

Lyon REC News



October 2017

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

General Manager's Comments

2017 has been a very heavy construction year. Our plans included finishing the remaining replacement of overhead line damaged by the April 2013 ice storm with underground cable under FEMA contracts totaling about 77.25 miles of line. We will also be replacing 2 miles of underground feeder lines (lines out of the substation) that were installed with 1977 and 1979 cable. In addition to the planned work, members have requested new services for hog nurseries, hog confinements, houses and several three phase extensions for grain handling, milling and cracking.

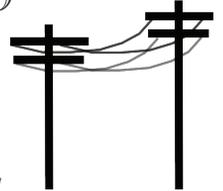
Our contractor began installing 5.25 miles under FEMA contract with underground cable in April plus some new services and began installing the remaining 72 miles of the FEMA contract work about June 15, 2017. As of September 15, 2017, all of the FEMA contracted underground cable had been installed with the exception of about 1,000 feet of cable to a well service that will need to be installed after the corn crop is harvested. All of the line sections, with the exception of two line sections, have been energized and all the members on these lines have been cut over to the underground lines. We are waiting to finish the work on the two remaining line sections until we receive some fuse packs that will protect the underground cable.

Our contractor is currently working on the new services and three phase line extensions. The contractor will then finish with the two miles of underground feeder line replacement.

This fall and winter the overhead lines will be retired, including the removal of the poles.

All of this work has been done safely with no employee, contractor, member or other public person incurring an injury. Thank you to the employees and contractor crews for the emphasis on working safely and working to protect the public. Thank you to the members for your patience while we worked in your area and your efforts in slowing down to protect our workers.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A DOWNED POWER LINE



Even if every home in your neighborhood loses electricity during a storm, a power line hanging loose could very well be "live" and kill you if you touch it.

Just because the electricity is out doesn't mean power lines are dead.

If you see one:

- Don't touch it with anything. Stay as far away from it as possible.
- Call 911 and your electric cooperative.
- If your car or another person is touching a downed line, don't touch your car or that person. The power could flow through them and into you.
- Don't drive your car over a downed wire.
- If the line falls on your car while you're in it, stay inside. The ground around your car could be energized, so if you touch it you could be electrocuted.
- Teach your children about the dangers of fallen power lines.



Have You Liked Us Yet?

Find us: Go to www.facebook.com/pages/lyon_rural_electric_cooperative
and "Like" Our Page.

COOPERATIVES = COMMITMENT

No matter which utility brings electricity to a customer's home, it has made a huge commitment to you: to keep your lights on, your appliances running, your electric heater and air conditioner running when you need them most.

But you don't get your electricity from just any utility; you get yours from an electric cooperative.

Electric cooperatives commit to much more than simply sending power to your house. They are committed to serving their communities, through economic development and job-creating programs. They are committed to being consumer-first. In fact, in the cooperative business model, the utility's consumers actually own it. Consumers are on every cooperative's board of directors, and those directors are elected by consumers.

October is National Cooperative Month, and appropriately enough, the theme for this year's celebration is "Cooperatives Commit."

More than 40,000 U.S. businesses are organized as cooperatives, and their consumers, like you are loyal. In fact, surveys have shown that consumers want to do business with organizations that share their values.

Like all electric cooperatives, yours knows what its community wants and needs because it is locally owned and operated. Cooperatives don't sell stock on Wall Street, so they don't have to answer to shareholders.

So celebrate with your electric cooperative this October. Make a commitment to give someone who works there a nice pat on the back for honoring the cooperative commitment.

Automatic Payment

Automatic withdrawal for payment of your electric bill is available.

Contact Lyon REC for details or go to our website for the form.



Deck the halls ... for Halloween



Every year, more houses light up in October with orange and black decorations-some scary, some just for fun.

Here's a rundown of some of the coolest Halloween decorations for your home:

- ⇒ For about \$20, you can get a projector that displays tiny white ghosts in the darkness. Find them at Home Depot, Walmart and Big Lots, among other stores.
- ⇒ Scare your guests when they get inside the house with an animated floor rug sporting a scary gorilla or werewolf head with eyes will light up bright red. Some of them make howling noises to ward off ghosts and vampires. These battery-operated rugs are available from many online retailers for \$35 and up.
- ⇒ Pick up a Halloween Fog Machine for about \$30 from any discount retailer. Some of them come with a wireless remote, so it's easy to cloud your lawn to make your props even more frightening.
- ⇒ Bigger is better when it comes to scary. Look for a five-foot tall talking witch, complete with flashing red eyes. Oriental Trading Co. has one for \$50 that will loom and cackle over your frightened guests.
- ⇒ Terror TV flashes lights and broadcasts a warning: "It's coming for you. Your soul is mine." A ghostly face completes the surprise. The device is among many at Spirit Halloween, a holiday super-store open between August and early November.
- ⇒ Among the creepiest of Halloween props-also from Spirit Halloween-is the aptly named Creepy Roaming Bear. The scary-looking, 2.5-foot bear roams around and utters creepy words.



STOP THE VAMPIRES!



The little vampires who ring your doorbell on Halloween night aren't the only ones you should be afraid of. Electricity vampires are all over your house-all year long.

Electrical vampires are appliances and electronics that continue to pull electricity, even when they are turned off.

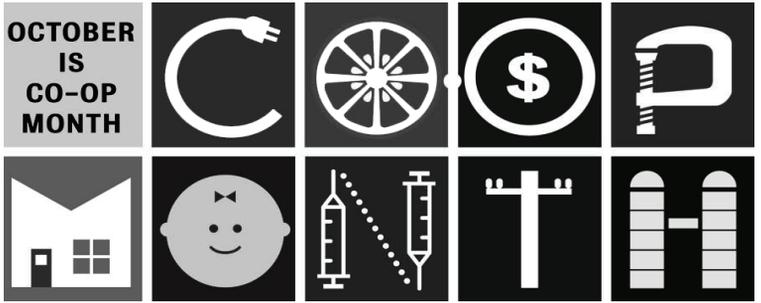
According to the US Department of Energy, vampires account for up to 5 percent of the energy in your house.

To save you from a witch hunt, here is a list of the most likely vampires in your house:

1. Computers, modems, routers, printers and other related equipment.
2. Your flat-screen TV. The larger it is, the more energy it uses, even when turned off.
3. Home theater equipment, including surround-sound devices.
4. Your cable or satellite TV box.
5. Anything with a digital time display, like your microwave oven or DVD player.

If an electrical device has a continuous display, like a digital clock, if it charges batteries, like your mobile phone charger, or if it has a remote control, like your TV-it's a vampire.

The best way to stop these vampires is to unplug them when you're not using them. You may also consider purchasing power strips so you have to pull just one plug to stop a group of electronics from using vampire electricity.



AUGUST OPERATING STATISTICS		
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
KWH Purchased	9,065,682	9,545,755
KWH Sold	8,858,461	9,387,392
Percentage of Line Loss		
(Year to Date)	3.08%	2.82%
Total Demand	17,105 KW	17,954 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,337 KWH	2,231 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$216.13	\$228.23
Income Per Mile	\$868.99	\$1,027.94
Expenses Per Mile	\$858.44	\$1,015.49
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)...	5.71¢	6.61¢



REMEMBER
SAFETY FIRST
THIS
HARVEST SEASON

Consumer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of members helping members and contribute to RECare.

_____ I will make a one-time contribution to RECare. My Check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail to: RECare | Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 629 | Rock Rapids, IA 51246

RECare Consumer Contribution Plan

Your Rural Electric Cooperative has always extended a helping hand to those needing it. Now, in response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RECare, a program of members helping members. RECare will provide funds to be distributed by local community action agencies to help pay winter heating bills and assist in weatherization of homes of low income consumers of this Cooperative. You may make a one-time contribution, or you may make a monthly contribution. Even one dollar a month contribution will help others.

Mid-Sioux Opportunity to help with HEAT bills!

Your local Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. office will be taking applications for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP) **until April 30, 2018**. **Please call your local outreach office or 800-859-2025 for an appointment time to apply.**

ELIGIBILITY

A household may qualify for assistance in this program if the total household income falls within the income range listed below:

SIZE OF HOUSEHOLD	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME
1	\$ 21,105
2	\$ 28,420
3	\$ 35,735
4	\$ 43,050
5	\$ 50,365

For family units with more than five members, add \$7,315 for each additional member.

APPLICATION

- **Social Security Card or I-94 Card** - We require a copy of the original card for each household member.
- **Current Heat Bill and Electric Bill** - This may be two separate bills.
- **Proof of Income.** This includes total household gross income from all sources. We must have complete proof of income to process your application.
 - **Fixed Income:** Includes Social Security Income, Aid to Families with Dependent Children or F.I.P., Veterans' Assistance, Unemployment Insurance and Pensions. Provide a copy of your most recent check or a bank statement showing automatic deposit.
 - **Wage Earners:** Attach copies of your check stubs for 30 days preceding the date of application, the past 12 months or the most recent calendar year Federal Income Tax Return 2016 or 2017.
 - **Self-Employed / Farmers:** A copy of your 2016 or 2017 Federal Income Tax Return.
 - **Other Income:** Alimony and child support will also need to be verified.

****Please call your local outreach office for an appointment to apply for LiHEAP:**

Ida County
712-364-2175
or 712-225-3322
Thursday
8:00 – 4:30

Cherokee County
712-225-3322
Mon-Wed-Fri
8:00 – 4:30

Plymouth County
712-546-6603
or 712-225-3322
Tues & Thursday
9:00 – 4:00

Sioux County
712-722-3611
Mon-Tue-Th-Fri
8:00 – 4:30

Lyon County
712-472-3746
or 712-722-3611
Wednesday
9:00 – 4:00

Visit us on the web at www.midsioux.org
Central Office 1-800-859-2025 / Hearing Impaired call 711

Non-Discrimination Statement

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.