

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



REMINDERS

Lyon Rural Electric will be closed on September 2, 2024 in observance of Labor Day.

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.

Electronic Payment Changes

If you are paying your bill by credit card, eChecking or eSaving, changes are coming soon!

Electronic payments are a convenient and quick way to pay your bills. They also carry a financial obligation when they are processed. The staff and Board of Directors review those expenses monthly and they have continued to increase over time causing significant monthly costs for the Cooperative. To avoid distributing those expenses to all members it was decided to pass that expense to the members using those methods of payments.

Effective August 30, 2024 any Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative member accounts paid with credit card, eChecking or eSavings account will incur an additional fee per transaction.

Transaction Fees – one fee per transaction

eChecking or eSaving Payments	Online/Mobile/Field	\$1.10
	Automated Phone	\$1.10 + \$0.85
	Live PSN Rep	\$1.10 + \$1.50
Credit Card Payments - MasterCard, Visa or Discover	Online/Mobile/Field	3.25%
	Automated Phone	3.25% + \$0.85
	Live PSN Rep	3.25% + \$1.50
NSF (insufficient funds)		\$35.00

As we are near the implementation date, we want you to be aware of other options for making payments. As always, you can mail in or drop off your payment in the night drop box or during normal business hours. We also have the option for ACH. You may access that form on our website under Member Services, Forms and Applications and choose Pay by Bank Authorization, or by stopping in the office for a copy. Please note that the form needs to include a VOIDED check to set up that recurring payment type.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00 at 712-472-2506. Our continued thanks for allowing us to serve you in 2024 and beyond.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Placing heat sources, such as lamps, computers or TVs, near your thermostat can result in false temperature readings, increased energy use and inconsistent cooling/heating. Make sure your thermostat is installed in an area clear of obstructions, electronic devices, direct sunlight and drafts.

Ensuring your thermostat is free from these types of interferences optimizes energy efficiency, improves indoor comfort and reduces wear and tear on your cooling/heating system.

Source: energy.gov



5 Ways to Save on Water Heating

Next to heating and cooling your home, heating the water your family uses eats up more energy than anything else.

Here are five ways to cut down on your use of hot water, which could shave a few bucks off of your energy bill.

- 1. Take shorter showers.** Set a timer for four minutes before you hop into the shower. You'll have plenty of time to lather up and rinse off without wasting hot water.
- 2. Wash dishes in the dishwasher instead of by hand.** The dishwasher uses less energy and less water than hand-washing. It also does a better job of sanitizing dishes because it operates at higher temperatures than you typically would when handwashing.
- 3. Fix leaky faucets.** That tiny drip—even at a rate of 1 drip per second—can run up your energy bill by up to \$35 extra per year and waste more than 1,600 gallons of water.
- 4. Wash clothes in cold water.** Most laundry detergents clean clothes just as well in cold or warm water as they do in hot water. Your clothes will get just as clean without the extra energy use.
- 5. Wait until the dishwasher and the clothes washer are full before running them.** The fewer loads you run, the less hot water you'll use.

Need New Appliances? *Now's a Good Time.*



You can save a bundle on major appliances during Labor Day sales.

At this time of the year, stores are making room for next year's models of refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, microwave ovens, and washers and dryers, which they introduce in September and October. So, they offer deep discounts at end-of-summer sales.

Look on retailers' websites for coupons that can shave even more off the price of kitchen and laundry room appliances.

Not ready to buy? Mark your calendars for upcoming sales year round, especially on:

1. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. Look for appliance "packages"; you'll save extra if you buy several appliances from the same store at once.
2. The week after Christmas. All of next year's new models will be fully in stock by then, so stores will put older appliances on clearance.
3. New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday are big sale days in January. And look for big sales on President's Day in February.
4. During the spring, stores advertise sales on small appliances like microwaves and coffee makers that might interest high school and college graduates who will need to furnish dorm rooms or new apartments in the coming months.
5. Look for sales on major appliances around Mother's Day and Memorial Day in May, and on tools and electronics in mid-June, when children are buying gifts for Father's Day.

Keep the Sun Outdoors; Keep Cool Indoors

One of the best ways to keep your house cooler during the summer is to keep the sun and the heat outdoors.

You'll be able to inch the thermostat up a few degrees, so you could see a reduction in your cooling bill this summer. Plus, your family will feel more comfortable.

A few tricks:

1. Replace your window curtains with a style that has a white backing on the window side, and then close them during the day. The U.S. Department of Energy says the heat-deflecting white can reduce the amount of heat that gets into the house by up to 45 percent.
2. Hang window awnings on south-, west- and east-facing windows. DOE says you can reduce solar heat gain on the hottest days by up to 65 percent on south-facing windows and 77 percent on west-facing windows by covering them with awnings.
3. Try sun screens. These are different from insect screens. Sometimes called solar shades, they are made from see-through mesh that's woven tight



enough to block a lot of heat and UV rays, but transparent enough that you can see through them, so they don't block your view.

4. Plant shade trees near windows that get the most sunlight during the summer. A young tree won't keep you cool this year, but as it grows, it will keep more sun out and allow your home to stay cooler all day.
5. Caulk around windows and doors to keep your air conditioned air in the house and the hot air out. Also, look for and patch other holes in indoor walls that are on the perimeter of the house—especially around electrical, cable and phone outlets.

Dead Mouse? Check Your Outlets

The next time you think you smell a dead mouse in the house but can't find one, check your electrical outlets.

Overheated, damaged or exposed wires literally can start to smoke and burn inside your wall. So can a dead mouse—or anything from loose insulation to debris of any kind—if it gets trapped in the box behind the outlet.

The dead-animal smell—or a smell like burning rubber—is

a warning sign, so don't ignore it.

Instead, inspect every outlet in the house until you locate the one that smells. Unplug everything from the outlet; the plug will probably be hot.

Then, call a licensed electrician to diagnose the problem and repair the outlet.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY MONTH

Slow down in residential areas and school zones.

#BackToSchoolSafety

Operating Statistics		
	JUNE	
	2023	2024
KWH Purchased	11,103,306	11,194,453
KWH Sold	10,954,715	10,967,252
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.17%	3.14%
Total Demand	19,957 KW	21,720 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,445 KWH	3,037 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$268.46	\$349.89
Income Per Mile	\$1,232.21	\$1,272.56
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,172.26	\$1,285.89
Miles Energized	872.86	884.82
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	6.63¢	6.91¢

Stay Safe With Outdoor Lighting

Adding outdoor lights around your home is one of the best ways to protect it from break-ins. You can add safety and style with a few well-placed lights. Some tips:

1. Place a light at every entry point to your home: above or beside windows and doors, including the garage door.
2. Mount lighting fixtures on exterior walls near first-floor and basement windows to discourage burglars.
3. Illuminate your front, back and side yards with floodlights so nobody can skulk around without being seen.
4. Light up your driveway with pathway lights and another light above the garage door to lower the chances someone will break into your car.
5. Send a message to prowlers that the neighbors will notice them. Mount lanterns in trees to pour light into your yard and onto your deck. Likewise, post uplights at the base of trees and shrubs.
6. If you have a security camera or a security system warning sign, train a light on it so it's visible to intruders.
7. Arrange outdoor lights so they're high enough to be out of the reach of vandals. Security experts say that's nine feet off the ground.
8. Rig your outdoor lights to a timer so they come on at dusk and off at dawn. That way, you'll have light around your house all night.
9. Take care with placement so light doesn't glare into your home or your neighbor's.
10. If your lights are rigged to motion detectors, set them so they "see" what's going on near your house, but so they're not sensitive enough to trip when birds, bats or bugs buzz around them.



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.



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