

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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.

REMINDERS

Happy 4th of July:

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative will be closed July 3, 2026 in observance of Independence Day.

Before you go: a vacation energy checklist that saves

As vacation season gets started, it's easy to overlook the small appliances at home that keep using electricity while you're away. A quick pre-vacation checklist can give them a vacation, too—and prevent them from wasting energy while nobody's home.

So before you load up the car or head to the airport, start unplugging.

First, the kitchen. Ice makers, second refrigerators and extra freezers can quietly run nonstop.

If they're empty or nearly empty, consider turning them off. Adjust your main refrigerator to a slightly higher temperature, but keep it within safe food storage limits.

Around the house, unplug electronics like televisions, gaming systems, computers and coffee makers. Better yet, connect them to a surge-protecting power strip so you can unplug them all at once. Many devices draw power even when not in use if they're turned off but still plugged in.

Water-related appliances are another common miss. Turn off or lower settings on electric water heaters if recommended by the manufacturer.

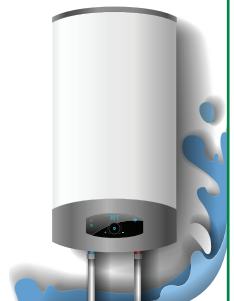
Finally, adjust your thermostat. There's no need to keep your home as cool as when you're there, but don't turn the system off entirely. A moderate setting helps manage humidity.



Water Heater Increases

Marathon Water Heater Price changes effective June 1, 2026

MARATHON WATER HEATER	PRICE	TAX	TOTAL	REBATE	FINAL \$
50 Gallon	1,545.00	108.15	1,653.15	-	1,653.15
85 Gallon	2,110.00	147.70	2,257.70	200.00	2,057.70
105 Gallon	2,365.00	165.55	2,530.55	200.00	2,330.55





CLOSING VENTS WON'T CUT COOLING COSTS

It's a common belief that closing vents or doors in unused rooms will save energy during the summer. In reality, this approach can do more harm than good.

Most home cooling systems are designed to distribute air evenly throughout the house. When vents are closed, pressure builds up in the ductwork, which can reduce efficiency and strain the system. Instead of saving energy, the air conditioner may work harder to compensate.

Closing interior doors can create similar issues by restricting airflow and causing temperature

imbalances. Some rooms may become too warm, while others feel overly cooled.

A better approach is to keep vents open and ensure air can circulate freely. If certain areas are consistently uncomfortable, it may point to a larger issue, such as insulation gaps or duct problems, which should be addressed directly.

Energy savings come from improving system performance, not restricting it. Keeping air moving as designed is usually the most efficient path.

WHY ELECTRIC BILLS START RISING IN JUNE

Sometimes, your electric bill might creep up a bit in June, even before the hottest days of summer arrive.

The increase often has less to do with extreme heat and more to do with how cooling systems operate early in the season.

Air conditioning units that have been idle for months may not run at peak efficiency right away. Dust buildup, clogged filters or minor maintenance issues can make systems work harder from the start.

Humidity also plays a role. Early summer air often carries moisture, which makes homes feel warmer and prompts air conditioners to run longer to keep the house cool.

Longer daylight hours can contribute as well. More time at home with lights and electronics in use adds to overall energy consumption.

To reduce early-season spikes, replace air filters before you ever switch on your a/c. At the same time, schedule routine maintenance and use ceiling fans to help circulate the cool air around your rooms. Setting your thermostat a few degrees higher than usual can also help manage costs without sacrificing comfort.

Understanding why June bills climb is the first step toward keeping them in check.

THE REAL COST OF THAT EXTRA REFRIGERATOR

That extra refrigerator in the garage or basement may seem convenient, especially during summer parties, but it can come with a noticeable cost.

Older refrigerators, particularly those kept in hot spaces like garages, often run less efficiently than newer models. And if you have one in a garage without air conditioning, hot weather will force it to work harder and use more energy to stay cool.

Even newer units can run up your energy bill. Running a second refrigerator year-round means paying for continuous cooling, whether it's fully stocked or not. In many cases, the cost is higher than you might expect.

If you rely on a second fridge, consider how and when you use it. Keeping it full actually helps efficiency, as items inside retain cold better than empty air. Regularly check door seals and clean the coils to keep it running properly.

If the unit is rarely needed, it may be worth unplugging it except during peak use times, like before holiday parties. For older models, upgrading to an energy-efficient unit surely will reduce energy use and operating costs.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During these warm summer months, a smart thermostat can help keep your home comfortable while reducing cooling costs. Smart thermostats learn your routine and automatically raise the temperature when you're away and cool things down before you return, avoiding unnecessary energy use. You can also adjust settings remotely from your phone, so you're never cooling an empty house. Setting your thermostat a few degrees higher while you're away or asleep can lead to significant savings. Many smart thermostats provide reports and tips, helping you fine-tune your energy use and stay cool while keeping your electric bill in check.

GRILL SAFELY THIS SUMMER

Summer grilling season brings people outdoors, but it also introduces electrical safety risks that are easy to overlook.



- ▶ If you're using an electric grill, make sure it's plugged into a properly rated outdoor outlet. Ground fault circuit interrupter outlets, or GFCIs, are especially important in outdoor spaces, as they help prevent shocks during wet weather.
- ▶ Avoid using indoor extension cords outside. Outdoor-rated cords are designed to handle heat and moisture. Even then, try locating your outdoor appliances and lights as close as possible to outlets. And if you must use extension cords, place them where people won't trip over them.
- ▶ Be mindful of lighting and additional appliances on decks and patios. Plugging too many devices into a single outlet can overload the circuit, increasing the risk of overheating.
- ▶ Keep all electrical connections away from water sources, including pools, sprinklers, sinks and wet surfaces. If cords or outlets become damaged, stop using them until they can be repaired or replaced.

A few precautions can help ensure your outdoor cooking setup stays safe all season long.

Operating Statistics

	APRIL	
	2025	2026
KWH Purchased	9,706,321	10,100,679
KWH Sold	9,344,157	9,719,282
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.63%	3.66%
Total Demand	16,359 KW	17,539 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,602 KWH	2,664 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$326.80	\$372.70
Income Per Mile	\$1,052.63	\$1,352.11
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,061.60	\$1,293.35
Miles Energized	983	872
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	6.80¢	7.24¢

Grain Bin Proper Clearance

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 -- 25.2(3) b. An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board)

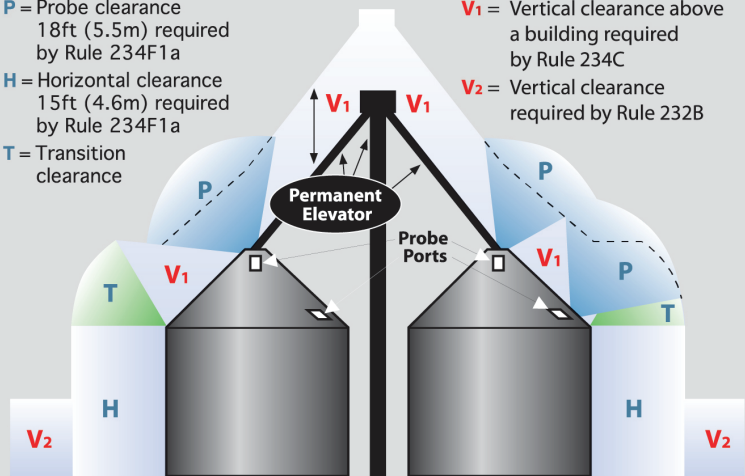
The cooperative is required by the Iowa Utilities Board to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning clearance regulations, please call Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative.

Disclaimer: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2023 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings, refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents for these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.

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

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

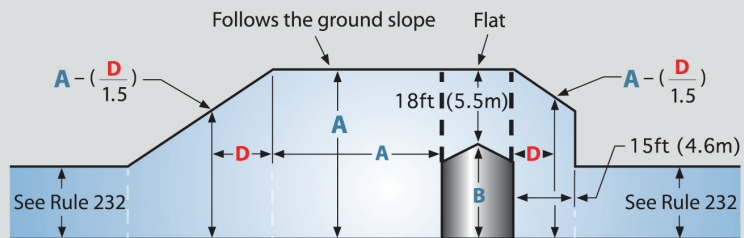
- V₁** = Vertical clearance above a building required by Rule 234C
- V₂** = Vertical clearance required by Rule 232B



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

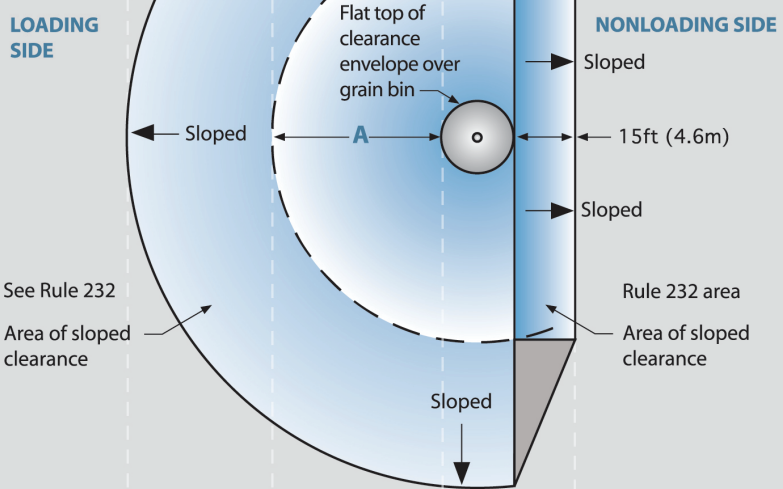
ELEVATION



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

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

PLAN VIEW



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