

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

Lyon Rural Electric will close at 11:30 a.m. on December 24, 2024 and will be closed on December 25, 2024 for Christmas.

We will close at 11:30 a.m. on December 31, 2024 and will be closed on January 1, 2025 for New Year's Day.



ROSS LOOMANS
General Manager

General Manager Comments

We have printed an excerpt of the bylaws that pertain to the nomination and election of members to the Board of Directors in this newsletter. The Board of Directors will be appointing the Nominating Committees for District 6 and District At Large. District 6 includes Liberal and Grant Townships and is currently represented by David DeBoer. District at Large includes all Townships and is currently represented by Rodney Mogler.

At the end of each year, we also receive the new rates for our purchased power. We have been notified by L & O Power Cooperative that there will be an increase in the cost of purchased power effective with usage as of January 1, 2025 for general energy purchases due to inflation and the cost of rebuilt substations and transmission lines. Preliminary PCA rates have been received and the estimated rates are as follows:

Please remember that these are estimated amounts and that the final PCA will be calculated in January 2025 for usage as of January 1, 2025 once the December 2024 bills are calculated and mailed to you. Also, please remember that the PCA calculation looks back at the cost of purchased power for 2024 and compares it to the amount collected by the PCA for the same period and the PCA is adjusted for over or under collections.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Employees, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Blessed Christmas and a prosperous 2025. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you in 2024 and look forward to serving you again in 2025.

Operating Statistics

	OCTOBER	
	2023	2024
KWH Purchased	10,887,258	11,366,043
KWH Sold	10,353,755	10,959,442
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	2.97%	2.74%
Total Demand	19,965 KW	21,036 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,947 KWH	2,925 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$335.11	\$346.42
Income Per Mile	\$1,201.27	\$1,283.47
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,125.26	\$1,284.74
Miles Energized	872.86	885.19
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	6.56¢	6.70¢

	2025	2024
General Energy (per kWh)	\$0.04584	\$0.04304
Electric & Dual Fuel Heat (per kWh)	\$0.01730	\$0.01530
Casino (per kWh)	\$0.02049	\$0.01635



Small Appliances

Make Great

Holiday Gifts

Which kitchen gadgets would you like to find under the tree on Christmas morning? Here are a few popular gifts to consider wrapping up for family and friends.

1. Espresso machine. You can pay anywhere from a couple hundred dollars to a couple thousand for an espresso machine, depending on the brand name and the bells and whistles on the gadget you select. The fanciest ones can brew dozens of different hot and cold coffee drinks; electronically grind coffee beans; come with a cold extraction feature for true cold brew; and feature touch screens to navigate you on your journey toward barista-ville.

2. Air fryer that doubles as a toaster oven. Most have pre-programmed settings for toasting, baking, roasting, broiling and air frying. Choose a model

with lights, oven racks and an air fryer basket.

3. Stand mixer. This is a perennial favorite. Higher-end models come in multiple colors so you can choose one that matches your gift recipient's kitchen.

4. Pasta maker. The most useful ones have multiple rollers and cutters so your favorite chef can make spaghetti, angel hair, fettuccine and more.

5. Crockpot. The ageless appliance is all modern these days, with a slick, stainless steel finish on the outside and a nonstick ceramic coating inside.

Look for a slow cooker with a digital display and pre-programmed settings for browning, steaming and simmering.

Safe Toys Mean Healthy, Happy Kids

December isn't just the month when you buy the most toys and gifts. It's also National Safe Toys and Gifts Month.

Buy toys that are age appropriate so your gift won't be the one that turns a child's holiday into a nightmare.

Here is a checklist for buying safe toys:

- ▶ Check the minimum age recommendation on the package. Buy a gift that suits a child's age, ability and interest level.
- ▶ Supervise children while they are using electronic toys. Put the toys away afterward in a dry area out of smaller kids' reach.

- ▶ Explain to the child how to use the toy. If it plugs in to the wall, teach the child how to safely use electrical outlets. Demonstrate how to unplug by pulling on the plug itself, not the cord.

- ▶ Look for the letters "ASTM," which mean the toy meets the American Society for Testing and Materials' safety standards.

- ▶ Avoid buying toys from thrift shops or garage sales; second-hand toys may not adhere to newer safety standards and could be dangerous.

- ▶ Keep an eye out for toy recalls online at www.cpsc.gov.

Install Carbon Monoxide Detectors Near Sleeping Areas

If you heat your home with a gas furnace or use other gas appliances at home, you must install carbon monoxide detectors.

You can't see or smell carbon monoxide, which is a potential byproduct of burning fossil fuels.

Your home should have at least one carbon monoxide detector to alert you of the presence of gas. Follow these safety guidelines:

- ▶ If you install only one carbon monoxide detector, put it near the bedrooms so it can alert your family to wake up in case levels of the gas reach an unhealthy level. Better: Place a detector on every floor of the house.
- ▶ Keep your detectors at least 15 feet away from a gas stove or oven, which may emit a small amount of carbon monoxide on startup.
- ▶ Detectors don't operate properly in humid areas like the bathroom.
- ▶ Replace the batteries in your alarms twice a year.
- ▶ Properly maintain your gas appliances, including the furnace and stove. Same goes for devices that use gasoline.
- ▶ Know the warning signs of too much carbon monoxide in the house: Stuffy, stale air; condensation on windows; yellow burner flames on the stove; and fluttering or extinguishing pilot lights.
- ▶ If you see the signs or your alarm sounds, turn off suspect appliances, open doors and windows, and call a natural gas contractor to inspect the equipment. Even better: Get out of the house.
- ▶ If your garage is connected to your house, avoid idling your car. Car exhaust is a source of carbon monoxide.

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, 2024 through April 30, 2025. 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.

Electric Fireplaces Heat Up

If you've always wanted a fireplace but never needed the hassle, it could be time to buy an electric version.

Electric fireplaces can help heat a room and add a bit of ambience. And they look much nicer than a simple space heater.

Because electric fireplaces require only floor space and a power outlet, they're a great option for apartments or condos.

If you're in the mood for faux fire, consider:

- ▶ If you move frequently, an electric fireplace could be a good investment. Most are portable and are relatively easy to move.
- ▶ The look of the "flames" in an electric fireplace is much more natural than it used to be. Still, don't expect too much. The "fire" is created by special light bulbs that simulate flickering flames, but even fireplace sales reps say there's no comparison with the real deal.
- ▶ That said, manufacturers have come up with some artful designs using light, glass, rocks and other elements. Even if the fire doesn't look authentic, the fireplace is a conversation starter and can be mesmerizing.
- ▶ Because electric fireplaces don't produce actual flames, they usually have a separate heating system built in. Most models allow you to turn the heater off if you want ambience without heat, which means you can even use your fireplace in the summer. Some models come with a built-in thermostat, so they automatically turn off the heat when the room reaches a certain temperature.
- ▶ Unlike their wood-burning counterparts, electric fireplaces can't be used as a backup heat source during a power outage.

MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL INCOME
1	\$30,120
2	\$40,880
3	\$51,640
4	\$62,400
5	\$73,160

For families with more than five members, add \$10,760 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

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 Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) Scholarship Program will award more than 150 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Twenty-five scholarships are given to children of Basin Electric or subsidiary employees.

Twenty will go to children of member-cooperatives' employees, and the remainder to children of member-cooperative consumers. There will be one \$1,000 scholarship for each member cooperative to award to a dependent of a consumer member.

The scholarships must be used for educational costs, and the student must enter college in the fall of the school year for which the scholarship is given. Checks will be made payable to the school, and will be distributed to the school by Basin Electric. Scholarships will be distributed in August.

Who is eligible to receive the scholarship?

Dependent children (including adopted or stepchildren) of member-system consumers and dependent children of member-cooperative employees are eligible. The applicant must also be a U.S. citizen.

The applicant must be a student who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

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

How are the recipients selected?

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic record, potential to succeed, leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, a statement of education and career goals, and an outside appraisal.

Member cooperatives will be responsible to select one recipient to be awarded a

scholarship in the member cooperative consumer category. The final recipient's completed application will then be forwarded to Basin Electric by the member cooperative.

The scholarship award winners or the member co-ops are asked to notify the Basin Electric human resources division with the name and address of the school the student will be attending by July 1. It is also important to know if the student has switched schools, or has decided not to attend.

What are the recipient's obligations?

Except for the requirements outlined in this brochure, no obligations will be imposed upon the student as a 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.

Children of member-system employees and consumers must submit the application and all necessary information to apply for a scholarship to their local electric cooperative office.

The applications must reach your cooperative by the given deadline. Check with your electric cooperative for the deadline date.

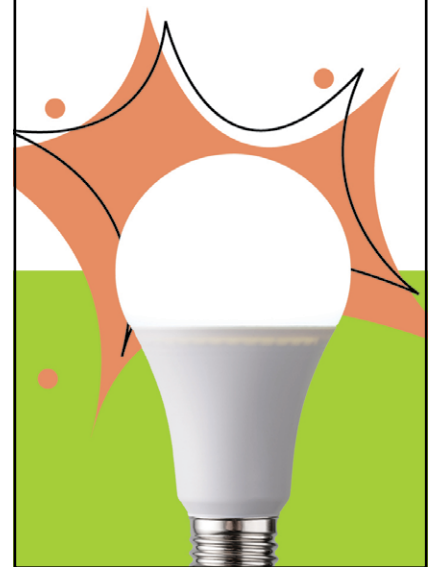
Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative Scholarship:

Each year Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative, Rock Rapids, awards one scholarship to a student of a member of the Cooperative. The scholarship can be used to assist in paying for the costs of the student's college, vocational-technical or community college education. Priority will be given to applicants planning to attend vocational-technical, 2-year community or junior college education. Scholarship applications are available at the Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative office or online at www.lyonrec.coop. Scholarship applications must reach the Cooperative office by February 14, 2025.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Area rugs are an easy, cost-effective solution to cold floors. Adding area rugs to hard-surface flooring can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold winter days.

Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation. Place rugs in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed or under a coffee table. Area rugs can enhance the aesthetic of your home and keep you cozier.



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