

Lyon REC News



September 2018

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.

Want to save energy? Use less hot water

Water heating is the second largest energy expense in your home, so if you use less hot water, you'll save energy.

Here are three ways to save hot water around your house.

Washing clothes. Your clothes don't really get any cleaner if you wash them in hot water instead of cold. In fact, the kind of laundry detergent you use is more of a factor than water temperature when it comes to getting your clothes clean.

Ninety percent of the energy your washing machine uses goes to heating the water. So you can save up to \$40 a year just by selecting the cold-water cycle instead of warm or hot.

Don't believe it? Experiment with it for a few loads and see for yourself.

Washing dishes. Your dishwasher needs to use hot water to dissolve the dishwashing detergent and to get the grime off of your dishes. However, you can save hot water by placing your dirty plates, cups, glasses and silverware right in the dishwasher after you use them, without rinsing them first.

Most modern dishwashers do a good job of cleaning even dried-on gunk from dishes, so there's no need to waste hot water by washing them by hand before you load them into the machine.

Another way to save hot water: choose a short cycle. The less time your dishwasher runs, the less hot water it will use.

Washing your family. Low-flow showerheads save water-hot and cold. Replacing your old showerhead could save more than 40 percent of the water you use when you bathe.

Paying attention to how much water you're wasting in the shower can save precious resources as well. If you turn on the water to let it get warm-but then brush your teeth and shave at the sink before hopping in the shower-you're letting gallons of heated water run down the drain unused.

DOUG RYE HOME REMEDIES RADIO SHOW

Can be heard every Saturday
at 9:00 a.m. on KIWA 1550 AM

Sponsored by
Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative,
North West Rural Electric Cooperative,
Osceola Electric Cooperative
and Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative

MOVING?

Remember to notify the Cooperative when you move off of the Lyon Rural Electric service area and inform the new owner of their responsibility to then get signed up for service.



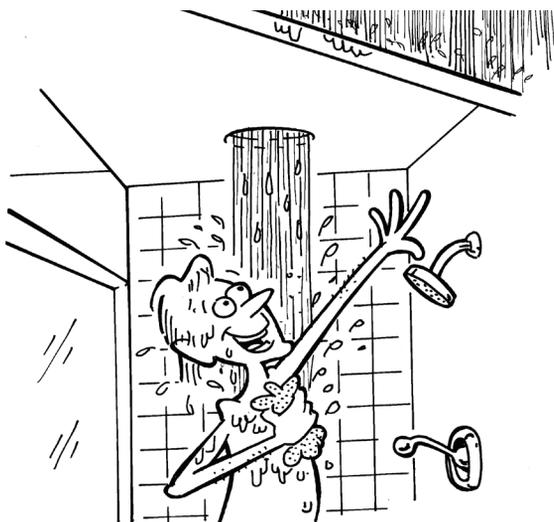
RAIN CAN SHOWER HEAD ADDS TOUCH OF LUXURY

Rain can shower heads have been popular for years because they're a bit more luxurious than every-day models.

This extra-wide shower head simulates the feel of raindrops falling on your head while you're showering.

If you're in the market for a new shower head, consider a rain can model. Here are five tips to consider as you shop:

1. Most rain can shower heads are designed to be installed on the ceiling or high on the wall at a 90-degree angle so the water drips straight down onto your head and body. So it's possible that you'll have to buy some mounting hardware because your old stuff won't fit your new shower head.
2. If your shower is extra small, a rain can might not be the right kind of showerhead for you. Because these devices are mounted so you can stand under them instead of in front of them like a regular showerhead, make sure you'll have plenty of room between the shower head and the top of your own head without bumping the two. Likewise, rain can showerheads are wider than normal, so if your shower stall is too small, your new shower head will flood your bathroom every time you turn on the water.
3. Consider buying a shower head with an adjustable, hand-held wand so you can easily move it-rather than installing one that's a permanent fixture. That way, you have more control over how you shower.
4. The flow from a rain can might be gentler than what comes out of your old showerhead. That takes some getting used to. It's not because of water pressure; it's because the shower head is wide-allowing a lot of waterdrops to flow out at once. That means the spray doesn't have to be firm.
5. Expect to pay a premium for rain can. They're considered a luxury item.



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Save electricity while cutting water use

Summer is winding down, but it's still hot outside. And if we haven't had much rain, it's important for everyone to conserve water.

Here are a few ways you can save water and conserve electricity at the same time:

- ▶ Do full loads when you use clothes washers or dishwashers.
- ▶ Replace showerheads with low-flow models that save up to five gallons of water a minute.
- ▶ Showers use less water than baths, so shower and keep it short. Fix leaky faucets; small drips add up to big waste.
- ▶ Wash clothes and dishes after dark, when there's less competition for electricity from your neighbors.
- ▶ Turn the water off while you brush your teeth or shampoo your hair. You can save 200 gallons a week.
- ▶ Save water and reuse it. Collect rainwater, water from your fish tank and even water from half-empty glasses at dinner and use it to water your plants. A caution: Don't let water stand around unused; it attracts mosquitoes.
- ▶ Cut your grass less often. Longer grass reduces the loss of water to evaporation so your lawn won't dry out as quickly.
- ▶ If local authorities have not restricted the use of water for gardening, save some anyway by adjusting your sprinklers so the water drops only on your lawn rather than on sidewalks and streets.

JULY OPERATING STATISTICS

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
KWH Purchased	10,974,227	11,059,546
KWH Sold	10,885,015	10,879,788
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	2.98%	2.96%
Total Demand	18,598 KW	20,054 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,726 KWH	2,696 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$268.03	\$261.11
Income Per Mile	\$1,159.18	\$1,138.32
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,035.25	\$1,056.00
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month) ..	6.31¢	6.29¢

DON'T LET YOUR WATER HEATER GUZZLE ENERGY

You know how to save water by taking shorter showers. But your electric water heater doesn't just guzzle water; it guzzles electricity.

You can stop wasting electricity by replacing an old water heater with a newer, more energy-efficient model. Also:

- ☞ Drain a bucket of water out of the bottom of the heater twice a year. The bottom can fill with sediment, which separates water from the heating element.
- ☞ Invest in an inexpensive water heater blanket or insulation kit, especially for older heaters. Do not insulate over doors or vents.
- ☞ Before buying a new water heater, estimate your family's needs. A family of up to four should buy a 30- to 50-gallon tank, while up to seven people might require 50 to 80 gallons. Consider appliances such as hot tubs when calculating how much hot water you use, and consult a plumber for help.
- ☞ If your house is more than two levels or if the bathrooms, kitchen and laundry room are spaced far apart, it might be more efficient to invest in a smaller water heater for each level.
- ☞ Set the water heater's temperature at 120 degrees or lower. This prevents scalding and standby heat loss, and can lower your water heating bill by 10 percent.
- ☞ Insulate hot water supply pipes to reduce heat loss.



DOWNED POWER LINES: ALWAYS A RISK

You teach your children not to mix water and electricity in the bathroom, kitchen and laundry room. But when a late summer rain storm knocks power lines down outdoors, do they know to stay far away from them?

Here's what your family needs to know:

- If someone nearby comes into contact with electricity, do not touch that person or anything the person is touching. Instead, call 911. If the source of electricity is an appliance, grab the plug-not the cord-and pull it out of the outlet. If you cannot safely remove the plug, turn off the power at the fuse or circuit breaker.
- If an electric wire falls on your car, do not get out of the car. You are safe inside your vehicle because your tires are conductors of electricity. They can keep you safe in your car because electricity seeks the quickest path to the ground--through the outside of the car, through the tires and into the ground.
- Not all power lines are insulated, so they are never safe to touch. When a wire falls to the ground, it may still be live, even if you don't see sparks. Call 911 and your electric cooperative if you see a downed wire. Warn others to keep their distance.
- Wood is a poor conductor of electricity, but it is still a conductor, especially when wet. Do not use a wooden ladder near a power line. If a ladder begins to fall into a power line, don't grab it. Let it fall and call your electric cooperative.
- Only pure rubber is an insulator, and most household products aren't pure rubber. Don't try to handle electric emergencies at home, even when you're wearing rubber gloves or shoes.

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.

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 RE-Care, 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, 2019**. **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	\$ 21,245
2	\$ 28,805
3	\$ 36,365
4	\$ 43,925
5	\$ 51,485

For family units with more than five members, add \$7,560 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 one month preceding the date of application, the past 12 months or the most recent calendar year Federal Income Tax Return 2017 or 2018.
 - **Self-Employed / Farmers:** A copy of your 2017 or 2018 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

Thurs
9:00 – 4:00

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.