

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.

Rock Rapids ■ AUGUST 2026

REMINDERS

Honoring Workers

Lyon Rural Electric will be closed on September 7, 2026 in observance of Labor Day.

Grant Funds Awarded to Lyon County Fair Board



On Wednesday evening, July 22, 2026 Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative had the honor of presenting grant checks totaling \$15,000 to the Lyon County Fair Board. Lyon REC's Board of Director's were given the opportunity to nominate a 501(c)(3) charity to receive the grant money provided by L&O Power Cooperative, Basin Electric Power Cooperative and CoBank.

Our county fair is one of the best examples of what makes Lyon County special. It brings people together, showcases the hard work of our youth, celebrates our agricultural heritage and creates memories that last a lifetime.

When flooding caused damage to the fairgrounds, we knew this was an opportunity to put one of our cooperative principals into action-Concern for Community. Cooperatives are built on neighbors helping neighbors, and when our community faces challenges, we all share in the responsibility to help. Thank you to everyone who has dedicated their time and effort into restoring the fairgrounds.

We appreciate everything the fair board and volunteers do to make the fair such a special event each year.

Lyon County Fair Live Line wire demonstration trailer

Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative was proud to partner with **Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives** to bring the Live Line Demonstration Trailer to Lyon County Fair on Wednesday, July 22 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. This interactive, high-voltage safety demonstration gave participants a firsthand look at how electricity behaves and why respecting power lines can save lives.

During the presentation, trained line workers demonstrated common electrical hazards, including downed power lines, equipment contact, and tree interference. The demonstrations emphasized simple but lifesaving practices for farmers, homeowners, students, first responders, and anyone who lives and works around electricity.

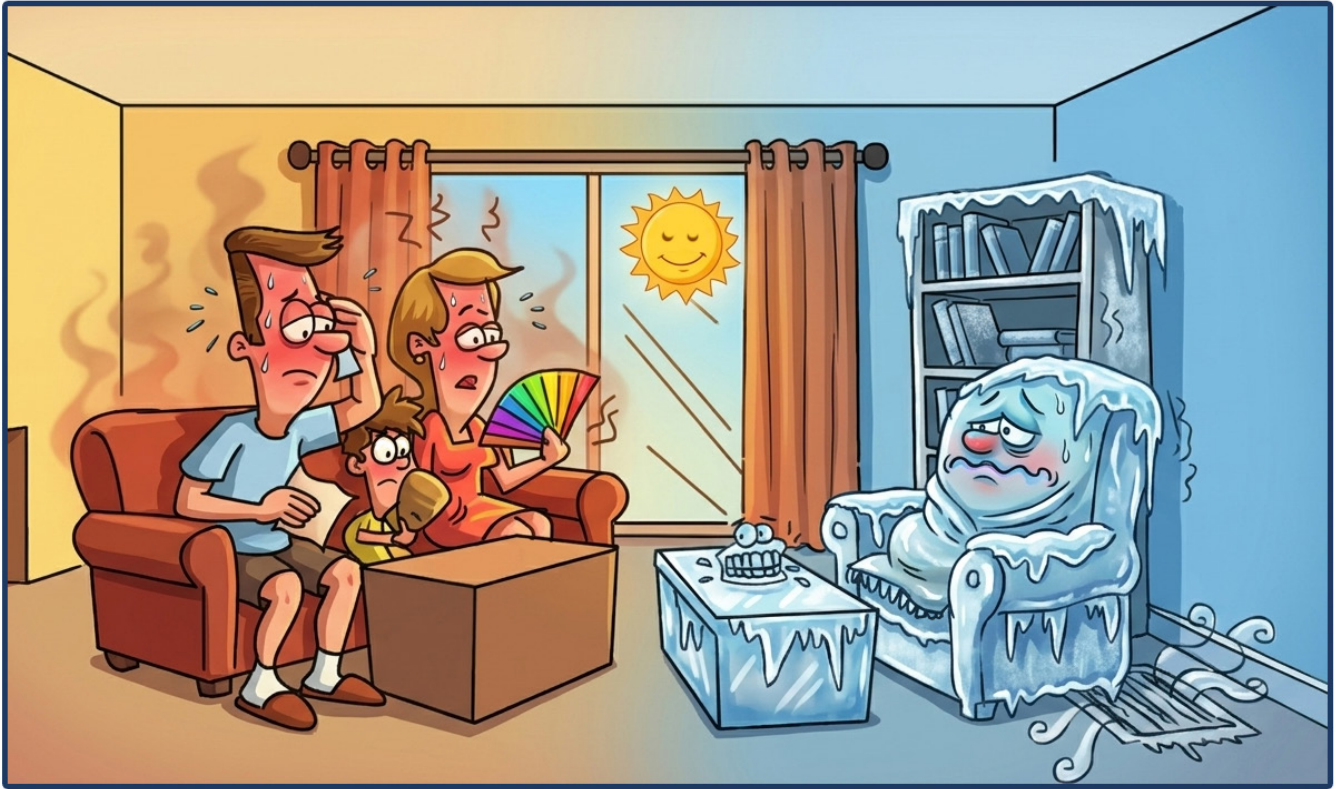
At Lyon REC, safety is our highest priority. By providing education programs like the Live Line Demonstration, we're helping build a safer community through awareness, preparedness, and hands-on learning.

This type of program aligns well with Lyon REC's mission of serving members not only with reliable electricity but also with education that helps keep families, farms, and communities safe.

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the Lyon County Fair to learn about electrical safety. We were grateful for the opportunity to share this live wire demonstration with our community.



WHY IS IT SO COULD IN HERE?



Cooling efficiency is not just about temperature settings. It also depends on how well air moves through your home.

When some rooms are too cold and others are sweltering hot, the culprit is probably poor airflow. When your a/c is not distributing cool air evenly throughout the home or even a single room, that can lead to wasted energy.

One common issue is blocked vents. Furniture placed over or in front of vents prevents conditioned air from reaching the room. Rearranging furniture to allow clear airflow can improve comfort without changing thermostat settings.

Return vents are just as important. These vents pull air back into the system to be cooled again. When they are blocked by carpet or furniture, the system cannot circulate air effectively.

Fans can help move cooled air where it is needed most. This can make rooms feel more comfortable without lowering the thermostat.

Simple changes to layout and airflow can make a noticeable difference, helping your cooling system work more efficiently during the summer months.

TOO HOT? CHECK THE ATTIC

During the summer, attic temperatures can climb far above outdoor levels, allowing heat to radiate down into living spaces. This hidden source of heat can make your air conditioning system work harder than necessary.

Start by checking attic ventilation. Soffit and ridge vents should be clear and unobstructed to allow hot air to escape. Blocked vents can trap heat and increase indoor temperatures.

Gaps around attic access points, such as pull-down stairs or hatches, can also allow hot air to enter the home. Sealing these areas with weatherstripping or insulation can help reduce heat transfer.

In some cases, attic fans may improve airflow, but they should be used carefully to avoid disrupting the balance of the home's ventilation system.

Still, addressing attic heat does not require a full renovation. Even small improvements in insulation can make a difference by slowing the movement of heat into living areas.

CAN'T AFFORD BETTER WINDOWS?

Older homes can be especially difficult to keep cool during peak summer heat, but expensive window replacements are not the only solution. Small, targeted changes can make a noticeable difference.

Start by sealing air leaks. Caulking and weatherstripping around outlets and windows—both indoors and out—can help keep hot air out and cooled air in.

At night, take advantage of lower outdoor temperatures by opening windows and using fans to pull in cooler air. In the morning, close windows and blinds early to trap that cooler air inside.

Temporary window improvements can also help. Interior inserts, cellular shades and reflective panels reduce heat gain without permanent installation. Focus on south- and west-facing windows, which receive the most direct sunlight.

It may also help to run your air conditioning earlier in the day, before outdoor temperatures peak. This can reduce strain on the system later.

While older homes present energy-efficiency challenges, a combination of sealing and shading, along with smart timing, can improve comfort without major renovations.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

August heat can put your air conditioner to the test, making it a great time to check your system's air filter. A dirty, clogged filter restricts airflow, forcing your cooling system to work harder than necessary to keep your home comfortable. That extra strain can reduce efficiency, increase energy use and contribute to unnecessary wear and tear on equipment. Inspect your filter monthly during periods of heavy air conditioner use and replace it if it appears dirty. A clean filter supports efficient operation and can even enhance indoor air quality—helping you stay cool and comfortable during the hottest days of summer.



DON'T FALL FOR SUMMER HOME REPAIR SCAMS

As temperatures rise, so do reports of door-to-door home repair scams.

Contractors may show up uninvited, claiming your air conditioner is about to fail or your roof was damaged in a recent storm. Some even say they are already working in your neighborhood and can offer a "today only" deal.

Don't fall for it.

These high-pressure tactics are designed to push homeowners into quick decisions. Warning signs include requests for large upfront payments, insistence on cash, lack of a written estimate or no verifiable business address. In some cases, scammers may pose as utility workers and ask to check your meter or demand payment to avoid service shutoff.

Before agreeing to any work, take a few minutes to verify the company. Ask for a license number and proof of insurance. Look up the business independently and check for reviews or complaints. Legitimate contractors will provide written estimates and allow time for questions.

If something feels off, it probably is. Taking a pause can protect both your home and your wallet during the busiest repair season of the year.

Operating Statistics

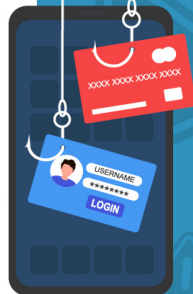
	JUNE	
	2025	2026
KWH Purchased	11,361,735	11,578,425
KWH Sold	11,160,723	11,352,213
Percentage of Line Loss (Year to Date)	3.06%	3.07%
Total Demand	22,058 KW	22,075 KW
Average Farm Consumption	3,089 KWH	3,032 KWH
Average Farm Bill	\$374.30	\$418.45
Income Per Mile	\$1,237.52	\$1,565.72
Expenses Per Mile	\$1,222.61	\$1,336.10
Miles Energized	983	872
Cost of Wholesale (For the Month)	7.20¢	7.45¢

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



One of the best ways to protect yourself from online scams is by using strong passwords. While many people focus on complexity—adding symbols, numbers and capital letters—password length is equally important. A longer password or passphrase is generally harder for cybercriminals to crack than a short, complex one. Consider creating a memorable phrase made up of several unrelated words, and avoid using personal information like birthdays or pet names. Use a unique password for each account and enable multi-factor authentication when possible. Taking these simple steps can help keep your personal information and online accounts secure.

Source: CISA



MAKE WINDOW A/C UNITS MORE EFFICIENT

Window air conditioning units are a common solution for summer cooling, but many lose efficiency due to simple installation issues. A few small adjustments can improve performance and reduce energy use.



- ▶ Start by sealing gaps around the unit. Even small openings above or beside the unit allow hot air to enter and cooled air to escape. The accordion panels that come with many units often provide minimal insulation, so adding foam board or insulation can improve their effectiveness.
- ▶ Outdoor shade can also make a difference. Direct sunlight forces the unit to work harder, so installing an awning or placing shade above the unit can reduce the load. Inside, keep curtains or blinds closed during the hottest part of the day.
- ▶ Regular maintenance matters as well. Clean or replace filters to maintain proper airflow and check that the unit is slightly tilted outward so condensation drains correctly.

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.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

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