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# RURAL DELIGHT



News from Wild Rice Electric Co-op, Inc.  
PO Box 438 • Mahnomen, MN 56557  
www.wildriceelectric.com

# HAPPY 80<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY WILD RICE ELECTRIC

Rural farmers and residents made history 80 years ago when they laid the groundwork to get electricity and improve the quality of their lives. 2019 marks the 80th year of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative. A celebration of membership was held at the Co-op on Wednesday, October 9th. Members from around the service territory visited the office to learn about energy efficiency, off peak heating options and savings, rebate opportunities, electrical safety and much more. Members also had the chance to learn about Electric Vehicles (EVs) and enjoyed test drives in this ever-emerging technology. Three lucky members who signed up for prizes received an \$80 bill credit. Congratulations to Lisa Larson, Mahnomen; James Devries, Bejou; and Arthur Schneidermann, Ulen. A huge thank you to all those who came out to help celebrate 80 years of building connections with each other.



Member Jim Benedict explains features and benefits of his BMW i3 EV to a fellow cooperative member at Wild Rice Electric's Membership Celebration day.



Keeping electricity just as affordable as it is reliable; it's something you can count on as a member of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative. In fact, we've been doing it for decades.

While the average price of everyday items has continued to dramatically rise over the last **80 years**, the cost of electricity has remained a great value for co-op members!

Average Cost of ...	1939	vs. 2019	Multiplier
a dozen eggs	27¢	\$1.97	x7
a gallon of milk	49¢	\$3.50	x7
a pound of bacon	38¢	\$4.51	x11
a loaf of bread	8¢	\$2.50	x31
coffee (per lb.)	15¢	\$7.43	x49
1 gallon of gasoline	10¢	\$2.50	x25
a car tire	\$3.69	\$150	x40
a new car	\$700	\$35,285	x50
a new home	\$3,800	\$222,800	x58
an electric kWh	5¢	11¢	x2



# OVER THE MANAGER'S DESK

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

STEVE HAAVEN, CEO



## Special Days

Several special days were recognized and celebrated at Wild Rice Electric in October. October 9th was celebrated as Member Appreciation Day at Wild Rice Electric. The day provided an opportunity to observe October as National Cooperative Month as well as recognize an important anniversary for the co-op. Thanks to all the members who stopped by to enjoy coffee and treats, take a tour of the facility, enter drawings for prizes and look at displays. A hit was the display of several electric vehicles (EV) including a Chevy Bolt and a BMW i3. One of the vehicles is owned by one of Wild Rice's members who was the first participant in the Minnkota Power program for off-peak vehicle charging thereby capturing discounted rates. I did get the chance to drive the Chevy Bolt and was amazed at the comfortable and quiet ride. The day offered a host of opportunities to visit with members about happenings as well as get feedback on how we're doing.

Congratulations to member-owners of Wild Rice Electric. In October your cooperative reached the milestone of providing our area with electric service for the past 80 years. Times have certainly changed since rural folks gathered at the Flom Town Hall back in the fall of 1939 to look at ways of bringing electricity to power their farms. The result was Wild Rice Electric Cooperative officially being incorporated on October 6, 1939. Many changes have taken place since Orrin Refling, Rindahl, became the first member energized on the Wild Rice system in December 1940. His area was powered by a diesel generator moved into the area by Minnkota Power Cooperative. Today your co-op has evolved into to a major business providing a valuable service over nearly 4,000 miles of poles and wire to serve 14,353 accounts served by eighteen substations. Although the magnitude of the business has changed the focus has not. The co-op was formed to provide members with reliable and value-added service. That remains the goal today. However, today's generation of member

doesn't connect as much with history as they do in the providing of products and services for meeting their core values. Our challenge is to get and keep members informed about what is available.

One of the goals at the Member Appreciation Day was to make available information on services and programs. A key to the future ability of Wild Rice Electric to provide enhanced communication and updates on outages, planned interruptions or on additional opportunities is to get telephone numbers able to be used for texting. Another was to help members interested in signing up for the Wild Rice Electric app making more account information on usages and payments more accessible. Also available was assistance in setting up payment options for ACH or budget billing. Should you be interested in any of these offerings please check our website at [www.wildriceelectric.com](http://www.wildriceelectric.com) or feel free to stop by or call.

On a personal note October is an anniversary for me as well. I was hired at Wild Rice Electric on October 16, 1973. Where has the time gone? I mention that because I have had the good fortune of getting to be part of the growth and transition of the co-op. I can remember years back when it was common to have members reminisce about the "day they got electricity" at their farm. It was one of the most memorable times of their life. I also benefited from working with those that were part of the first generation of employees at the cooperative who often shared stories about the efforts it took to build the system from the ground up. It is becoming less frequent that members can remember when the lights were turned on. With that comes a different understanding and appreciation of what having electricity means. Today ours is a much different world revolving around access to power, 24 hours a day without blinks.

October has been designated as National Cooperative Month. Cooperatives are recognized as being different from other types of businesses. They exist for the benefit of those they serve and were often formed to fill a need when services weren't available. As a co-op Wild Rice Electric is

governed by a board of directors elected by the membership. As a member you do have the opportunity to take part in your cooperative. That is why we continue to seek your input from Customer Appreciation Days, Annual Meetings or community events.



## Winter Ahead

A reminder to seasonal accounts the winter season begins on December 18th. Seasonal accounts are typically comprised of aeration, grain drying and irrigation accounts. The rate for electric usage increase from 8.7 to 12.4 cents per kilowatt hour for the winter period of December 18th to March 18th. Similarly the winter season for large service and industrial accounts using generators to control loads during demand periods should make certain their generator tanks are filled with fuel and in good running order. The impact of the units not operating can be very costly. Based upon existing rates for demand the cost for 500 kW of demand not being removed during peak periods would result in additional cost of \$6,007 per month or \$72,090 over the future twelve-month period. Inadvertent demand insurance coverage is available to loads over 50 kW controlled by a stationary generator to offset possible financial loss from malfunction during billing demand periods. The cost of coverage is \$3.05 per kW of coverage selected which would cover two-thirds of the cost impact for not being controlled.

Now is the time to prepare for those cold days ahead. Please be reminded to check the fuel in your tanks, change filters and have your back up system checked to assure they are in good working order when demand control happens. Take steps to improve efficiency including insulation, caulking and replacing weather stripping. I can tell you from personal experience often forgotten is to check the batteries in your thermostats if not hard wired. With that in mind also check batteries in fire alarms.

Continued on Page 3

## Yard Light Agreement Form

With daylight savings time causing for an earlier sunset, Wild Rice Electric reminds consumers that we can help shed some light.

For only **\$8.75/month**, Wild Rice Electric can mount a yard light on our existing poles for you. If interested, visit our website at [wildriceelectric.com](http://wildriceelectric.com) and click on the Yard Light Agreement Form link on the home page or call our office at **218-935-2517**.

## Over the Manager's Desk continued from Page 2 . . .

If you are interested in additional information on off-peak heating options please check our website at [www.wildriceelectric.com](http://www.wildriceelectric.com) or call our Member Services Department.



## Happy Holidays

The Holiday Season ahead reminds us that we do have much to be thankful for. Please keep safety in mind as you decorate both indoors and out by checking equipment for proper ratings, cords for cracks, circuit sizing and ornaments in poor condition. Make this a memorable and safe Holiday!



## Winter Survival: MAKE YOUR CAR KIT

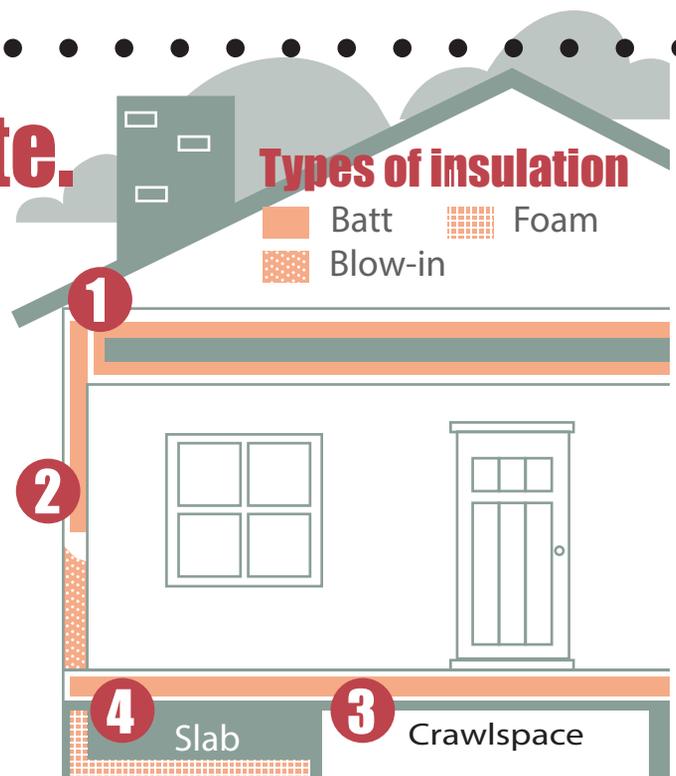
Stuck on the side of the road or in a snowbank, it doesn't take long to reach dangerously low temperatures inside your vehicle. Act now and make a survival kit. Most likely, you already have the supplies around your house. Just gather them up, and store them in your car.

- Booster Cables
- Cat litter for traction
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Extra hats, socks and mittens
- Plug-in cell phone adapter
- Battery powered radio
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Small shovel to fit in car
- Candy bars and water

## Don't Waste. INSULATE.

Properly insulating your home reduces heating and cooling cost and improves comfort. R-values measure a material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value rating, the greater the effectiveness of insulation.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



**1**

### Ductwork

Whether it's made of metal or plastic (PVC), insulated duct work protects your investment in conditioned air year-around.

**2**

### Exterior walls

There are multiple options for insulating exterior walls. From fiberglass batts of R-13 to R-20 behind the dry wall; to blown-in polyurethane foam insulation which provides an R-value of 3.9 per inch.

**3**

### Beneath living space

Whether your home has a full basement crawlspace or an attached garage, having an insulation value of R-19 under the living space floor will help increase comfort year-round.

**4**

### Slab foundation

Properly installed foam boards around the exterior edge of the slab of an existing home can reduce heating bills by 10 percent or more.

# Ads

## For Sale

1964 Olds Cutlass, 1962 Olds wagon. Both have original rocket motors \$2,500 for both, 218-280-4848.

2018 Can-Am Defender XT Cab HD10, Camo color, heater, power windows, sliding rear window, rear view mirror, cable winch w/ 280 miles, 218-431-0174.

1978 Motor Home Titan, 440 Dodge, everything works. Onan gas generator, \$1,900 obo, 704-617-0342.

Circle saw blades. Duracell ultra-batteries for cycle or scooter. 5 cup coffee maker. 2 push mowers for parts. 2 men's coats size 36. Snow blower walk behind new tires 24 in. 2 phones, 218-584-4603.

48" lawn sweeper, Bridgestone Chevy rim for pickup good tread #P265 75R16 114 S, 701-306-7526.

Snow blower fit 425-445 John Deere tractors, \$500, 218-935-5793.

Solid oak entertainment center 5ft wide 6 1/2 ft high. Excellent condition. \$150, 218-929-4133, can text picture.

Skid steer attachments; snow & dirt buckets, tree pullers, brush mowers, bale spears, brush grapples & more, 701-261-3574.

Real nice slide in pickup camper-fold down type- about the top 12-14" fold down for travel. 3 way fridge 12V, 120V or LP gas. Nice shape shedded when not in use. "Texan" brand don't know the year. \$1,250 or best offer, 218-230-5180.

Graco Pac & Play \$20, Sylvania 7" Dual Screen Mobile DVD System, \$25, 218-847-7168.

Butcher hogs \$150 for whole \$75 for half you pay processing. Delivered to Ulen locker Nov. 7th, 701-388-2747.

Pressure tank by Amtrol, Well-Trol Full size 30 gal. Blue w/ pressure gauge & electric pressure switch. Model WX-302 Max working pressure 100 psi. good condition \$80, 701-367-9614.

2 barn cupolas 4.5 ft wide x 10 ft tall minor dings & dents, asking \$1500 each, will accept reasonable offers, 612-910-9744.

1997 Chevy suburban 1500 Automatic transmission, four-wheel-drive, third row seat, 5 inch lift kit, 5.13 gears, Auburn possi in rear, 260K miles, runs great, 218-234-8787.

Several deer hunting rifles & 12 gauge magnum slide action shot-guns. All in very good condition. 218-841-7927.

Pool table very good shape, \$125 obo. Minn Kota powerdrive bow mount trolling motor 50lb thrust 54" very good shape, \$225, 218-847-6801.

Old metal turning lathe - lots of extra operating cutters & tools, \$2,000 or best offer. Also project truck 1963 2 ton ICH w/ metal box & hoist - new front rubber, \$500, 701-541-2812.

70 gallon field service tank w/ a 110 volt pump, like new, \$500, 701-893-6834.

Two Resistol hats. Both size 6 7/8. One a cream beaver w/ case. Excellent condition. \$135. The other a genuine shantung Panama straw hat. Natural color, good condition \$50, 218-532-5595.

40" Rd table 4 wood chairs, \$160. Sm floor propane heater, \$160. 2-2 drawer filling cabinets, \$50 ea. Gma's rocking chair, \$50, used 1 yr 30 gal. propane water heater, \$150, 218-841-0992.

A5 Browning Auto, Safari BAR Mark II, Caliber 300 Win. Mag., 218-847-9703.

Good used saddles, \$250 each, some halters, pads & bridles, 218-686-1767.

Water to water plate exchange pump for outdoor wood burning furnace, \$200 obo, 218-375-4054.

D-17 Allis parts. 2 - 4,000 watt generators. 2 - compound bow & arrows. 8 - feeder steers 500 -600 pound. 1 hamb cow, 218-766-5702.

Maytag white, above range microwave, like new! \$75. 1 Vector white double hung window 36 X 48, new, \$100. 24 ft Keller K-pro extension ladder, \$150, 218-847-4530.

Bishman tire change on wheels, \$225. Big Smith cutting torch set w/ tanks & carts, very good, \$475. New camo air rifle w/ scope, \$75, 218-935-5110 days.

Hospital bed w/ motor, \$300 obo. Ward riding lawn mower 42" needs work, \$150 obo, 218-734-2565.

Super M w/ dual-all loader. Serial # F 45495. \$2,000, 218-329-9426.

Gas 13 HP generator like new, 10 hours. 4'x4'x8' meat smoking house insulated, 218-637-0293.

Four 15" 5 hole Ford Explorer rims with mounted P235/75R15 snow tires w/ good tread depth, \$200. Call or text 218-849-3167.

1994 CM black, steel, straight load, 2 horse trailer, w/channeled rubber floor mats, in great shape w/small amount of surface rust. Saddle rack under the hay shelf area, asking \$1,000, C# 701-371-1208. H#218-287-1679 (evenings).

4 tires Definity HP100 205/60R16 150,00 miles on them, \$195. 2002 Arctic Cat 440Z snowmobile, electric start, hand warmers, 585 miles, \$2,000, like new, 701-367-5035.

## Wanted

Yamaha 650 or 750 Special or Midnight Special. Lv Mess. 218-793-2447.

Rolls of woven fence wire, 218-841-2688.

Snow blower for a Ford that has a three point hitch (an old ford tractor) in working order, 218-574-2442.

Pickup or grain truck from the 1940's -1950's w/ or w/out title, 218-280-9973.

Used brush mower, in good condition, 701-866-0678.

## To Give Away

Cats need home spring kittens &/ or mothers. Friendly, playful, litter box trained, good hunters, just have too many, 218-356-8764.

## Our Ad Policy

- All ads must be 30 words or less.
- Ads will be abbreviated at the coop's discretion.
- No real estate or commercial ads will be accepted.
- Ads are published for members at no charge as space permits on a first-come, first served basis. Unpublished ads will not be carried over.
- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.
- Members may submit only one ad per issue.
- Ads must be resubmitted to run an additional month.
- Ads must be typed or in clear readable print. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- You can submit your ad by mail, email, fax or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.
- Fax ads to . . . 218-935-2519
- Email ads to . . . info@wildriceelectric.com
- Mail ads to . . . Wild Rice Electric P.O. Box 438 Mahnomon, MN 56557

# Celebrate with savings



Number of Strings		Rebate per String	Total Rebate
<input type="text"/>	Less than 99 lights	\$3	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	100-199 lights	\$6	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	200-299 lights	\$9	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Greater than 300 lights	\$12	<input type="text"/>

**Rebate cannot exceed 50 percent of the cost. Maximum of 5 strings per member.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Installation Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Wild Rice Electric Cooperative ● PO BOX 438 ● Mahnomen, MN 56557

## To apply

Purchase LED Christmas plug-in (not battery operated) lights and decorations in 2019.

Complete rebate form and submit it to Wild Rice Electric by Dec. 31, 2019, with a copy of your sales receipt.

ENERGY STAR LEDs recommended.



## Energy Assistance Providers

### Becker or Mahnomen County

**Mahube Community Council**  
PO Box 747  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502  
218-847-1385

**Mahube Community Council**  
PO Box 76  
Mahnomen, MN 56557  
218-935-5022

**Energy Assistance Program**  
3303 US Hwy 59  
Waubun, MN 56589  
218-473-2711

**Becker County Social Services**  
712 Minnesota Ave  
Detroit Lakes MN 56501  
218-847-5628

**Mahnomen County Social Services**  
311 North Main  
PO Box 460  
Mahnomen, MN 56557  
218-935-2568

**White Earth Nation Financial Services**  
PO Box 100  
Naytahwaush, MN 56566  
844-282-6580/ 218-935-2359

**Clay County**  
**West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.**  
411 Industria Park Blvd.  
Elbow Lake, MN 56531  
800-492-4805/ 218-685-4486

### Clay County

**West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.**  
411 Industria Park Blvd.  
Elbow Lake, MN 56531  
800-492-4805/ 218-685-4486

**Clay County Social Services**  
715 11th St No, Suite 502  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
218-299-5200/ 800-757-3880

### Clearwater County

**Clearwater Social Services**  
216 Park Ave NW  
Bagley, MN 56621  
218-694-6164

### Polk County

**Inter County Community Council**  
PO Box 189  
Oklee, MN 56742  
218-796-5144/ 888-778-4008

**Polk County Social Services**  
612 N Broadway, RM 302  
Crookston, MN 56716  
218-281-3127

### W. Polk or Norman County

**Tri-Valley Opportunity Council**  
102 N Broadway  
PO BOX 607  
Crookston, MN 56716  
218-281-5832/ 800-584-7020

**Norman County Social Services**  
15 2nd Ave E  
Ada, MN 56510  
218-784-5400/ 833-543-1964

From all of us at **Wild Rice Electric,**

HAPPY  
*Thanksgiving*

Our office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28  
for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



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**Wild Rice Electric  
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*This Institution is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.*

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Monday- Friday

**Website:**  
[www.wildriceelectric.com](http://www.wildriceelectric.com)

**Pay bill 24 hours/ 7 days  
a week:** 833-250-4481

Also download the Wild Rice Coop  
app for free at your App Store  
of choice, to monitor usage,  
pay your bill and more.

**Directors:**  
Randy Bjornson, Mark Habedank,  
David Hamre, Jim Kaiser, Greg  
LaVoy, Jeff Nornes, Russ Okeson,  
Larry Sollie and Roger Winter.

**In this issue**

- Over the Manager's Desk with Steve Haaven
- LED Christmas lighting rebate
- Want Ads
- Don't Waste. Insulate.



**Members gathered at Wild Rice Electric on October 9th to celebrate National Cooperative Month and over 80 years of building connections with one another. Many were sure to sign up for prizes, visited with staff and fellow members and had their questions answered at the various information stations.**