

Lyon REC News



January 2012

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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Happy New Year to each of you!

As we start this new year of 2012, Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative is preparing to install some new equipment to control the amount of demand, the amount of electricity needed during a 30-minute period for each month. Your Cooperative is billed on the highest 30-minute demand each month. The demand charge is the largest component of the power bill. By controlling the demand, your Cooperative is trying to keep your electrical costs as low as possible.

Your Cooperative has been using equipment that was installed to control water heaters beginning in 1984. This equipment was estimated to have a useful life of 10 to 15 years at the time it was installed.

When we were looking at installing our Automated Meter Reading System (AMR), we also planned to replace the controllers on water heaters. The computer system that controls the AMR system is also designed to do controls on water heaters.

Beginning in January 2012, we will begin calling members with water heater controls to setup a time to enter the house to change the water heater controller. This is large task as we will be changing about 900 controllers. This work will be done during our regular working hours of 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The office staff will be calling the members to arrange for the house to be open so that our linemen can change the controllers.

We ask for your cooperation and patience as we do this work. The linemen will need to respond to outage calls and may not be able to meet the times setup by the office staff, so please remain flexible with your expectations of when the controller is changed.

Thank you for your cooperation, patience and understanding as we undertake this controller change out program.

Happy New Year!



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: GET INVOLVED

Not everyone has the chance to become a member of a consumer-owned electric cooperative. But because you live in an area served by a cooperative utility, you also have the chance to get involved in the way it operates.

Electric cooperatives—like all kinds of cooperative businesses—are owned by the people who buy its product (electricity) and services. They're not beholden to out-of-state investors. Their customers are their owners, and, in fact, the cooperative considers those owners as "members" of the utility.

As a consumer-member, you have the option of attending the utility's annual meeting, of voting for the members of its board of directors, and even of running for a seat on the board if you want to.

You can serve on committees, tell board members your opinions about the utility, help keep your elected official informed about the needs of the cooperative and its consumer-members, and participate in special programs for women, teenagers and others.

Make 2012 the year you get involved with your electric cooperative. Which of the other businesses you buy products and services from invites you to do that? Take the opportunity to be a part of the business that you cooperatively own.

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 (BEPC) Scholarship Program will award more than 180 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Five of the 25 scholarships for children of BEPC or subsidiary employees

will be designated for qualified applicants who plan to attend a certified Vocational or Technical school, and two of the 25 will be designated for qualified applicants who plan to achieve an engineering degree.

Twenty will go to children of member-cooperatives' employees, and 135 to children of membercooperative 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 BEPC. Scholarships will be distributed in August.

Who is eligible to receive the scholarship?

Dependent children (including adopted or step-children) 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 graduate or undergraduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

BEPC 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.

Applicants for the member-cooperative employee dependent category will first be screened by their

the final selection in the member-cooperative employee dependent category.

Member cooperatives will be responsible to select one recipient to be awarded a scholarship in the membercooperative consumer category. The final recipient's completed application will then be forwarded to BEPC by the member cooperative.

The scholarship award winners or the member co-ops are asked to notify the BEPC 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 BEPC, 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. Deadline is February 13, 2012.

Member Cooperative Instructions

Each member cooperative will be responsible to forward one finalist to be considered for the member-cooperative employee dependent category.

Member cooperatives must have their finalist in the employee dependent category and their winner's application to BEPC by March 1, 2012

Lyon REC Scholarship

Each year Lyon REC, Rock Rapids, Iowa, awards one \$1,000 scholarship to a student of a member of Lyon REC. 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 vocation-technical, 2-year community or junior college education. Lyon REC scholarship applications are available at the Lyon REC office with the deadline date of February 13, 2012.

NOVEMBER 2011 OUTAGE REPORT

<u>Substation</u>	<u>#Meters</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>
1 Rock Rapids	25	Fault	11/03/11	3 Hrs. 37 Mins.
2 Rock Rapids	4	Other	11/03/11	2 Hrs. 15 Mins.
3 Little Rock	12	Animal	11/08/11	50 Mins.
4 George	26	Animal	11/10/11	1 Hr. 10 Mins.
5 Lester	11	Other	11/14/11	35 Mins.
6 Little Rock	12	Other	11/17/11	43 Mins.



NOVEMBER OPERATING STATISTICS

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
KWH Purchased	7,379,258	8,020,570
KWH Sold	7,043,030	7,634,865
Percentage of Line Loss		
(Year to Date)	3.44%	3.43%
Total Demand	14,140 KW	14,311 KW
Average Farm Consumption	2,245 KWH	2,109 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$192.55	\$190.54
Income Per Mile	\$635.55	\$710.84
Expenses Per Mile	\$594.30	\$732.78
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)...	4.48¢	4.64¢

#?#?#?#?#?#?#?#?#?# What's Your Number?

For those members that have cell phones, Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative would like to have that number for contacting members for planned outages, address questions or any other reason for personal contact.

Please write that number on your stub with your payment.

#?#?#?#?#?#?#?#?#?#

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.



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 _____

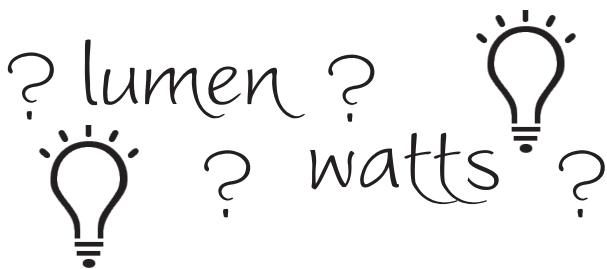
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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.



Make the switch to CFLs



It's been a long time coming, and starting Jan. 1, the old, familiar, A-shaped incandescent light bulb finally began going out of business.

Unless you were one of the many, many Americans who stockpiled their favorite 100-watt light bulbs, you won't be able to replace yours as they burn out around your house. Cheer up: The logical replacement—the twisty compact fluorescent light bulb—can give that old standby a run for its money and then some.

First, a CFL can save you more than \$100 on your electric bill before it burns out because it's so energy efficient—four times more than an incandescent bulb. In fact, incandescents produce more heat than light, so they use tons of energy and burn out quickly. CFLs last up to 10 times longer and use 80 percent less energy.

Some complain replacing a 100-watt incandescent with a comparable CFL (1,600 lumens) means sacrificing some brightness. Before you join that chorus, take a look at the incandescents you use at home—in your table lamps and overhead light fixtures. You'll probably find few 100-watt bulbs (or at least you shouldn't if you're using the bulbs recommended by the makers of the fixtures). And side-by-side comparisons show that CFL replacements for 60-watt bulbs are as bright or brighter.

So embrace the CFL. You can still buy 75-, 60- and 40-watt incandescent bulbs, but they'll gradually join their 100-watt cousins as part of the phase-out, which finishes up in 2014.

What is a lumen?

A lumen is a way to measure how brightly a light bulb burns. Like buying milk by the gallon and bananas by the pound, we'll soon be buying light by the lumen.

In fact, new packages of light bulbs already sport a Lighting Facts Label that tells you the bulb's lumens instead of its watts. That's going to take some getting used to.

Here are few guidelines from the Department of Energy:

--The light from a new bulb with 1,600 lumens—whether it's a CFL, halogen or LED—is about equivalent to a 100-watt incandescent.

--Replace a 75-watt incandescent with a 1,100-lumen bulb.

--Choose a bulb with 800 lumens to take the place of a 60-watt incandescent.

--Look for 450 lumens to shine as brightly as a 40-watt traditional bulb.

The Lighting Facts Label also reveals how much it will cost you to burn the bulb for a year, how long the bulb will last—based on using it three hours a day—whether its light appears warm (yellowish) or cool (whiter) and how much energy it uses (in watts).

Prices Effective January 1, 2011

	PRICE	TAX	TOTAL	REBATE	FINAL
MARATHON WATER HEATER					
50 Gallon	\$680.00	\$47.60	\$727.60	\$ 0	\$727.60
85 Gallon	\$850.00	\$59.50	\$909.50	\$200.00	\$709.50
105 Gallon	\$940.00	\$65.80	\$1005.80	\$200.00	\$805.80
NEW CONSTRUCTION/GAS REPLACEMENT MUST BE APPROVED FIRST - Residential year round homes only - requires load control device installed					
50 Gallon Marathon	\$680.00	\$47.60	\$727.60		\$727.60
85 Gallon Marathon	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
105 Gallon Marathon	\$90.00	\$6.30	\$96.30		\$96.30
GAS REPLACEMENT					
50 Gallon Marathon	\$680.00	\$47.60	\$727.60		\$727.60
85 Gallon Marathon	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
105 Gallon Marathon	\$90.00	\$6.30	\$96.30		\$96.30

Marathon
www.marathonheaters.com
1-800-321-6718



To get the rebate, you must agree to have load control installed, and allows for you to receive \$3.00 monthly credit on your electric bill.