



FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Open Lines

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

Happy 4TH OF JULY

Office Closed

The Farmers Electric office will be closed July 3 for Independence Day. We wish all our members a safe and happy holiday!

NOTE: Our lobby remains closed to the public until further notice. Please call us if you have any questions about your service.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.



THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE:

Call for Board Nominations

Farmers Electric Cooperative would like to thank the following volunteers for serving on the

Nominating Committee:

West District:

Kent Stender, (712) 779-5590
Carl Ford, (641) 745-5255

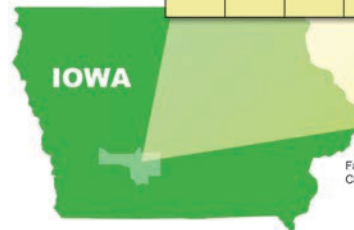
Central:

Cliff Powell, (641) 740-2020
Dave Doud, (515) 523-2006

East:

Michael Rhoads, (515) 468-8297
Tim Pierce, (515) 468-8830

As a member-owner of Farmers Electric Cooperative, you can run for a term on the Board of Directors. Nominees must be Farmers member-owners and reside in the district for which they are running. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the cooperative board, please contact a committee member in your district or call the cooperative office.



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc. serves portions of Audubon, Cass, Adair, Union, Guthrie and Madison counties.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public

assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American

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SAVE THE DATE

Farmers Electric Annual Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 330
Greenfield, IA 50849
FarmersREC.com | (800) 397-4821

Nondiscrimination...
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Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form.

To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

*Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights*

*1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;*

Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

Email: program.intake@usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Help Us Find These Missing Members

One of the biggest benefits of being a member of a cooperative is sharing in its success. Every year, once all financial statements have been finalized and audited, the co-op records the margin, or the difference between revenue and expenses. These margins are held for 15-20 years before being dispersed to Farmers Electric Cooperative members based on

their electric usage in the year the margins were recorded.

The list below represents those members whose checks have not been cashed, for one reason or another. It's very important that Farmers finds these people as soon as possible so that we can forward payment. If you see your name or have information on the whereabouts of any of the members below, please contact us.

Akers, Christopher	Winterset	Linhart, John	Truro
Akers, Joe	Indianola	Logan, Lisa	Des Moines
Alderson, Larry Dean	Lorimor	Mapes, Lola	Fort Dodge
Algreen, Lonnie	Winterset	McAfee, Steve	Massena
Bathurst, David	Greenfield	McGhee, Loretta	Des Moines
Beemer, Michael	Bridgewater	McMartin, Joanne	Massena
Bernhardt, Robert	Atlantic	Polito, Brandon	Creston
Betterton, Joel	Adair	Radke, Larry	Des Moines
Brass Ring Farm, LLC	Pella	Roberts, Jeffrey	Johnston
Clark, May Jean	Winterset	Ruchti, Rose	Winterset
Clay, Brent	Winterset	Rudolf, Robert	Winterset
Cohrs, Teri	Fontanelle	Sharp, Carolyn	Des Moines
Country Haven		Smith, Doug	Orient
Guest Home	Winterset	Smith, Kenneth	Dexter
Dudney, Chisum	Murray	Tracy, Jon	Winterset
Endres, Edwin	Norwalk	Van Baalen, Mark	Boone
Erickson, Marty	Cumberland	Van Baalen, Sherman	Panora
Foley, M.L.	Winterset	Wallace, Michael A.	Brayton
Fowler, Rose	Murray	Walter, Ben	Afton
Fox, Jeffrey	West Des Moines	Wimber, Melissa	Afton
Fredericksen, Daryl	Casey	Wishman, Mark	Ankeny
Hamilton, Judy	Winterset	Wolfe, Lois	Grimes
Hamner, Betty	Stuart	Wren, Mike	Des Moines
Hockett, Richard	Norwalk		
Johnson, Charles B.	Greenfield		
Lee, Charles	Winterset		
Lewis, John	Fontanelle		
Lewis, Marvin	Lamoni		
Lillie, Scott	Winterset		

Beat the Peak!

Peak hours are the busiest times for your local electric cooperative. It costs your co-op more to generate electricity when demand soars during peak periods – and the cost of your electricity also may rise. Obviously, using less electricity during peak periods can save your co-op – and you – money.

Here's how you can help during peak hours, which generally occur on the hottest summer days between 4-9 p.m.:

- Shift household chores and activities away from peak periods.
- Turn the A/C thermostat up when you are gone and at night. Cool only the rooms you're using.
- Use the most energy-efficient appliances you have. Your microwave oven, for example, uses considerably less energy than your stove or cooktop.
- If you're buying a new appliance, make sure to look for ENERGY STAR® labels when you're evaluating different models.
- Be aware of your energy consumption, and try to get in the habit of using energy efficiently year-round.

Use the energy you need, but use it wisely! You'll help your co-op avoid building expensive new power plants – and that, in turn, will help keep your electric rates stable.

2019 Central Iowa Power Cooperative Power Supply Report

If 2018 was a groundbreaking year for Central Iowa Power Cooperative, then 2019 was a year of executing on strategy. The opportunities afforded by change produced strategies to sustain connections within our broad electric cooperative network as well as connections to CIPCO's proud past and future vision. The organization rolled up its sleeves and got to work implementing new strategic priorities along with new generation projects designed to partially replace output from one of CIPCO's primary sources of energy, the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), set to close in October of 2020.

These new generation projects fall right in line with CIPCO's goal of providing a diverse, 24/7 energy portfolio. In particular, progress continued on Wapello Solar, a 100 MW facility on 850 acres in Louisa County, from which we will purchase 100 percent of its output. Developed by Clēnera, LLC, Wapello Solar is Iowa's largest solar project. In 2019, we completed a transmission system impact study for when Wapello Solar is placed into service and worked with the developer as they obtained zoning approvals along with a generating certificate from the Iowa Utilities Board. We expect Wapello Solar to come online in late 2020. In addition, an \$85 million repowering project is taking place at the existing Summit Lake Generating Station in Creston. The modernization project for the 70-year-old plant will add 55 MW of efficient natural gas-fired reciprocating engines to CIPCO's portfolio, while retiring the old steam engines. Significant work took place throughout the year, with Creston transmission crews rerouting substantial lines in preparation for the Summit Lake North substation deconstruction and rebuild. The new engines are expected to be in place and operational in late 2020.

Farmers Electric Cooperative and CIPCO strive to provide safe, affordable and reliable power to our consumer-members across the system. When it comes to safety, we're proud of CIPCO's achievement of two million hours worked over 10 years without a lost-time injury. In addition, the

implementation of the Low Voltage New-To-Replace-Old (NTRO) program in 1986 and the expansion of it in 1995 includes over 845 miles of rebuilt line. NTRO, along with sound operating and maintenance programs, helps ensure our power supply system attains the high degree of reliability our consumer-members expect and deserve. CIPCO's system-wide 2019 outage rate was 0.44 hours per consumer. This is the eighth consecutive year in which outage totals were less than the target of one hour per consumer. CIPCO's average outage total for 2019 for Farmers Electric Cooperative was 0.41 hours per customer.

Financial strength is integral to our success and has led to strong credit ratings, stable rates that are now the lowest among G&Ts in the Midwest, and access to borrowing capital to complete system upgrades and enhancements cost effectively. Fitch Ratings recently completed its annual review and affirmed CIPCO's "A" Issuer Default Rating and its Rating Outlook as Stable. The unexpected early closure of DAEC underscores the important actions taken over many years to manage risk and position CIPCO to withstand the loss of a vital generation resource. As a result, CIPCO has managed through this period of change by adjusting its future resource strategy while maintaining stable or declining rates as new cost-effective resources are secured. CIPCO's 2019 average system rate was the lowest in more than 10 years.

Returning patronage capital is a fundamental component of the cooperative business model. CIPCO remains dedicated to sound financial practices that allow margins to be returned to its members in the form of patronage. During 2019, CIPCO returned patronage totaling \$400,261 to Farmers Electric Cooperative.

In today's energy-conscious world, CIPCO and



DAN WESTPHAL
Representative on
the CIPCO Board of
Directors

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FRESH from the GARDEN

Fresh vegetables from your own garden add more than flavor to your dishes. Enjoying the taste of something freshly picked, that you grew yourself and tended with your own hands is a sweet reward for your work.



Each month, Farmers Electric Cooperative places a call for recipes in various categories. Winners receive a \$5 credit on their account, with their recipes appearing in the next month's issue. Mail entries with your bill to: P.O. Box 330, Greenfield, IA 50849; or e-mail them to: HWeston@farmersrec.com.

JULY RECIPES: COOL TREATS

Power Supply Report...from pg. 2

Farmers Electric Cooperative are committed to ensuring consumer-members use energy wisely and utilize available options to reduce excess energy consumption. As a result of these efforts, CIPCO and its member systems issued energy-efficiency rebates saving approximately 13,233,348 million kWh. In comparison, the average house uses nearly 11,000 kWh a year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. That includes 159,885 kWh savings for Farmers Electric Cooperative members.

I'm proud of the actions taken in 2019 to sustain our connections within the rural electric industry. Our actions have strengthened CIPCO's mission to provide consumer-members with wholesale power and services in a safe, reliable, and cost-effective manner. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your representative on both the local board of directors and the CIPCO board of directors. I am proud to say, as a result of decisions made in 2019, Farmers Electric Cooperative's consumer-members, as well as the entire CIPCO system, will be well-served now and into the future.

Garden Pasta Salad

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (16 oz.) box rotini pasta
- 1 pint of cherry tomatoes (I use red and yellow), halved or quartered
- 1/4 c. green pepper, diced

- 1 cucumber, sliced and cut into quarters
- 1 c. mozzarella cheese, diced into cubes
- 1/2 to 3/4 c. Italian dressing

Cook the rotini pasta according to package directions. Drain and rinse under cold water. In a large bowl combine the pasta and remaining ingredients and stir until combined. As the salad sits it may require a little more dressing as the noodles soak up the dressing. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

**Not a fan of Italian dressing? Just swap it out for your favorite dressing.*



Photo: ServedUpWithLove.com

Fresh Tomato & Mozzarella Salad

INGREDIENTS

- 8 oz. fresh mozzarella
- 2 c. cherry tomatoes, halved
- Fresh parsley for topping, chopped

Dressing:

- 3 T. extra light olive oil
- 1 T. Red wine vinegar
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 4-6 twists of fresh cracked pepper

Slice fresh mozzarella smaller than tomatoes halves (can use mozzarella pearls and halve). Mix together olive oil, red wine vinegar, minced garlic and pepper (to taste) and pour over tomatoes and mozzarella. Stir until well mixed and sprinkle top with parsley. Chill 15 minutes or up to a day to allow flavors to marinate.



Photo: Green Valley Kitchen

Shelby Herrick, Greenfield



Open Lines is a monthly publication of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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The mission of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to deliver safe, reliable, affordable electricity and other services to improve the quality of life within our communities. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.