



# RURAL DELIGHT

© NRECA

## A full HOUSE of

# ENERGY SAVINGS

Home energy use is different for everyone and hinges on several factors, including size of home, members in your household and your families heating preferences. Here are some tips to help your household.

- Replace any light bulb, especially ones that are on more than one hour per day, with a LED bulb.
- Outside your home, caulk around all penetrations including telephone, electrical, cable, gas, water spigots, dryer vents, etc.
- Change HVAC air filters monthly.
- Use dishwasher's air-dry cycle instead of the heat-dry cycle to dry dishes.
- Keep your garage door down. A warmer garage in the winter and cooler garage in the summer will save energy.
- Set water heater temperature no higher than 120 degrees F.
- Make sure dryer vent hose is not kinked or clogged.
- Ensure refrigerator door seals are tight.

**Attic:** In many homes, attic insulation is one of the easiest, least expensive and most effective ways to reduce your energy use. In colder regions, a properly insulated attic also reduces the chance of ice dams.

### Den/Office:

Plug all electronic gadgets such as phone and laptop chargers, printers, gaming consoles and BluRay players into a power strip with an on/off switch. When not in use, turn the power strip off to eliminate all those energy vampires.



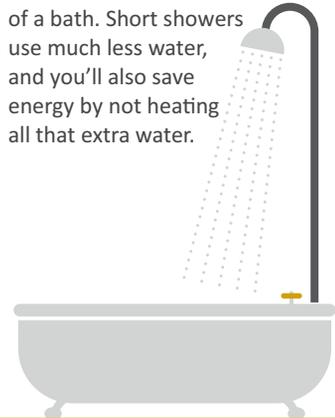
### Bedroom:

Ceiling fans can help save energy all year long. In the summer, fans should rotate counter clockwise to push air down creating a cooling flow. In the winter, fans should rotate clockwise to help draw cool air up toward the ceiling and push the warm air that naturally rises down to you and your family.



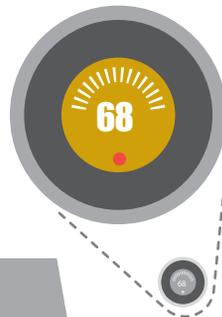
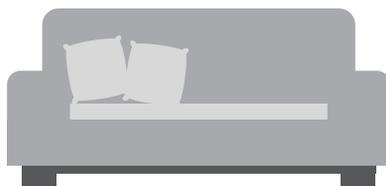
### Bathroom:

Take a short shower instead of a bath. Short showers use much less water, and you'll also save energy by not heating all that extra water.



### Living Room:

Smart thermostats learn how you and your family live, and automatically adjust the temperature settings based on your lifestyle to keep you comfortable while saving you money.



### Kitchen:

Clean refrigerator coils annually. If not frost-free, regularly defrost refrigerator or freezer to avoid ice buildup. Set the refrigerator temperature to 34-37 degrees F and freezer to 0 to 5 degrees F. Only run dishwasher when fully loaded.





# OVER THE MANAGER'S DESK

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

STEVE HAAVEN, CEO



## Right of Way Clearing

Wild Rice Electric distributes electricity to 14,329 accounts over a network of 3,987 miles of electric lines located in all types of terrain, much covered with trees and brush. Put into perspective this would be similar in distance to a line running from Seattle, WA to Miami, FL. The mission of the Cooperative is to provide member-owners with safe and reliable electric service. An on-going challenge is keeping designated right of way areas clear of growth from interfering with line installation, operation and maintenance. Right of way areas are a strip of land the electric utility uses to construct, maintain, repair or replace overhead and underground power lines. The co-op does not own the land but rather has an easement to locate and maintain facilities calling for a twenty foot clearance on each side of the pole line providing adequate distance for the utility to perform work required with the primary focus on safety and service reliability.

Electricity seeks a path to ground. Tree branches touching energized wires can become a conductor of electricity following the tree to ground, especially in wet conditions. If you, or a family member, touch those trees you become a part of the path which could result in injury or death. Each year Federated Rural Electric Insurance, the insurance provider for many cooperatives nationwide including Wild Rice Electric, reports such accidents.

A key responsibility of Wild Rice Electric is to serve members with power quality. Not allowing proper clearance in your yard can result in trees contacting power lines impacting service provided to you as well as hundreds of your neighbors. Proper clearance reduces those annoying blinking lights, power surges and enhances overall service. Access through right-of-way areas is imperative in order to

restore service from outages in the shortest amount of time possible. Line workers need to be able to position trucks and equipment to replace broken poles, clear trees off of lines and put conductor back in the air.

Wild Rice Electric spent in excess of \$600,000 clearing these areas in 2017 and increased the 2018 budget to become even more aggressive during 2018 expanding the effort to stay ahead of fast growth in right-of-way areas. In addition to the Cooperative's own crews, Carr's Tree Service is contracted to cut, mow and spray right of way areas. I encourage you to allow workers to clear the necessary trees and brush. It will allow keeping the lights on with limited interruptions or outages. If you have trees near or touching electric lines please contact us.



## Meter Tampering

A number of instances where the Cooperative's electric meter has been tampered with has been reported or found during the past several months. Meters measure the amount of electricity consumed and serve as the data source for proper bill calculation. Electric meters are property of the Cooperative and are sealed to ensure electric usage is measured and reported accurately.

Meter seals should not be broken or cut without pre-approval by the Cooperative. Should it become necessary for a qualified, licensed electrician to gain access for work or emergency purposes, the Cooperative should be contacted in advance. This is extremely important since pulling a meter does not always insure the power is disconnected and improper removal could cause an arc flash resulting in serious burns or electrocution.

Cutting the seal, removing a meter or installing another meter in a disconnected service is considered meter tampering or theft from the Cooperative. The situation will be reported to law enforcement and the culprit will be held responsible under full extent of the law. Damages

include loss of revenue, associated costs to investigate, disconnect and reconnect the service, prosecution costs and security deposits if reconnection is required. As you can tell it can become extremely costly.

A primary concern is safety. Most people are not trained to work on electrical equipment and simply do not understand how dangerous it can be if you don't know what you are doing. Metering schemes vary and must be handled accordingly. Another obvious reason is fairness to other members who pay their bill. When theft occurs the added burden is shifted to other members to cover costs.

The Cooperative's new automated metering system automatically reports when a meter goes out of service or is tampered with. Representatives are able to monitor, investigate, and respond when a meter error occurs. I encourage you to report any suspicious activity that may involve metering.



## Winter Rates

A reminder for seasonal aeration, grain drying and irrigation accounts, the winter season begins December 18th. The rate for electric usage for grain handling and drying increases from 8.7 to 12.4 cents per kilowatt hour. Industrial and large service accounts using generators to control loads during demand control periods should make certain generators are in good running order and fuel tanks are filled. The impact should these loads not control during peak billing periods can become costly. Should industrial load generators not operate during any of the nine hours used for billing purposes the cost could be substantial. Based upon present rates for demand the cost for 500 kW of demand not being dropped would result in a demand charge of \$6,007 per month, or \$72,090 for the twelve months beginning April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

**Continued on Page 3**

# Tips for purchasing new appliances

When shopping for new appliances, there are two price tags you should consider:



1. Purchase price of the appliance (think of this as a down payment)



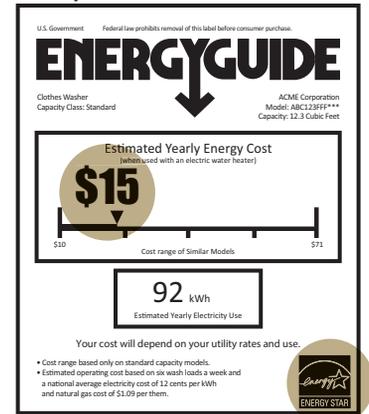
2. Cost to operate the appliance over its lifetime (how much energy the appliance uses)



That second price is important because you'll be paying for the appliance's energy use for the next 10 to 20 years.

- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label. ENERGY STAR-qualified products exceed the federal minimum standards for efficiency and quality.
- Carefully review the EnergyGuide label on the appliance. The label provides information about how much energy an appliance uses compared to similar models.
- Once you choose your make and model, compare prices. Keep in mind, many retailers will match a lower price offered by competitors.
- Recycle or sell your old appliance. Ask the retailer if they'll pick up your old appliance, or you can sell it yourself. Either option is better than the landfill!

Source: Department of Energy



## 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 . . .

Inadvertent Demand Insurance is available to loads over 50 kW controlled by a generator to offset possible financial losses caused by the malfunction of load management facilities during demand billing periods. The program can mitigate the impact of unanticipated billings on accounts metered with recording demand meters. The cost of the coverage for the upcoming winter season of 2018-2019 is \$3.05 per kW of coverage selected. For example if 500 kW of demand was elected the cost for coverage is \$1,525. If the qualified load failed to be controlled two-thirds of the demand cost impact would be credited back resulting in added cost for one-third of the financial impact of that load not being controlled. Please contact us if you have questions.



### Cold Weather Ahead

The calendar says it is already November and that means cold weather is just around the corner. Now is the time to prepare for those cold temperatures and long winter evenings. Many Wild Rice Electric members are enjoying the advantages of dual heating. We remind you to check your back up systems and change filters to make sure they are in working order and that tanks have fuel. Take steps to improve efficiency including insulation, caulking and replacing weather stripping. If you are interested in additional information on off peak heating options I would encourage you to check the website at [www.wildriceelectric.com](http://www.wildriceelectric.com) or call our Member Services Department. Off peak rates are very competitive and rebates are available.



### Happy Holidays

The upcoming Holiday Seasons remind us that we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. Please keep safety in mind during all of the decorating, cooking and special lighting projects. Check electrical equipment for proper ratings, cords for cracking, circuit sizing and replace ornaments in poor condition. Consider LED lights for cost of operation and longevity. Have a nice and safe Holiday!

# Ads

## For Sale

2016 Vision Fitness Treadmill w/ Programmable Console, top of the line, gym rated quality performance, soft track, 701-361-7213. 2 cords poplar & 12 cords of box elder all cut, split & dry, \$110 a cord you haul, 218-935-5576, lv message.

2005 Handicap Chev Van, great condition, new battery, 85,600 miles, 218-494-3462.

Leather couch & chair set. Beige in color. Good condition. \$200. Call or text 218-686-1655.

Bred crossbred ewes, production records on all ewes, you will receive at purchase, 218-935-2471.

10" Sears Craftsman Radial Arm Saw. \$100.00, 935-5798.

Small square straw bales, 218-261-0971.

2 SkiDoo snowmobiles & 3 place alum. Trailer. 2002 MXZ 500, excellent shape. 1997 Formula 500, good shape. 2 full face helmets, like new, \$3,500 package deal, 218-766-3928.

Butcher hogs \$150 for whole \$100 for half. Delivered to Ulen Locker November 17th, 701-388-2747.

2002 Polaris 325 magnum 4x4, low hours & miles, starts, runs, noisy engine, \$875, obo. Wd allis chalmers w/ allis chalmers loader, good runner, good rubber \$1,950 obo, 701-306-3809.

Small straw bales at \$2.25 per bale, in the Erskine area, 218-280-0732.

Frigidaire Heavy Duty Clothes Dryer. 5.7 cu.ft. 27", great condition. \$100. 4 sturdy barrel type kitchen chairs by Pennsylvania House \$125. 218-849-4886.

2005 Arctic Cat Firecat 500, good condition, \$1,750. 70's Arctic Cat 340 El Tigre, \$750, 218-473-2461. Leave message.

Pool table, que sticks, & balls, \$50. 8 sacks of coal brickets, \$5 each, 218-233-4051, cash only.

5 used electric baseboard heaters. All are 240/208 volts. Have (2) 5 foot that are 1250/950 watts, (2) 6 foot that are 1500/1150 watts and (1) 8 foot that is 2000 watts. Price is \$25 each or all 5 for \$100, 218-841-4343.

Honda 110-3 wheeler, easily starts on 1st pull, & runs good, \$350. Maytag wringer type wash machine, round tub, \$250, 701-541-2812.

Gemeinhardt flute \$375, excellent condition, guaranteed 1 year by Lakes Musical Repair Self climbing aluminum Tree Lounge, \$150 (If interested, will send pictures) 218-234-8159.

Mixed alfalfa hay in 5'x5' bales, \$35 bale, 218-902-0344.

Kitchen cabinets: 8 lower; 10 upper. Countertop also available. 26"/8 hp Sears snow blower with electric start and chains. 218-483-4203.

Loeering skid steer tracks to fit 10-16.5 tires. Used about 500 hours. \$1500, 218-849-2562.

2012 Forest River 30' motor home w/ 2 slide-outs, sleeps 8, 5,000 miles, used very little, like new, \$56,650, 218-289-1597.

New 10:00x200 mud & snow truck tires w/ new tubes mounted on 2 ton Ford rims. Sheets of tinted glass various sizes, 218-847-4017, lv message.

Queen size Sleep Number bed comes w/ 6 drawers underneath, \$200, 218-574-2371.

2 recliners, 3 full size beds, 2 couches, corner TV cabinet, will hold up to 50" TV, Baldwin piano, nice wood dining table w/ 6 chairs, 218-435-1080.

1961 Chevy truck 2 ton 15 ft box and hoist 261 6 cylinder 4&2 speed good rubber runs good 2,250, 218-584-5266, leave message.

Crib, high chair, swing, portable play pen all for \$100. Dog kennels for \$25 ea, 218-439-6969.

2007 Dodge Durango, 92,600 miles, blue, 4.7 V8, very good condition, \$5,800, 218-238-6049.

180 amp Forney welder, \$60, also a Duplex pump jack, \$40, 218-431-0442.

New blue 4 wheel medical walker, padded 13.5x13.5 seat folds down for portability aluminum light weight, four 6" rubber wheels, dual handbrakes, removable pouch under padded seat, backrest, holds up to 300 lbs, 218-574-2396.

LEM meat bandsaw. Like new. \$450.00. Smokehouse Products 14,500 btu LP gas smoker. Like new. \$150, 218-261-0380.

12' x 44' mobile home, To be moved 6' patio door, 80% t&g interior finish, no leaks, no furnace, some furnishings, includes skirting, \$10,000. Can be seen on Little White Earth Lake, 701-318-8546.

1949 & 1954 project trucks both ha duals complete motors not running, monitor well pump motor & pressure tank, make offer. Longhorn cow skulls, \$100. Metal parts to build a buggy, 218-584-8441.

50 caliber Thompson black powder gun w/ strap, case & Williams peep sight, used one season, \$400, 218-687-5118.

Joseph Guarinerius Violin w/ 2 ivory inlaid bows, \$600 or trade for guns, 701-293-1295.

Walk behind snowblower as is, circle saw arbor. Want to by chain saw & 235,75R, 15" tires, 218-584-4603.

## Wanted

Small or medium dog house for outside cat, 218-983-3443.

1988 GMC Pickup. Will consider 1989 thru 1999. Will consider any condition from excellent to for "parts only" use. Call Kurt 701-412-1519 or 218-483-3268.

Ruger M77 w/ tang safety in 270 caliber must be in very good condition, 218-850-0431.

Used propane tank (full size 250-500 gal.). Not concerned about appearance, 218-431-1332.

## 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



**Wild Rice Electric** is deploying a new Automated Metering Information (AMI) system across its service territory. Wild Rice Electric has contracted with Allegiant Utility Services to help with the upgrade. **Allegiant meter technicians** will be visiting member's properties and upgrading their meters. These technicians will be wearing white hard hats along with identification badges. Their vehicles will have the Allegiant logo as well as the Wild Rice Electric logo displayed on them. Our new advanced meters are part of our commitment to providing our members with improved long-term reliability, enhanced member services and faster outage management. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call our office at **1-800-244-5709**.

# 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 consumer.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 2018.

Complete rebate form and submit it to Wild Rice Electric by Dec. 31, 2018, 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 MN Ave  
Detroit Lakes MN 56501  
218-847-5628

### Mahnomen County Social Services

311 North Main  
PO Box 460  
Mahnomen, MN 56557  
218-935-2568

## East Polk County

### Inter County Community Council

PO Box 189  
Oklee, MN 56742  
Phone: 218-796-5144 or  
1-888-778-4008

### Polk County Social Services

612 N Broadway, RM 302  
Crookston, MN 56716  
218-281-3127

## Clearwater County

### Clearwater Social Services

PO Box X  
Bagley, MN 56621  
218-694-6164

## West Polk or Norman County

### Tri-Valley Opportunity Council

1407 Erskine St  
Crookston, MN 56716  
Phone: 1-866-264-3729 or  
218-281-9080

### Norman County Social Services

15 2nd Ave E  
Ada, MN 56510  
218-784-5400

## If you are a White Earth Tribal Member

### White Earth Nation Financial Services

PO Box 100  
Naytahwaush, MN 56566  
844-282-6580 or 218-935-2359

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

Be Kind. Be Thoughtful. Be Genuine.

But Most of all **Be Thankful.**

# Happy Thanksgiving

Our office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 22  
for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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**Wild Rice Electric  
Co-op, Inc.**

*This Institution is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.*

**Phone:** Serving you 24 hours  
a day: 800-244-5709

**Office Hours:**  
8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.  
Monday- Friday

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

**Pay bill 24 hours/ 7 days  
a week:** 877-885-7968

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

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

And the  
**Winner** is . . .

**Dudley and Janice Broers** from Mahanomen were  
our lucky winners of the LED TV/ DVD Combo.

**Thanks** to everyone  
who stopped  
in to help us  
celebrate  
Cooperative  
Month.

