

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Rock Rapids

December 2025

Phone : 712-472-2506 or 1-800-658-3976 ~ Website : www.lyonrec.coop
Office Hours : Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



New Line Foreman

We're excited to share that Patrick Wubben has been promoted to Lead Lineman!

Patrick's hard work, positive attitude, and dedication to the crew never go unnoticed. We're lucky to have him on the team and can't wait to see him take on this new role.

Congrats, Patrick!

REMINDERS

Holiday Closures:

Lyon Rural Electric will close at 11:30 a.m. on December 24, 2025 and will be closed on December 25, 2025 for Christmas.

We will close at 11:30 a.m. on December 31, 2025 and will be closed on January 1, 2026 for New Year's Day.



Ride Along

From Right to Left: Bryan Herum, Brendin Sprock & Patrick Wubben

Last month, we had the pleasure of hosting a local high school student, Brendin Sprock, for a day on the job!

Brendin spent the day riding along with our line crew, learning firsthand what it takes to keep the lights on and how our cooperative works behind the scenes. From learning about the coop to watching a new service installation, he got a real look at the skill and teamwork that go into serving our members every day.

We love seeing young people take an interest in the electric cooperative world and explore future careers in linework and the energy industry.

GIVE YOUR HOME A SMART TUNE-UP



The holidays are coming, and so are the extra plugs, cords, lights and gadgets that make the season sparkle. Before your house turns into a winter wonderland of blinking bulbs, give it a quick smart home tune-up to keep everything merry, bright and safe.

Start with smart plugs or timers for your lights and decorations. Set them to turn on when the sun goes down and off when you head to bed: No need to crawl behind the tree every night to pull out cord attached to the tree lights. Some even let you control your lights from your phone, perfect for those “Did I unplug that?” moments.

Inside, use smart power strips for TVs, gaming consoles and entertainment centers. They automatically shut off the accessories when the main device turns off, saving energy without any extra effort.

Don't forget the GFCI outlets in kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoors. These life-saving outlets protect you from shock and should be tested monthly.

Finally, double-check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Batteries die quietly, but fires and fumes don't. Make sure your alarms are ready before the festivities begin.

A quick tune-up today means you can safely enjoy your lights, music and hot cocoa tomorrow.



PLUG IN CHEER, NOT DANGER

That twinkling tree is the heart of your holiday décor. But without proper care, it can become a fire hazard.

Keep your holidays merry, bright—and safe—with a few simple steps.

1. **If you love a real tree, pick one with springy green needles that don't shed easily. Give the trunk a fresh cut before placing it in water, and top off the stand daily. A dry tree can ignite faster than you'd think. Keep it far from fireplaces, radiators or heat vents.**
2. **For artificial trees, make sure the label says “fire-resistant.” Before hanging a single ornament, check your lights for frayed cords or loose connections. Replace damaged strings. Don't try to fix them.**
3. **Use LED lights if possible. They stay cool, use less energy, last longer and allow more strands per outlet. And when the night winds down, always unplug your lights before bed.**

A safe setup takes only minutes, but it protects everything and everyone you love.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

To maximize your fireplace's efficiency, always keep the damper closed when the fireplace is not in use. An open damper is like an open window, allowing warm indoor air to escape and cold air to enter. Consider installing a fireplace insert, which improves heat output by circulating warm air into the room rather than letting it escape up the chimney. Also, burn only seasoned hardwood to ensure a hotter, cleaner burn. Regularly clean and inspect your chimney to maintain safe and efficient operation.

Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)

Operating Statistics

OCTOBER

| | 2024 | 2025 |
|---|------------|------------|
| KWH Purchased | 11,366,043 | 11,573,467 |
| KWH Sold | 10,959,442 | 11,154,377 |
| Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date) | 2.74% | 2.79% |
| Total Demand | 21,036 KW | 20,080 KW |
| Average Farm Consumption | 2,925 KWH | 2,984 KWH |
| Average Farm Bill | \$346.42 | \$405.21 |
| Income Per Mile | \$1,283.47 | \$1,496.71 |
| Expenses Per Mile | \$1,284.74 | \$1,409.01 |
| Miles Energized | 885.19 | 872 |
| Cost of Wholesale (For the Month) | 6.70¢ | 7.53¢ |

GIVE THE GIFT OF SAFETY



Looking for a gift that says you really care?

Skip the socks and candles this year. Give the gift of safety. It's thoughtful, practical and lasts long after the wrapping paper is just a happy memory.

Start small with a surge protector or smart power strip. These handy helpers protect electronics from voltage spikes and cut power to idle devices, so they're perfect for students, gamers or anyone with too many plugs.

For new homeowners, a GFCI outlet tester makes a surprisingly cool stocking stuffer. It checks whether outlets are grounded and safe, which is especially important in older houses.

Want something with life-saving potential? Wrap up a carbon monoxide detector or smoke/CO combo alarm. Today's models are sleek, smart and can even alert your phone when there's a problem.

Smart plugs make a great gift for tech lovers. They add convenience and safety by letting users control lamps, heaters, security cameras or coffee makers remotely.

Safety might not sparkle like jewelry, but it's a gift that shines in all the right ways.

DON'T LET WINTER ENERGY BILLS SHOCK YOU



It's no surprise that we use more electricity over the holidays, with all the lights, decorations, cooking and hosting.

Still, December fun doesn't have to translate into January sticker shock when the energy bill comes in.

With a few bright ideas, you can stay cozy and still keep costs under control.

Start with your heating system. Change filters often and keep vents clear so warm air can flow freely. If you use space heaters, pick models with thermostats and timers and only heat a room while you're in it.

Next up: lighting. LED bulbs are your best friend in winter because they use 75% less energy, last longer and shine just as bright as older, traditional bulbs. LED holiday lights are safer, too, because they stay cool and don't overload outlets.

In the kitchen, be smart about cooking. Match pan size to burner size, resist the urge to peek in the oven before the timer goes off, and use smaller appliances like slow cookers and air fryers when you can.

Wash laundry in cold water and hang-dry when possible. Your clothes and your wallet will both thank you.

Finally, let technology help you out. Smart thermostats and smart plugs can learn your schedule and cut energy waste automatically.

A few small tweaks now can keep your home warm, your lights glowing and your energy bill from giving you chills this winter.

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 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026. 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 most recent 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 | \$31,300 |
| 2 | \$42,300 |
| 3 | \$53,300 |
| 4 | \$64,300 |
| 5 | \$75,300 |
| For families with more than five members, add \$11,000 for each additional member. | |

For more information or to make an appointment
contact your local outreach office, info@midsioux.org or 800-859-2025
Hearing Impaired call 711

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW OPEN!

We're excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for next year's cooperative scholarships. The Basin Electric Scholarship will award \$2,500 to one deserving student, while the L&O and Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative Scholarships will each award \$1,500. Deadline for scholarship applications is February 16, 2026.

Students are encouraged to apply early! Stop by our office to pick up an application or it is available online.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR MEMBER COOPERATIVES

A program for dependent children of:

- Member-cooperative employees
- Member-cooperative consumers

How much is the scholarship?

The Basin Electric Scholarship Program will award more than 150 scholarships in 2026.

- The Cooperative Member Employee Dependent Scholarship are \$1,000 each.
- The Cooperative Member Consumer Dependent Scholarship amount has increased to \$2,500. Each member cooperative may choose to award the full amount to one recipient or split it between two recipients. All scholarships must be used for educational expenses, and recipients must enroll in college in the fall semester of the school year for which the scholarship is awarded.

Scholarship checks will be made payable to the student's college, university, or technical school and will be distributed by Basin Electric in August.

Who is eligible to receive the scholarship?

Dependent children (including adopted or stepchildren) of member-cooperative employees and member-cooperative consumers are eligible to apply.

All applicants must be U.S. citizens and must be enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time Scholarship Program for Member Cooperatives undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

Basin Electric scholarships are awarded without regard to other awards, loans, or financial assistance the applicant may have obtained.

How are the recipients selected?

Scholarship recipients are selected based on their academic achievement, leadership potential, and involvement in school and community activities. Other factors considered include honors received, work experience, a personal statement of educational and career goals, and an outside appraisal.

Scholarships for dependent children of member cooperative employees are administered by Scholarship America.

Each member cooperative is responsible for selecting one recipient in the member cooperative consumer category.

The final recipient's completed application must then be forwarded to Basin Electric by the cooperative.

Scholarship award winners, or the member cooperatives, must notify Basin Electric by July 1 with the name and address of the student's college, university, or technical school. It is also important to report if a student changes schools or decides not to attend.

What are the recipient's obligations?

Except for the requirements outlined in this brochure, no additional obligations will be imposed upon the scholarship award winner.

Other than payment of the scholarship, no obligations or liability are assumed by Basin Electric, its subsidiaries, or member cooperatives.

How can I apply?

To apply, complete the required criteria and the scholarship application, which can be obtained from your local electric cooperative office.

Dependent children of member-cooperative employees must submit the application and all necessary information to Scholarship America.

Dependent children of member-cooperative consumers should contact their local cooperative for application instructions and details.

The applications must reach your cooperative by the given deadline. Please check with your local electric cooperative for the deadline date.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Look out for the "energy-saving device" scam. Whether sold on social media platforms or through random emails, consumers have fallen victim to scams where these products claim to reduce or even eliminate energy bills. These products are advertised as devices that will "balance" or "clean" the power in your home, thus saving you money. There is no such device that can simply be plugged in to lower energy use.



Nondiscrimination Statement

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

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at <https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-3027>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA containing all the information requested in the form. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; by fax (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or by Email: program.intake@usda.gov