

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Phone : 712-472-2506 or 1-800-658-3976 ~ Website : www.lyonrec.coop
Office Hours : Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

REMINDERS

2026 Annual Meeting:

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative held its annual meeting on March 30, 2026 at the Central Lyon High School. We had a great turn out and served approximately 475 meals to our members. The meal was catered by Tony's Catering, and we appreciated their great service. Those who stayed for the meeting were entered into a drawing for numerous door prizes, and all attendees received a complimentary gift following the event. We're pleased to share the Board of Directors election results: Allen Poppens was re-elected for District 1, Jesse Roemen was re-elected for District 2, and Nolan Kooiker was re-elected for District at Large. Thank you to everyone who voted and joined us and made the evening a success!

2026 Board of Directors

Left to Right:

*David Huff (District 7),
David Griesse (District 4),
David DeBoer (District 6),
Allen Poppens (District 1),
Damon Pedersen (District 5),
Jesse Roemen (District 2),
Rodney Mogler (District-At-
Large West), Jeremy Mulder
(District 3), and Nolan Kooiker
(District-At-Large East)*

Lineworkers are Ready when it matters most

When storms impact our communities and outages occur, many people experience the inconvenience, but our lineworkers see a call to action. Our crews are always ready when it matters most—leaving family dinners, working through the night and heading into challenging conditions to restore power as safely and quickly as possible. That readiness is not accidental. It comes from rigorous training, deep experience and a shared commitment to serving others.

What makes lineworkers especially remarkable is that they aren't just restoring power to a system—they're restoring power to their own communities. They live here. They raise their families here. They understand that electricity is more than a convenience; it's essential to daily life, to local businesses, to schools, farms and emergency services. Powering the places we call home is personal to lineworkers.

Electric cooperatives like Lyon Rural Electric were built on the principle of neighbors helping neighbors, and our lineworkers embody that spirit every day. They are the first to respond and the last to leave, often working long hours behind the scenes. At times, serving our neighbors means going beyond our own service territory through a process known as mutual aid. During major outage events, Lyon Rural Electric crews stand ready to assist neighboring co-ops—sometimes close to home, and sometimes across state lines—to help restore power. This spirit of mutual aid strengthens all cooperatives and ultimately benefits the members we serve.

We understand any time the lights go out can be frustrating, bringing everyday life to a halt. We are incredibly grateful to our members for your patience and encouragement during these times. Linework is demanding, physical, and at times, it can be dangerous. Our crews approach each job with a focus on safety and teamwork. They take pride in their craft and in the trust our members place in them.

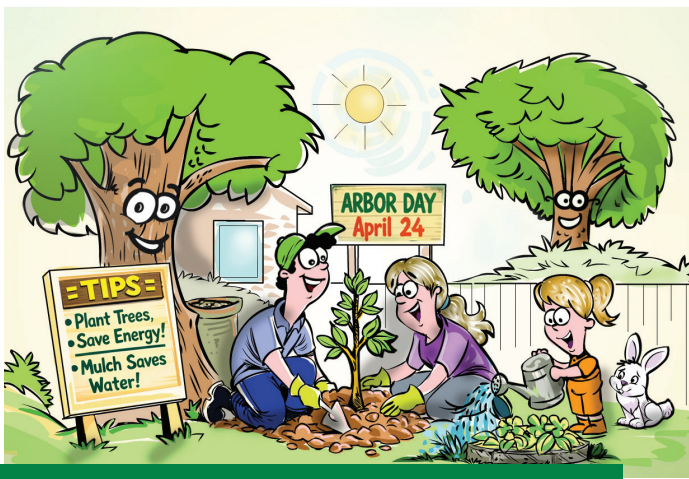
On April 13, 2026, we will celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day, but one day is hardly enough. Every day, we thank lineworkers for their service and dedication, which are the backbone of our cooperative.

To our lineworkers: thank you for your hard work, your readiness and your unwavering commitment to the communities we serve. We are proud to stand behind you and grateful for all that you do.



Line Crew

Left to Right: *Larry Wibben, Bryan Herum, Tanner Church, Gavin Johnson, Patrick Wubben and Tony DeSmet*



Plant shade now to save energy later

April is a great time to plant a tree.

Arbor Day is April 24 this year, and people all over the world will plant trees in their yards and communities. The day is a reminder that spring is the season to think long term about your home's energy use.

Planting trees, shrubs or climbing vines now can provide natural cooling in the summer and save energy on air conditioning.

Deciduous trees—the ones that shed their leaves in the fall—are particularly effective for energy efficiency because their lush leaves shade your home and yard in the summer and then allow sunlight to shine through your windows in the winter after their leaves fall.

Position trees on the south and west sides of your house to block harsh afternoon sun.

Fast-growing trees, like maples or lindens, offer benefits within a few years, while slower-growing species add long-term value and curb appeal.

Shrubs and vines can shade walls and windows while enhancing landscaping. A trellis with vines near sunny windows can reduce heat gain, lowering cooling costs.

Beyond energy savings, planting trees improves air quality, supports wildlife and adds value to your property. When selecting plants, consider native species that require minimal water and maintenance.

By planting shade this spring, you'll enjoy cooler indoor temperatures and you could lower your heating and cooling bills.

April showers bring electrical dangers



Spring rain is good for flowers. It is not good for extension cords.

Water and electricity, as you know, are a risky mix. April is a smart time to check your outdoor setup before yard work and storm season begin.

- Start with your cords. If a cord is cracked, frayed or warm when in use, replace it. Do not tape it. Do not run it through puddles. Keep connections off the ground and out of wet grass.
- Plug outdoor tools only into outlets protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter, or GFCI. These are designed to shut off power fast if something goes wrong. Test them each month. Push the "test" button. Then reset.
- Using power tools in a damp garage or driveway? Dry your hands. Wear shoes. Keep cords away from metal and standing water.
- Never pull a plug by the cord. Grab the plug itself. Yanking the cord can loosen wires and create a shock hazard later.
- Store cords indoors when you're finished using them outdoors. Sun and rain break them down over time.
- If you use a generator during storms, keep it outside and far from doors or windows. Never plug it directly into a wall outlet.

Small steps matter. A quick check now can prevent injuries later.



RESET TIMERS, SENSORS FOR LONGER DAYS

The days are getting longer, and that means you don't need your home's outdoor lights to automatically turn on quite as early.

Take a few minutes this weekend to reset outdoor motion sensors and timers to avoid wasting electricity when natural daylight is available.

Walk around your property and adjust timers to match sunrise and sunset schedules.

Photocell sensors should trigger lights only when it's actually dark. Motion-activated floodlights should be properly aimed to illuminate paths without lighting empty spaces.

While you're at it, replace any old bulbs with LED alternatives, which can reduce energy use. Consider smart lighting controls that allow scheduling from your phone or tablet.



Join us on a three-day trek across the Dakota Plains to tour the Antelope Valley power plant and the Coteau lignite mine August 5-7. In addition, tour the Garrison Dam.

We will depart from Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative August 5 on an air-conditioned charter bus. We will have plenty of movies, games and frequent rest stops to break up the day.

The big tour day is August 6. We will depart Bismarck, North Dakota, for the Garrison Dam, power plant and mine. Take an elevator to the top of the power plant to see the view, peek into the coal-burning furnace and enjoy the bus ride into the lignite open pit mine, weather permitting. In the evening, we will enjoy a relaxing supper and riverboat ride on the Missouri River.

On August 7 we head back home. We will have frequent rest stops to break up the day. We will return back to Lyon Rural Electric in the early evening.

The cost is only \$150.00 per person. The fee includes the cost of the hotel, bus, all meals, riverboat and snack breaks. Lyon Rural Electric shares the tour bus with two other cooperatives so just 15 seats are available. Sign up today or register to win all expenses paid tour at our annual meeting, March 30. Call Lyon Rural Electric today at 712-472-2506 or 800-658-3976 to reserve your seat!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As we prepare for the seasonal shift, remember to set your ceiling fan rotation accordingly. In winter months (or whenever your home heating system is running), fan blades should rotate clockwise, which produces an updraft that pushes warm air down. In summer months (or whenever your home cooling system is running), blades should rotate counterclockwise, which produces a downdraft or windchill effect that makes you feel cooler. When used correctly, ceiling fans can boost comfort and allow you to adjust the thermostat a few degrees for energy savings.

Source: energy.gov



Operating Statistics

FEBRUARY

	2025	2026
KWH Purchased	13,288,149	13,489,780
KWH Purchased	11,965,679	10,909,502
KWH Sold	11,534,261	10,519,000
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.60%	3.63%
Total Demand	23,046 KW	21,073 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,859 KWH	3,268 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$426.97	\$425.49
Income Per Mile	\$1,330.24	\$1,428.14
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,330.06	\$1,305.69
Miles Energized	914	872
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	6.70¢	7.17¢



Help older neighbors clean up after winter

As long as you're raking up leftover leaves and cleaning debris away from your own outdoor air conditioning unit, why not do the same for an older neighbor who otherwise might skip the cleanup this spring?

During the cleanup:

- Inspect extension cords, outdoor outlets and power strips for worn-out sections and exposed wires.
- Encourage your neighbor to replace any damaged equipment.
- Talk up the idea of adding GFCI outlets on porches and in the garage, where water might come into contact with electric devices like lawn tools.
- Store away space heaters, snowblowers or any other winter appliances that might be sitting on porches.

Your good deed could prevent a fire and make your neighbor's home safer.

'Shoulder season' can be real energy saver

The month or two between cold and warm weather gives you the perfect opportunity to save energy.

Milder temperatures mean heating season is winding down, but it's not warm enough for air conditioning. Some call this a "shoulder season."

Take advantage of the moderate weather by keeping both the heat and the air conditioning turned off. Instead, open windows to draw in fresh air and turn on ceiling fans.

Inspect and seal air leaks and clean AC filters. Open blinds, curtains and shades during daylight hours to reduce the need for electric lighting.

The shoulder season is brief, so forming smart habits now can keep energy bills lower while the outdoor weather keeps your home naturally comfortable.

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.



Nondiscrimination Statement

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

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at <https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-3027>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA containing all the information requested in the form. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; by fax (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or by Email: program.intake@usda.gov