

# Lyon REC News



JULY 2021

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

## KEEP COOL THIS SUMMER WITHOUT BLASTING A/C

There's no need to lose your cool when you get your summer electric bill during the hottest days of the year. Instead, try some alternatives to cranking up the air conditioning when the sun is blazing and it hasn't rained in days.

- ① Install a dehumidifier. If the indoors feels as humid as the outdoors, there's too much water in the inside air. If you see water dripping out of the air conditioner or if you have to set it so low that you're freezing just to feel comfortable humidity-wise, the dehumidifier will help.
- ② Cook outdoors or eat cold food. Salads, raw veggies and fruit make great summer meals, and they don't require you to turn on the stove or oven, which can make the air in the kitchen too warm. Instead, gather the family for a barbecue and fire up the outdoor grill or serve a cold buffet on extra-hot evenings.
- ③ Hang bright curtains. Red, orange and yellow tend to deflect heat, so for curtains, those colors are energy efficient. Closing the curtains or blinds during the day will keep sunrays from heating up the home you're trying to keep cool. Or install solar screens or a window tint to let in the light but keep out the heat.
- ④ Run fans. Ceiling fans whose blades turn counterclockwise pull heat up out of the room and send a soft breeze down into it, so anybody nearby will feel cooler. Portable electric fans placed in windows facing outward can suck heat out of a room on days when you want to give your a/c a break.
- ⑤ Run your dishwasher and clothes washer and dryer after dark. Appliances that use heat to operate also throw some heat into the rooms where they are located. So run them during the coolest part of the day-after the sun goes down.





### AVOID UTILITY SCAMS

Scammers will threaten you with everything from shutting off power to your home to legal action. Don't fall victim to these types of scams.

- Our employees will never show up at your door to demand payment.
- Never give personal information to an unknown caller or visitor. Our representatives have access to the details they need to service your account.
- Demands for immediate payment by wire transfer, cryptocurrency, gift cards or cash reload cards should immediately raise red flags.
- If you think you've been contacted by a scammer falsely representing the co-op, please let us know as soon as possible.



HAPPY  
SUMMER

## CALL BEFORE YOU DIG



# WANT TO GRILL OUTDOORS BUT DON'T HAVE SPACE?

## → GO ELECTRIC

When you think of grilling burgers, steaks and veggies outdoors, the debate usually is between gas and charcoal. But a third option is the right one for a lot of grilling fans: electric.

Some of the electric grill's most attractive features include:

- It requires no fire or flame, so it's not necessary to keep it a safe distance from your house. This is a great benefit for those who live in apartments or townhouses.
- It heats up quickly. Just plug it in and start cooking. There's no wait for charcoals to turn white-hot.
- It's easy to clean. Because the grill does not create any charcoal ash, it creates very little mess while cooking.
- It can grill sandwiches. Gas and charcoal models can't do that.
- If you buy an indoor/outdoor model, you can grill all year long.

If you decide to buy an electric grill, consider:

- If you plan to shuttle your grill between the kitchen and the patio, buy a portable model that fits on a tabletop.
- Choose a model made from commercial-grade stainless steel so it will resist corrosion, especially if you plan to grill outdoors.
- Look for a brand that offers a lifetime warranty. The least expensive models come with warranties as limited as 90 days to three years.
- Electric grills are powerful and should be the only appliance plugged into an outlet. If they have to compete for power, pre-heat times lengthen.
- Most electric grills are designed for outdoor use only, so if you want to use it inside, choose a model designed to direct food drippings outside of the unit as a fire safety measure.



## STAY SAFE OVER THE SUMMER

With the pandemic winding down in many areas, cooped-up social-distancers are likely to be out in droves this year. Make your summer a safe one for your family by following some common-sense rules.

1. Keep an eye on your grill. Whether it's electric, gas or charcoal, do not leave a hot grill unattended, even for a few minutes. Their intense heat can easily harm children or pets. Plus, if flames are involved, you need to be there if they get out of control. Cooking accidents are the leading cause of house fires.
2. If you need an extension cord to plug in your grill or another cooking appliance, do not use that cord on more than one device at a time. And do not plug extension cords into each other; they're not designed for that. They can overheat and cause a fire.
3. Keep the grill, blender, TV and other appliances away from the pool and from all water sources. Even if you're a safe distance away from the water, unplug the appliance as soon as you're finished using it.
4. Have a working fire extinguisher on hand.

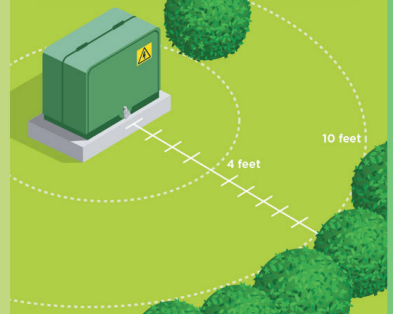
## Avoid the Big Green Box

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities.

Never touch, climb or play on pad-mounted transformers. Never put fingers, sticks or other objects through cracks in the transformer.



Keep areas surrounding the pad-mounted transformer clear so that workers can safely maintain transformers as needed. Keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from the transformer doors and 4 feet away from the sides.



Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer. They are surrounded by underground cables. Hitting the cable could result in electrical shock or disruption of service. Always dial 8-1-1 before you dig.



Report problems. If you notice anything amiss, like an unlocked transformer or one that has been damaged, please contact us immediately.

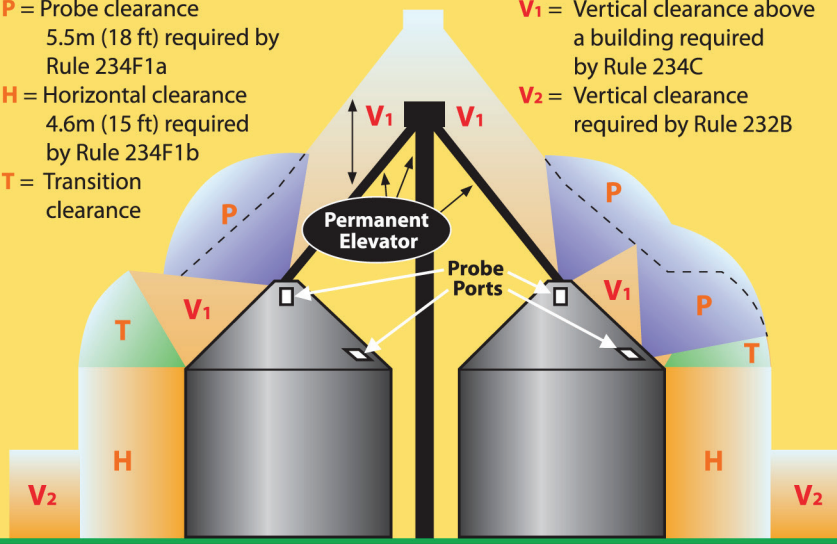


# GRAIN BIN NOTICE

## Clearance envelope for grain bins filled by permanently installed augers, conveyors or elevators

- P** = Probe clearance  
5.5m (18 ft) required by Rule 234F1a
- H** = Horizontal clearance  
4.6m (15 ft) required by Rule 234F1b
- T** = Transition clearance

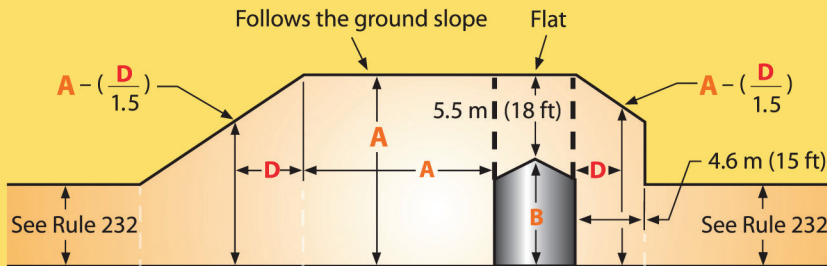
- V<sub>1</sub>** = Vertical clearance above a building required by Rule 234C
- V<sub>2</sub>** = Vertical clearance required by Rule 232B



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## Clearance envelope for grain bins filled by portable augers, conveyors or elevators

### ELEVATION



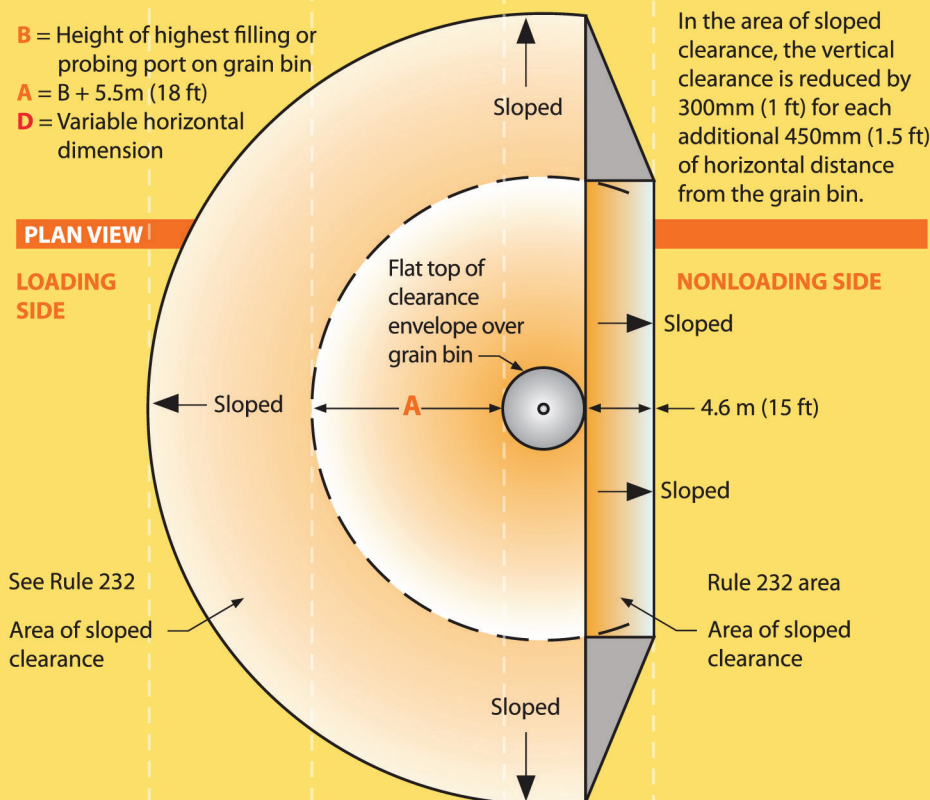
- B** = Height of highest filling or probing port on grain bin
- A** =  $B + 5.5\text{m (18 ft)}$
- D** = Variable horizontal dimension

In the area of sloped clearance, the vertical clearance is reduced by 300mm (1 ft) for each additional 450mm (1.5 ft) of horizontal distance from the grain bin.

### PLAN VIEW

#### LOADING SIDE

#### NONLOADING SIDE

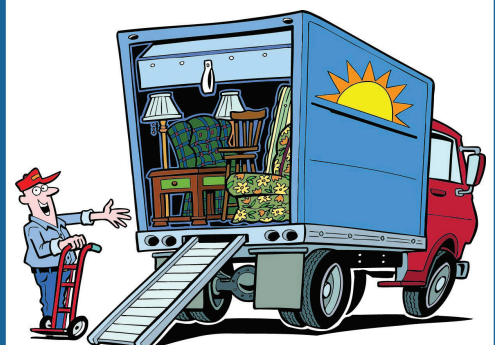


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## MOVING?

Remember to notify the Cooperative when you move off of the Lyon Rural Electric service area and inform the new owner of their responsibility to then get signed up for service.



# HOW TO CLEAN A/C FILTER

Even if you have your central air conditioning unit professionally inspected and maintained every spring as you should, that doesn't let you off the hook for keeping a/c filters clean.

The filters collect dust and dirt that otherwise would fly around inside your house along with the cool air the a/c blows out. When the filter is full, that cool air can't get through to your house.

When that happens, the a/c has to work extra hard to do its job. The harder it works, the more energy it uses. The more energy it uses, the more electricity you pay for.

Forcing the unit to work overtime can shorten its life because it will wear out quicker.

It's a good idea to change or clean the filters once a month during air conditioning season.

You'll find your filter or filters inside of the air-return vents on or near the ceiling or close to the floor. To clean the filter:

- Remove the vent cover, which is usually screwed into place.
  - Visually inspect the filter for dirt, dust and discoloration.
  - If it looks dirty, replace it. You can buy disposable filters at a home store or hardware store.
  - If your filter is reusable filter and not disposable, vacuum it to remove the dust.
  - For an especially dirty reusable filter, rinse it in the bathtub or laundry room sink. Let it air-dry completely before replacing it.
- ☆ Repeat every month

## Spending time outdoors? Stay safe around electricity

After a long winter of staying indoors more than usual, outdoor fun is calling.

Keep yourself and your family safe by paying attention to your use of electricity outdoors. Some tips:

- Have an electrician check outdoor electrical outlets to make sure they are protected with ground-fault circuit interrupters that automatically shut the power off in case of contact with water. Outdoor outlets on older homes might not have this critical safety feature.
- If you must use an extension cord outdoors, buy a thick, weather-resistant model rated for outdoor use. Don't string cords together and don't leave them outdoors when you're not using them.
- Choose a wooden or fiberglass ladder when you are working near electrical wiring or electric lines. Metal can conduct electricity and shock anyone who's standing on one if it comes into contact with a power source.
- Don't use your electric grill outdoors if it's raining-even a little.

Inspect electrical lawn tools for frayed wires and other damage. Don't try to repair the damage; replace the tool

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat (like clothes dryers and dishwashers) during the evening when it's cooler. This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.



## MAY OPERATING STATISTICS

	2020	2021
KWH Purchased . . . . .	8,682,195	8,691,694
KWH Sold . . . . .	8,376,929	8,568,015
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date) . . . . .	4.09%	3.15%
Total Demand . . . . .	14,246 KW	16,840 KW
Average Farm Consumption . . . . .	2,128 KWH	2,054 KWH
Average Farm Bill . . . . .	\$210.25	\$214.52
Income Per Mile . . . . .	\$880.70	\$934.38
Expenses Per Mile . . . . .	\$893.25	\$965.79
Miles Energized. . . . .	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month) . .	5.93¢	6.53¢

## 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](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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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