

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.

Rock Rapids ■ October 2026

REMINDERS

Daylight savings time ends November 1, 2026 at 2:00 AM. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour.

If you are planning on working on an outdoor project this fall, don't forget to call 8-1-1 before digging..

You're an owner, not just a customer

October is National Cooperative Month, a great time to talk about what makes your electric cooperative different from a traditional utility.

Most power companies answer to outside shareholders. Their main goal is to generate profit for investors who may live thousands of miles away.

Your electric co-op operates on a completely different model.

Cooperatives are not-for-profit businesses owned by the very people they serve: you. When you pay your monthly electric bill, you are investing in your own local utility.

Here is what that means for you:

► Democratic control:

You have a voice. Members elect the local board of directors from among themselves. The directors set policy and oversee co-op operations.

► Capital credits:

If a cooperative generates more revenue than it spends, the excess does not go to Wall Street. It is allocated back to members as capital credits when financial conditions allow.

► Community focus:

Cooperative employees live and work right here. They reinvest in local youth programs, community development and reliable local infrastructure.



While an investor-owned utility focuses on returns for distant shareholders, the cooperative's bottom line is service to you and your neighbors. You are never just an account number on a spreadsheet. You are an owner with a seat at the table.

DON'T LET SPOOKY DISPLAYS TURN INTO SCARY ENERGY BILLS

Halloween decorating has grown far beyond a single carved pumpkin on the porch. Modern yards often feature giant inflatables, animated skeletons and hundreds of twinkling lights.

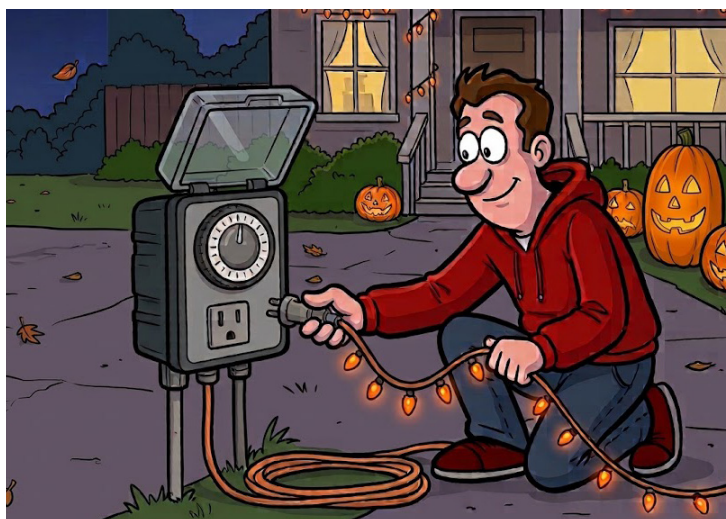
Creating a great neighborhood display is fun, but outdoor electrical setups require extra care.

So keep in mind that:

- ▶ **Water and electricity do not mix.** Always plug outdoor displays into outlets protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). GFCIs detect current leaks and shut off power instantly to prevent severe shocks. If your outdoor outlets lack GFCI protection, call an electrician or invest in portable GFCI adapters that are available at hardware stores.
- ▶ **Use only extension cords rated for outdoor use.** Keep connections elevated off the damp ground, and never run cords across driveways or walkways where they create trip hazards.

You can also keep your electric bill from becoming scary:

- ▶ **Switch to LEDs:** LED decorative lights use up to 75% less energy than your old standard incandescent bulbs and last much longer. They also stay cool to the touch, reducing fire risks.
- ▶ **Use automated timers:** Inflatables and lights do not need to run overnight or while everyone is sleeping. Set a timer to shut off displays at bedtime.
- ▶ **Avoid overloading circuits:** Check the wattage of your decorations before plugging everything into one circuit. If a breaker trips, redistribute part of the load to another outlet on a separate circuit.



A few smart choices will keep your display bright, safe and affordable all month.

RECare Consumer Contribution Plan

Your Rural Electric Cooperative has always extended a helping hand to those in need of it. Now, in response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RECare, 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.

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 _____

Mail to: RECare, Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative,
PO Box 629, Rock Rapids, IA 51246

Operating Statistics

AUGUST

	2025	2026
KWH Purchased	12,037,985	12,507,445
KWH Sold	11,709,708	12,311,749
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	2.76%	2.58%
Total Demand	21,387 KW	22,179 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,335 KWH	3,350 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$436.37	\$453.51
Income Per Mile	\$1,538.46	\$1,672.47
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,165.72	\$1,530.41
Miles Energized	872	872
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	7.49¢	7.94¢

SCHEDULE NOW SO YOU DON'T SHIVER LATER

The fall season brings crisp air and changing leaves. It also brings a golden window of opportunity for your home heating system.

Waiting until the first freezing night to turn on your heat is a gamble. That is the exact moment thousands of other homeowners discover their systems are broken. So if yours is, too, and you didn't know it, get in line.

Emergency service calls cost more, and heating technicians get booked quickly.

Aside from that, an unserviced furnace or heat pump must work harder to keep you warm. Dirty components and worn parts can force the system to consume 15% to 25% more electricity just to reach your target temperature. That directly increases your winter energy bills.

Take these simple steps today to avoid a cold-weather surprise:

- **Replace the air filter:** A clogged filter restricts airflow and strains your blower motor. Check it monthly and replace it when dirty.
- **Clear vents:** Make sure furniture, rugs and curtains are not blocking supply registers or return grilles.
- **Book a professional checkup:** A licensed technician should inspect electrical connections, lubricate moving parts, test system controls and clean the blower components.

A quick tune-up this month will go a long way to ensure that your home stays warm, safe and efficient all winter long.

Complaint Procedure

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative values our members and their membership. Should you have concerns regarding your membership, electric service, or other issues, please contact Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative at 712-472-2506 or 1-800-658-3976 and our staff will be happy to assist you.

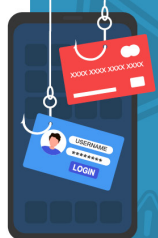
If your complaint is related to the Lyon REC service rather than its rates, and Lyon REC does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling 515-725-7321 or toll free 1-877-565-4450, or by writing to: 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069, or by email to customer@iub.iowa.gov.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which is the perfect time to take a fresh look at your passwords. Forget the old advice about cramming passwords with symbols and random capitalization. Today's cybersecurity experts recommend using longer passphrases. A password made up of four or five unrelated words is easier to remember and much harder for criminals to crack than a short, complex password. Use a unique passphrase for every account and enable multi-factor authentication whenever available for added protection.

Source: NIST



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Don't let phantom energy haunt your electric bill this October. Many electronics continue using electricity even when they're turned off. TVs, gaming systems, coffee makers and phone chargers can quietly draw power around the clock. While each device uses only a small amount, the energy waste can add up over time. Before heading out for Halloween fun, unplug devices you don't use regularly or plug them into a smart power strip that automatically cuts power when equipment is off. It's a simple trick that can help keep phantom energy waste in check.

Source: Dept. of Energy



OUR ONLINE PORTAL: MORE THAN JUST BILL PAY

Did you know our online portal offers **so much more** than just paying your bill?

While making quick, secure payments is a major convenience, the portal is also a powerful tool to help you stay in control of your account and energy use.



Here's what else you can do:

► View Current and Past Bills

Get a clear view of your current bill and access a full history of your previous bills—all in one place.

► Check Payment History

Need to confirm if a payment went through or review past transactions? Your full payment history is just a click away.

► Track Your Usage

Understand how and when you're using energy. With detailed usage data, you can make more informed choices and spot trends that may help you save.

► Set Up Alerts

Never miss a beat! Customize notifications for payment reminders, usage alerts, and more—delivered straight to your email or phone.

Logging in is easy, and managing your account has never been more convenient.

Take advantage of everything your online portal has to offer today!

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM OVERHEAD POWERLINES

Fall is the season for cleaning gutters, raking leaves and trimming trees before winter snow and ice arrive. Before you grab a ladder or pole pruner, take a moment to look up.

Overhead power lines are uninsulated and carry thousands of volts. You do not have to touch a power line directly to be injured or killed; electricity can arc across open air to a conductive object like a metal ladder or a tree branch.

Always follow the 10-foot rule. Keep yourself, your ladders and all tools at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines at all times. When working around your yard:

- **Carry ladders horizontally:** Keep ladders low to the ground until you are ready to position them.
- **Use fiberglass ladders:** Choose non-conductive fiberglass ladders instead of aluminum when working anywhere near electrical service drops.
- **Never trim near high-voltage lines:** If tree branches are growing into or near the main power lines running along the street, do not attempt to trim them yourself. Call your electric cooperative, which has trained crews to make sure your tree limbs are trimmed safely.



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