

# Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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

## REMINDERS

If you are moving, please notify your cooperative when you move and inform the new owner to get signed up for service.

## 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.

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 reoccurring 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.

### 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

## Congrats to Tanner!!

We're excited to share that Tanner Church has officially completed his apprenticeship and is now a journeyman lineman!

Tanner's hard work and dedication have truly paid off. Moving from an apprentice to a journeyman is a huge achievement.

Well done Tanner!!





Need a New Leaf Blower?

Make It Electric

After years of endorsing gas-powered leaf blowers over electric, Consumer Reports has changed its tune, saying that electric models outperform traditional gas devices for vacuuming, handling and noise.

In fact, the magazine, known for its objective testing of appliances and other products, said in a comparison of leaf blowers that “electric is the clear winner.”

“The best electric leaf blowers we’ve tested match or beat the best gas models in every single test we conduct,” the article said. Their only drawback, when compared with gas, the magazine said, is that electrics require recharging, which takes some time.

So if you’re in the market for a lightweight, quieter and still powerful leaf blower, consider a cordless electric model.

## End-Of-Summer Cleanup Makes Next Year Easier

It’s time to dust off fall lawn tools and think about getting your central heating system checked. Before you start that however, take an afternoon to clean and store electrical equipment that you won’t be using again until next spring.

Examples:

1. Clean your lawn mower. Unplug your electric model, prop it up on its side and wipe down the top, sides and bottom. If your lawn mower is gas-powered, drain all gas from it and let it dry before storing it.
2. Remove window air conditioners. Gently vacuum the coils with your vacuum cleaner’s brush attachment and clean the filter before storing the unit.
3. When the weather cools off, turn off the power to your central a/c; leaving it on a low setting could cause it to kick on when it’s not really needed.

Clear debris away from the outside part of the unit and cover it up to protect it from falling leaves and winter weather.

4. Remove a/c registers from the rooms in your house that have them. Clean them by vacuuming both sides and by wiping them down with a damp cloth before replacing them.
5. If you recharge any summer-only power tools or lawn tools, unplug and store the battery chargers. Leaving unused chargers plugged in is a waste of electricity.
6. As the leaves drop, sweep them away from outdoor light fixtures, outlets and power cords.
7. If you pack up your summer clothes to make room in your closets for your cold-weather outfits, avoid stacking the clothes or boxes so high that they touch the light fixture on the ceiling. A light bulb that comes into contact with paper or fabric can set it on fire.



# Operating Statistics

JULY		
	2023	2024
KWH Purchased	11,400,435	12,428,731
KWH Sold	11,169,874	12,257,290
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.00%	2.86%
Total Demand	21,595 KW	21,539 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,481 KWH	3,485 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$271.25	\$388.43
Income Per Mile	\$1,232.21	\$1,391.04
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,172.26	\$1,226.46
Miles Energized	872.86	884.82
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	6.76¢	6.56¢



## Back-To-School Can Mean More Energy Use

From digital backpacks to new smart phones, back-to-school equipment uses more energy than it used to.

In fact, heading back to school has kids using a lot more energy overall – their own and the energy powering all their school-related activities. Most kids use computers at home to write papers and complete school assignments. Shorter days mean more lights go on in the evening to do homework. The daily drive to and from school can be a burden on the environment and your wallet.

Follow these tips to conserve more energy—and even save a few dollars along the way—as your kids head back to school:

1. Teach your children how to put the computer into sleep mode when they are finished using it, even if they plan on returning later. Electronics in sleep mode use about 80 percent less electricity than when operating at full power.
2. In the market for new computer equipment this year? Computers with an Energy Star rating use 70 percent less electricity overall, while monitors bearing the label draw 90 percent less.
3. Desk lamps and other concentrated task lighting create a productive work environment without wasting excess light. Replace halogen or incandescent desk lamps with compact fluorescent bulbs, which now fit a variety of fixtures. They produce less heat while using 90 percent less electricity.
4. Bicycling or walking to school two days a week can save gas and give kids much-needed exercise now that summer days of play are over. If the commute is too far, organize a carpool with parents in your neighborhood to earn yourself a couple of mornings off.
5. Reduce waste by taking a thorough inventory of school supplies before heading to the store. Supplies often come in bulk packages that can't be used in just one school year.
6. Buy reusable sandwich bags and use lunchboxes instead of brown bags to save money and reduce everyday packaging waste.

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Now is the time to schedule annual maintenance for your home's heating system. During fall months, HVAC technicians are typically less busy, making this an excellent time for maintenance and any necessary repairs before the winter months.

A qualified technician can clean filters, check for leaks and ensure all system components are working efficiently to keep your home cozy and warm when the temperatures begin to drop.



### 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](mailto:customer@iub.iowa.gov).

## Even Your Washing Machine Needs Washing

It's necessary to clean all of your appliances at least once a year, even those that use water to clean other things.

Your washing machine deals with the dirtiest of laundry: diapers, grass-stained denim, food stains and worse.

Your clothes emerge spotless, but they leave some of that gunk behind. Laundry detergents can build up in the tub, pump and hoses. That build-up can make your washing machine less efficient and also can harm your clothes.

So clean it out. Here's how:

1. Fill your empty washing machine tub with hot water. Pour in three cups of vinegar and half a cup of baking soda.
2. Remove the fabric softener receptacle and bleach dispenser and soak them in hot, soapy water. Nudge stubborn dirt and stains with a Q-tip.
3. Sponge off the agitator and all the of tub's surfaces.
4. Use vinegar and a washcloth to wipe down the machine's exterior surfaces.
5. Check your washer's hoses for weak spots or leaks. You may need to replace your hoses every five years or so.

## HVAC Needs Care Between Tune-Ups

Air conditioning season is winding down and it's not quite time for your fall central heating checkup. That doesn't mean you shouldn't be keeping an eye on your heating and cooling systems.

Your role in maintaining your air conditioning or heating system is just as important as the job of the service technician who performs your annual maintenance inspection. Keep tune-ups quick and costly repairs to a minimum with these simple tips for year-round maintenance.

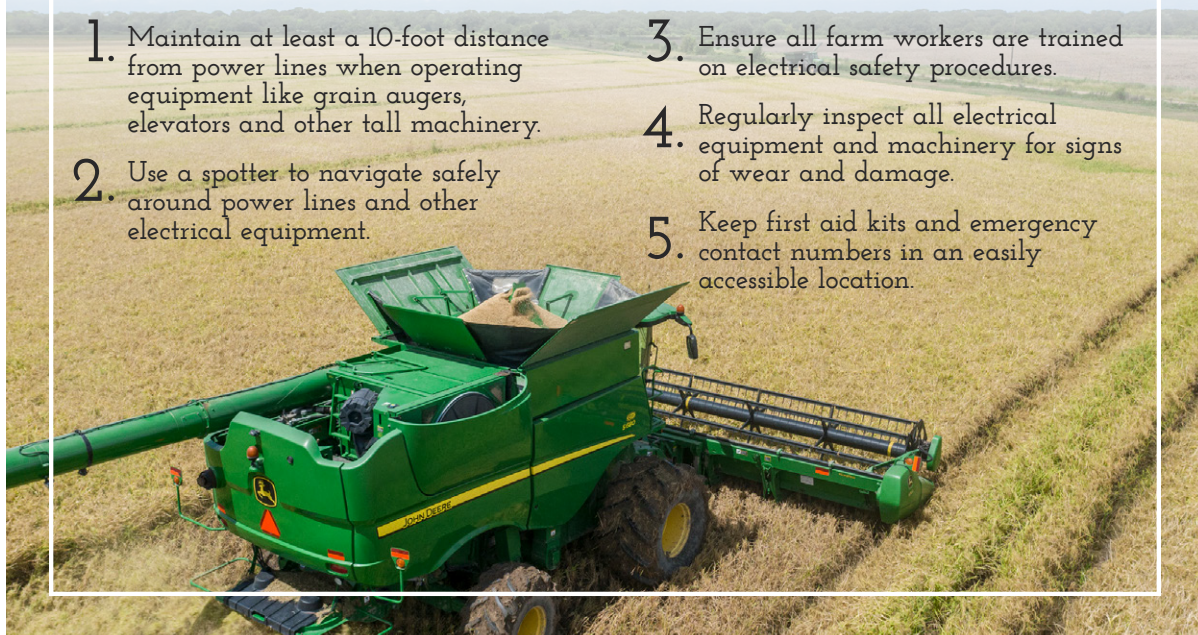
Between visits:

1. Change your furnace and air conditioning filters once a month. This is especially important during the summer when dust and allergens circulate. Even if the filter's manufacturer recommends changes every other month, do it every month.
2. Remove plants, fallen branches, leaves and debris from your outdoor HVAC equipment. Objects that are too close can prevent adequate air flow.
3. Indoors, vacuum registers and air vents regularly. Heating contractors say simple dust and dirt cause almost half of their service calls.
4. Move furniture and drapes away from registers.

## 5 Tips for a Safe Harvest

Electrical safety during harvest season requires vigilance and proactive measures. Follow these tips to reduce the risk of electrical accidents.

1. Maintain at least a 10-foot distance from power lines when operating equipment like grain augers, elevators and other tall machinery.
2. Use a spotter to navigate safely around power lines and other electrical equipment.
3. Ensure all farm workers are trained on electrical safety procedures.
4. Regularly inspect all electrical equipment and machinery for signs of wear and damage.
5. Keep first aid kits and emergency contact numbers in an easily accessible location.



### 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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)