

Lyon REC News



April 2011

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.

LYON RURAL ELECTRIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front Row (Left to right)

Mark Wibben,
Alan Hilbrands,
Allen Blauwet,
Randy Mc Kenney

Back Row (Left to right)

Randy Roemen,
Dale Klinkenborg,
Bruce Bonander,
Jim Rypkema,
Mark Dickmann

ANNUAL MEETING 2011

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative held its annual meeting on March 21, 2011 at the Central Lyon Community School in Rock Rapids. Approximately 500 people were served the evening meal that was catered by Tony's Catering. The Central Lyon High School music department was the entertainment for the evening. Many door prizes were handed out. Chase VandeStouwe and Shelby Hunt presented a program on the 2010 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. Thank you to all who were in attendance.

Youth Tour Winners : Martina Peterson and Amber VanOtterloo



The 2011 Youth Tour Winners are Martina Peterson, daughter of Mark and Sonya Peterson of Rock Rapids. Martina attends Central Lyon High School. The other winner is Amber VanOtterloo, daughter of Craig and Sue VanOtterloo of Rock Rapids. Amber attends Western Christian High School. This year the Youth Tour is scheduled for June 11-16, 2011.



Congratulations Martina and Amber!!



Check your contractor's license, insurance

Ever notice how warm-weather hail, lightning and hurricanes bring truckloads of eager handymen, roofers and tree trimmers to your front door—even though you didn't invite them? Beware of hiring them.

Contractors who go door to door begging for jobs may or may not be qualified to do the work they offer. Don't take a chance: Ask to see the person's contractor's license.

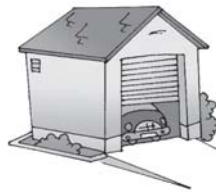
Also:

- Check with the Better Business Bureau (visit www.bbb.org) and the state licensing agency to find out if the contractor has any unresolved complaints on file.
- Beyond having a license, your contractor should be bonded and insured. Ask to see evidence that he is, and check expiration dates.
- Insist that the contractor obtain building permits for all work that requires them. If he refuses or tries to talk you out of it, cross him off your list. Applying for building permits will trigger an inspection by a local building official to make sure all work has been done according to building codes. The contractor—not you—should take responsibility for getting the necessary permits, but you should ask to see them.

Consumers file more complaints against remodelers, handymen and other home improvement contractors than against any other kind of service provider. Hundreds of thousands of businesses and individuals call themselves home improvement contractors or handymen. Make sure the one you let into your home has all of his paperwork in order.

FEBRUARY 2011 OUTAGE REPORT

<u>Substation</u>	<u>#Meters</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Duration</u>
1 George	21	Animal	02/12/11	52 Mins.
2 George	13	Other	02/17/11	42 Mins.
3 George	6	Storm	02/20/11	3 Hrs. 44 Mins.
4 Little Rock	18	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 15 Mins.
5 Rock Rapids	2	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 48 Mins.
6 George	3	Storm	02/20/11	35 Mins.
7 George	13	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 29 Mins.
8 Rock Rapids	12	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 15 Mins.
9 George	6	Storm	02/20/11	50 Mins.
10 Little Rock	9	Storm	02/20/11	2 Hrs. 40 Mins.
11 Little Rock	4	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 55 Mins.
12 Little Rock	6	Storm	02/20/11	1 Hr. 30 Mins.
13 George	6	Storm	02/21/11	56 Mins.
14 Rock Rapids	17	Storm	02/21/11	1 Hr. 35 Mins.
15 George	13	Storm	02/21/11	1 Hr. 5 Mins.
16 Little Rock	6	Storm	02/23/11	50 Mins.
17 Rock Rapids	12	Storm	02/23/11	51 Mins.
18 George	10	Storm	02/23/11	46 Mins.
19 Little Rock	4	Storm	02/23/11	49 Mins.
20 George	3	Storm	02/23/11	26 Mins.
21 Little Rock	5	Storm	02/23/11	29 Mins.
22 George	13	Storm	02/23/11	26 Mins.
23 Lester	2	Storm	02/23/11	26 Mins.



Cool off garage with insulation

It doesn't make sense to put an air conditioning system in a garage because the cool air will leak right through the door, ceiling and walls. But you can keep the space a bit more comfortable this summer by adding insulation.

Insulated walls, ceilings and doors can block the heat so it doesn't penetrate to the inside of the garage, and they can keep the cool, conditioned air indoors where it belongs. In the winter, it can help keep the cold air out.

If you need a new garage door, choose an energy-efficient model, which can reduce energy loss through the garage door by up to 71 percent, according to manufacturer Clopay.

Congratulations! Cooperative Scholarships Awarded:

Karlee Stubbe - Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative

Karissa Meyerhoff - Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative / Basin Electric Power Cooperative

Brianna Jansma - L&O Power Cooperative

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.

FEBRUARY OPERATING STATISTICS

	2010	2011
KWH Purchased	8,159,641	8,180,916
KWH Sold	7,832,728	7,614,717
Percentage of Line Loss		
(Year to Date)	3.86%	4.73%
Total Demand	15,056 KW	16,756 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,210 KWH	2,540 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$246.58	\$218.48
Income Per Mile	\$765.76	\$699.81
Expenses Per Mile	\$720.04	\$665.17
Miles Energized	872.86	872.86
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)...	4.05¢	4.79¢



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.



TAME THE HUMIDITY IN YOUR HOME'S AIR

Condensation, “fog” or frost on your home’s windows is a sure sign that they’re too inefficient to keep cold air out in the winter and in during the summer.

Moisture in the air condenses when it touches a cold surface, causing the glass to “sweat” like a cold glass of iced tea on a hot day. Condensation can form on the glass and even pool on the window sill. And like any excess moisture, it can eventually lead to mold and mildew. It also can damage your windows over time.

One solution: Replace drafty, single-pane windows with double-pane versions that are more energy efficient. If that’s not an option right now, install storm windows to add an extra layer of glass, and try taming the humidity inside your home. Here’s how:

1. Install ventilating fans in every bathroom, and turn them on before every shower. Let the fan run until the “fog” clears out of the bathroom, but no longer. Overuse of exhaust fans can send your home’s comfy, air-conditioned or heated air right out of the house.
2. Use the hood fan over your stove when you cook. Cooking sends moisture into the air—along with lingering odors. The fan will rid your home of those smells and humidity. Again, run the fan just long enough to clear the air.
3. Vent your clothes dryer to the outside. Check the duct for leaks, especially at the point where it’s attached to the dryer, and for obstructions that can prevent hot dryer air from escaping to the outdoors.
4. If you run humidifiers inside the home, don’t overdo it. It’s possible to add too much moisture to indoor air.

GET A/C
INSPECTED
BEFORE HOT
WEATHER



A springtime tune-up can prevent your air conditioning system from going on the fritz later, when the weather is so hot that you won’t want to be without the a/c for even a few hours.

It typically costs less than \$100 to have a professional inspection of your system, and it’s well worth the money.

Some contractors offer an annual preventive maintenance agreement, which will cost a few hundred dollars a year and typically includes a fall and spring inspection of your HVAC system and discounts on repairs and equipment. A better deal most often is to pay as you go for individual inspections.

Either way, your cooling system will get attention from a qualified, licensed service technician who is trained to spot problems that most homeowners overlook. The tech might even alert you if a small repair now will prevent your family from sweltering this summer during an a/c breakdown.

REMEMBER TO CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!
1-800-292-8989



DUSTY INDOOR AIR SIGNALS LEAKY DUCTS

If the air inside your house is dusty, it might mean your air conditioning ducts have sprung leaks.

If you’re changing your air conditioner filter regularly, it will trap dust and pollutants that get into the indoor air so they never make their way into the duct system—or back into the air.

But if the ducts have tiny holes or cracks or joints that aren’t well-sealed, dust can bypass the filter and sneak directly into the ducts. Once dust gets in there, the duct system will blow it all over the house.

Dust in the ducts and in the air can raise the temperature in your home and force your air conditioning system to operate inefficiently and struggle to keep your home cool during the summer.

It’s well worth it to have the ducts of your air conditioning system sealed at the joints.

Not only will it prevent dust from flying around your house, it could reduce your air conditioning bills this summer. The average house loses about 20 percent of its conditioned air through ducts that are improperly installed or are leaking at the joints.

