

Lyon REC News



MARCH 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.

Save energy while observing March 'HOLIDAYS'

Nearly every day of March is a day to celebrate, according to the people who make lists of fun monthly observances. Here are some for March that go hand-in-hand with energy savings.

March 1: National Peanut Butter Lover's Day. Serve up a plateful of PB&J sandwiches for dinner instead of firing up the oven or cooktop. And hunt for a recipe for a no-bake peanut butter pie for dessert. Once your family tastes that slice of heaven, you may never bake again.

March 5: World Book Day. Unplug for a day from your smartphone, TV, laptop, tablet and computer-and curl up on the sofa with a good book. When's the last time you did that?

March 6: National Day of Unplugging. Stay unplugged for an extra day, and observe how much you get done and how much more quality time you spend with family.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day. You might have to skip the Irish pub this year, but that's not an excuse to skip the celebration. Whip up a raw green salad for the family, choc-full of spinach, kale, romaine lettuce, broccoli florets and an array of your favorite colorful veggies. You'll save the energy you would have spent on cooking and have a fun and healthy meal.

March 19: National Poultry Day. The first day of spring is just one day away, so it's not too early to fire up the backyard barbeque grill. Throw some chicken and veggies on the grill and give the oven and cooktop a rest.

March 20: First Day of Spring. Time to call a licensed HVAC service tech to take a look at your air conditioning unit. Before you know it, hot weather will be here and you'll be ready to cool the house off.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer. Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.

Source: www.energy.gov



ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER

The 82nd Annual Meeting of members of Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative will be virtual starting at 7:00 PM, Central Time, on March 22, 2021. Details on how to join the meeting were mailed to each member in the Annual Meeting Notice packets that were sent out in early March. The election of directors will be conducted through the mail or may be dropped off at the office until 7:00 PM, Central Time on March 22, 2021 anything after that date and time will not be counted.

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

RUNNING FOR DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT 6



David DeBoer

David DeBoer - Grant Township David and his wife, Heather, have two children. He has lived in Lyon County all his life. David has served as a deacon for the Bethel Reformed Church and a Grant Township Trustee. He is currently the Board Secretary for Lyon REC and the President of the L & O Board of Directors. David is involved in livestock farming.

Dustin Ackerman - Grant Township Dustin Ackerman and his fiancé, Rachel, live Northeast of George on the Ackerman family farm. Dustin is a grain farmer and raises cattle and hogs. He has previously served on the George-Little Rock FFA Advisory Committee and various church boards.



Dustin Ackerman

RUNNING FOR DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT AT LARGE



Rodney Mogler

Rodney Mogler - Logan Township Rodney and his wife, Lois, have four sons and one daughter. Rodney has lived South of Lester for 63 years. He is involved in a family farming operation with his main responsibilities in the agronomy department. Some of Rodney's previous board experiences have been with local co-ops, Lyon County Extension Council, Logan Township Trustee, 4-H Leader, and various church committees. He is a current director of the Lyon REC Board.

Kevin Fluit - Rock Township Kevin and his wife, Tina, have 3 children and 1 grandchild. Kevin has lived in Lyon County since 1996 when he started farming. He was a grain and livestock farmer for over 20 years. He currently does dirt and excavation work. Kevin's previous board experience includes serving 8 years on the Lyon County Coop, many years on the Lyon County Cattlemen, and is currently on the Lyon County Board of Adjustment.



Kevin Fluit



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

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.

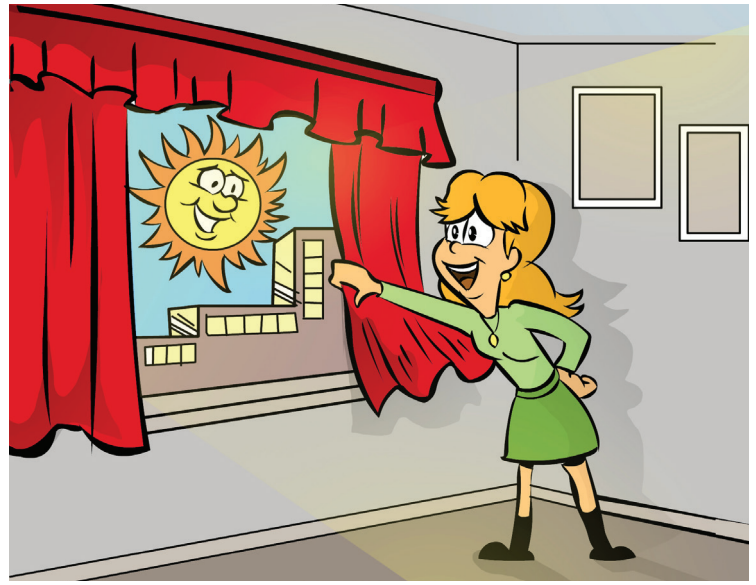
PANDEMIC CALLS FOR EXTRA SPRING CLEANING

After a long winter of quarantining, homeschooling and teleworking while everyone was at home full time, it's time for the mother of all spring cleanings.

More people at home more of the time equals more dirt, grime, dust, fingerprints and stains.

While you're scrubbing the pandemic out of your house, keep energy efficiency in mind. Here are six items to clean that could help your appliances, lighting and air conditioning system operate more efficiently-and save you money on energy bills.

1. Flip the switch. Ceiling fan blades should rotate counterclockwise during warm weather to push cool air down and make rooms feel more comfortable. And they should be dust-free; climb a ladder and clean the blades and top and bottom so they don't knock dirt into the air as they spin.
2. Clean air conditioner vents. They're a catch-all for lint, pet hair, dust and dirt, which can block the air that's trying to flow in and out of them.
3. Caulk around windows, doors, and electrical and cable outlets on the inside of outside walls. Cool air can escape through those tiny openings in the summer and find its way into the house during winter.
4. Wash your windows. Even a thin film of dust and dirt on the inside or outside of glass panes can block sunlight from warming a room in the spring.
5. Call a service pro. Your cooling system needs attention from an HVAC tech once every spring to prevent a breakdown once the weather gets hot.
6. Dust electronics. Computers, printers, light bulbs, appliances-anything that you plug in-sit still enough to collect a lot of dust. Dust can prevent them from operating efficiently.



LET THE SUNSHINE IN

One of the easiest ways to warm up your home during the late winter and early spring: Open the window drapes.

Energy savings isn't the only benefit of adding natural daylight to your rooms. Daylight is a natural stimulant that makes people feel better.

Here are five ways the sun can help you save energy on heating bills:

1. Open the curtains or blinds during the day and close them once the sun goes down. The heat from the sun's rays could warm up the room enough to remain comfortable even if you lower the thermostat. South-facing windows are the best for letting sunlight in during the winter. A side benefit: You won't have to turn any lamps on in sunlit rooms.
2. Clean your windows. Nobody likes that chore, but dirty windows can block natural light from finding its way into the home. Wipe down the indoor glass panes once a month year-round and the outdoor panes once a year.
3. Install a skylight in an otherwise shaded room. The rooftop windows aren't cheap, but they let the sun into the room and give you a view of the sky.
4. Replace any single-pane windows with energy-efficient, double-pane models. They not only let in the light; they keep your home's heated air from leaking outside.
5. As spring arrives and the weather starts warming up, an abundance of natural light in your rooms could allow you to turn the thermostat off a bit sooner.

JANUARY OPERATING STATISTICS

	2020	2021
KWH Purchased	11,748,747	10,780,171
KWH Sold	11,307,033	10,316,365
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.76%	4.30%
Total Demand	19,451 KW	17,904 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,242 KWH	2,921 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$292.67	\$280.85
Income Per Mile	\$1,112.39	\$1,064.29
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,085.01	\$1,018.81
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month) . .	5.65¢	5.66¢



**DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD**
REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR
MARCH 14, 2021

More dirty dishes? No need to use extra energy

When the whole family is spending more time at home, an endless supply of dirty dishes seems to show up in the sink and in the dishwasher every day.

If you adopt a few energy- and water-efficient habits for dishwashing, however, the extra glasses and plates don't have to send your electric bill through the roof.

Adjust the water temperature. If your water heater is set at higher than 120 degrees, lower the temperature. Your dishes and laundry will get just as clean at the lower temperature and will use less energy. Some dishwashers automatically raise the water temperature to 140 degrees. If yours does, you can lower it manually.

Use the energy-saving feature. Most dishwashers come with an "eco" setting that conserves up to half of the water and water heating of regular cycles.

Let dishes air dry. You'll save up to half of the energy of a full cycle if you use the air-dry cycle or turn the dishwasher off before it starts drying the dishes.

Wait until the dishwasher is full before you run it. You'll waste water and heat if you run it half-full.

Don't pre-rinse. It's unnecessary to run hot water over dishes before you load them into the dishwasher. And it's a waste of water and energy.

SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS

You and the farmers in your community each has something the other one needs during this pandemic. Families are cooking at home more often, so they need fresh produce and meat. And farmers-and anyone who is trying to stay in business while everyone is limiting trips to the store-need your support to keep their heads above water.

To stay safe while visiting a local farmer's market, keep a few commonsense precautions in mind:

- ① Do some research before you go to any farmer's market. Call around and ask the organizers what measures they are taking to keep their customers and vendors safe. Are they enforcing social distancing? Requiring masks for entry?
- ② Shop at a open-air market rather than at an enclosed one.
- ③ Avoid the rush. Schedule your visit during off-peak hours, like first thing in the morning. If you arrive and find that the market is overly crowded, abandon the trip.
- ④ Shop alone so you don't contribute to overcrowding. If you do bring a friend or family member, split up so each of you covers half of the booths.
- ⑤ Don't touch anything that you don't intend to buy.
- ⑥ Do not taste any free samples.
- ⑦ Wear a mask and stay six feet away from the people around you.
- ⑧ Look for pre-bagged items, which have been handled by fewer people than loose produce.
- ⑨ Sanitize your hands as soon as you're finished shopping.
- ⑩ Thoroughly wash the produce you buy as soon as you get home.

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.



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."