he or she should not take any chances when it comes to electrical repairs.

Licensed electricians are trained not only in the skills they need to work with electrical circuits and components, but in how to stay safe during the job; how to adhere to electrical codes; and how to prevent fires. They also know which permits are required to do the work legally.

Homeowners also should consider the following before attempting to do their own electrical repairs:

- Some homeowner's insurance policies do not cover fires that start as a result of a DIY electrical repair gone wrong.
- Electrical work requiring city or county permits can result in fines for a DIYer who does not obtain those permits.
- Selling a home whose electrical work has been done by a DIYer can be a challenge. Potential buyers usually hire home inspectors, who could flag faulty repairs and force the homeowner to pay for a professional do-over.
- Even when you hire a professional electrician to work in your home, insist on a license, proper permit and an inspection.

CALL MID-SIOUX TO SCHEDULE LIHEAP APPOINTMENT

The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) offered through **Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.** may be able to help you pay your winter heating bill. This program is funded through the Iowa Department of Human Rights and has been established to help qualified low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs.

Your local Mid-Sioux office will be taking applications from November 2, 2020 through April 30, 2021. Each applicant will need to furnish a copy of their most recent heating and electric bill; original Social Security or I-94 card for each household member; and proof of the household's income for the past month (4 weeks), the past twelve (12) months, or 2019 or 2020 tax return. Eligibility for participation is established according to the federal income guidelines listed at the right. Applicants eligible for an award will be paid on a first come, first served basis, and all payments are subject to availability of funds.

MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME

Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$22,330
2	\$30,170
3	\$38,010
4	\$45,850
5	\$53,690

For families with more than five members, add \$7,840 for each additional member.

For more information or to make an appointment contact your local outreach office or 800-859-2025

Email: jcolling@midsioux.org | Hearing Impaired call 711

February is National Hot Breakfast Month

Celebrate the coldest month of the year with a hot family breakfast every morning.

The “holiday” was started by food company Jimmy Dean, which makes breakfast sausages, after a survey found that more than 60% of Americans eat a cold breakfast-like cereal-every day.

Studies have shown that eating breakfast in the morning boosts metabolism and improves focus.

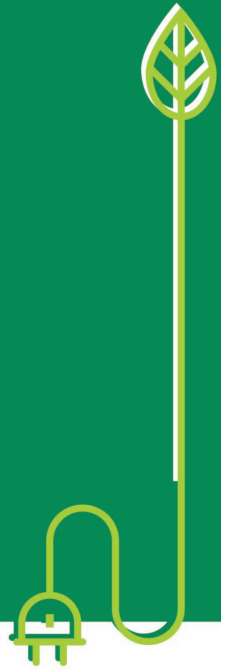
Pressed for time in the morning? Small kitchen appliances can make quick work out of preparing the day’s most-important meal. Invest in a wide-slot toaster for bagels; a waffle iron for a quick and fun homemade meal-to-go; a panini maker or a breakfast sandwich maker for a portable, mess-free meal; or a turbo blender to whip up healthy, fruit smoothies to go with your hot menu.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static.

Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer’s filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: www.energy.gov



PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe.



DECEMBER OPERATING STATISTICS

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
KWH Purchased	11,620,208	10,418,997
KWH Sold	11,198,911	9,967,034
Percentage of Line Loss		
(Year to Date)	2.50%	3.15%
Total Demand	19,451 KW	18,856 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,209 KWH	2,792 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$296.06	\$259.08
Income Per Mile	\$1,126.73	\$1,010.24
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,109.50	\$1,014.33
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month) ..	5.66¢	5.61¢

Youth tour for 2021 has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Prevent frozen pipes by keeping your house warm



A mid-winter getaway seems like a dream during a pandemic, but if your family has found a safe destination and is heading out of town for a couple of weeks, leave the heat on at home.

It might seem like a waste of energy and money to heat an empty home, but the cost of cleaning up after a water pipe that has frozen and burst will be far more costly than leaving the thermostat set high enough to prevent the problem.

When the water inside of a pipe freezes, it expands and puts pressure on the pipe. That pressure can cause the pipe to crack or break, and water can gush out, causing a non-stop flood of water and causing massive damage to your property.

Here are some precautions to take before you leave:

- Shut off the water at the cut-off valve.
- Remove garden hoses from outdoor faucets. Then, drain those faucets and leave them in the "on" position.
- Leave the heat set at around 50 degrees.
- Open cabinet doors under sinks so the heat can circulate around the water pipes.
- If your washing machine is in an unheated garage, shut off the water to the appliance.
- Insulate pipes in the attic and in crawl spaces using a product designed specifically for pipes.
- Give your house key to a trusted neighbor who can check for frozen pipes while you're away.



5 unexpected ways to keep your house warmer

You don't have to crank up the thermostat to stay warm indoors this winter. Try these easy strategies to stay warm without sending your energy bill through the roof:

- 1.** Add rugs to uncarpeted rooms. Rugs help insulate floors by trapping cool air underneath of them and keeping it from wafting into the room. Rugs will keep your feet warm, too.
- 2.** Install a filter whistle on your furnace. This \$5 device will alert you when it's time to change the filters. Dirty filters prevent air from easily flowing through your heating system, which means your furnace has to work harder-and use more energy-to keep you warm.
- 3.** Move furniture away from air vents. The air return vents on the walls or floor of your home might be an eyesore, but hiding them under carpets and couches can render your heating and cooling system inefficient.
- 4.** Add a humidifier. When the air in your home is too dry, the indoor air will feel cooler. Keeping the humidity in the home between 30% and 50% will make the air feel warmer-and stave off the dry skin that winter usually causes.
- 5.** Insulate the door leading from the house to the attic. It's an often-overlooked energy-waster, as it can let the unheated attic air seep into your home and send the warm air from the house into the cold attic.

Non-Discrimination Statement

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Consumer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of members helping members and contribute to RECare.

_____ I will make a one-time contribution to RECare. My Check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail to: RECare | Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 629 | Rock Rapids, IA 51246

RECare Consumer Contribution Plan

Your Rural Electric Cooperative has always extended a helping hand to those needing it. Now, in response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RE-Care, a program of members helping members. RECare will provide funds to be distributed by local community action agencies to help pay winter heating bills and assist in weatherization of homes of low income consumers of this Cooperative. You may make a one-time contribution, or you may make a monthly contribution. Even one dollar a month contribution will help others.