

FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Open Lines

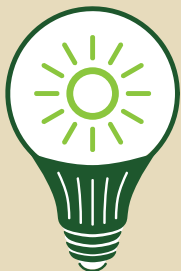
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing. *Source: Dept. of Energy*



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 330

Greenfield, IA 50849

FarmersREC.com | (800) 397-4821

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE:

Seeking Local Leaders for Co-op Board

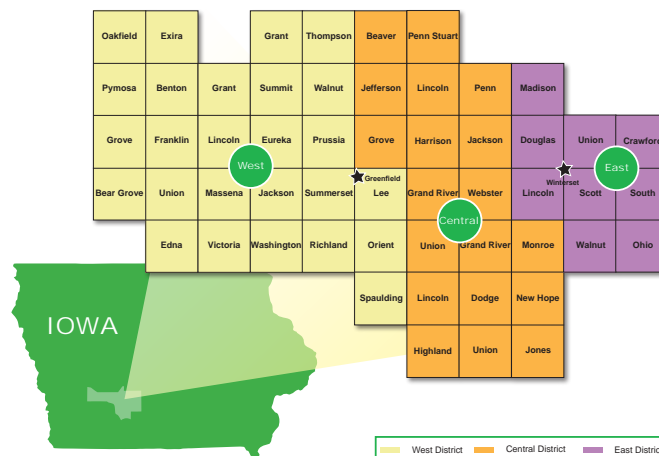
As a member of Farmers Electric Cooperative, you have a say in how your cooperative is run. It's one of the tenets cooperatives live by and it's what sets us apart from other investor-owned utilities.

Co-op board members are elected by and from the membership and are invested in the financial health of the cooperative because those important decisions affect them, too. Anyone who is a member of Farmers Electric can serve on the board of directors. Board members provide input on fiscal matters, setting goals, approving budget items and staying informed of regional and national utility industry trends that may affect their fellow co-op members.

And, serving on the board of directors is a great way to give back to your community while gaining valuable leadership skills.

The nine-member board of directors includes three directors from each of three districts. Every year, a nominating committee of volunteers seeks individuals from their district to run in the election, held during the annual meeting in September. Nominees must be co-op members who reside in the district for which they are running. If you are unsure which district you are in, call our office at (800) 397-4821.

One director from each district will seek re-



election this year. They are:

West District: **Kevin Tanner**

Central District: **Kris Petter**

East District: **Janelle Pieffer**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee helps find candidates to run in each district. Call a committee representative in your district to learn more.

East District:

Michael Rhoads, (515) 468-8297

Justin Keating, (515) 468-7255

Central District:

Dave Doud, (515) 238-4207

Rob Long, (641) 344-3028

West District:

Kent Stender, (712) 779-5590

Carl Ford, (641) 745-5255

Show You Care with RECare

As a cooperative, Farmers Electric adheres to a set of seven guiding principles that form the foundation of our business model. The seventh cooperative principle, Concern for Community, gives Farmers a chance to encourage our members to help their neighbors and community by participating in RECare.

With RECare, a one-time or monthly contribution can help offset high bills for those who need it most. RECare funds can also be used to weatherize the recipient's home and help make electricity usage more efficient. Your donation is directed to local community action agencies for distribution to low-income families near you.

Member Authorization Form

Yes, I want to help Farmers members through the RECare program.

☐ Enclosed is a check with a one-time donation.

☐ I would like to make a monthly donation of \$ _____. I understand this amount will be added to my electric bill each month.

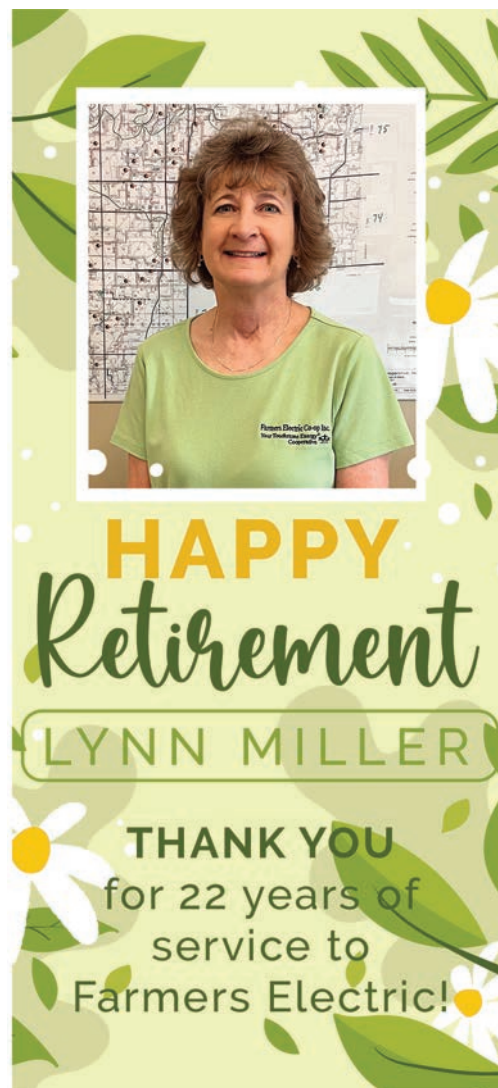
Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Account # _____

Cut out this form and mail to: RECare, c/o Farmers Electric Cooperative, 2389 Hwy. 92, Greenfield, IA 50849; or visit www.farmersrec.com to fill out an online form.



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY WORD SEARCH



Read the safety tips below, then find and circle the bolded words in the puzzle at right!

- Never bring electrical **devices** near a swimming pool. **Electrical** devices that come in contact with **water** can cause electric shock.
- When possible, use **battery**-operated devices when **outdoors** near a pool.
- Outdoor electrical **outlets** should be **dry** or covered.
- If you hear thunder, immediately exit the **pool**. Thunderstorms and lightning may be near.

C	Y	P	G	V	Q	B	X	S	E	D	R	N	L	Y
I	R	O	J	R	H	S	R	L	J	M	R	I	J	F
I	E	O	X	M	W	O	E	V	T	W	G	Y	L	A
M	T	L	T	J	O	C	M	H	O	H	M	H	K	H
V	T	P	A	D	T	M	C	K	T	Z	G	E	U	Q
E	A	Y	T	R	P	O	Z	N	E	J	K	Y	M	B
H	B	U	I	P	T	E	I	D	Q	K	C	X	Q	M
Z	O	C	L	F	W	N	W	W	C	N	K	J	N	S
R	A	I	T	B	G	G	S	D	R	T	H	T	I	K
L	E	I	T	K	J	K	N	H	X	Z	C	B	Y	J
L	K	T	A	Z	X	T	Y	H	E	Q	D	P	R	R
N	X	M	A	X	M	Q	S	E	C	I	V	E	D	F
Z	O	Y	D	W	O	U	T	L	E	T	S	U	V	L
X	N	P	Y	C	Y	O	H	O	P	J	L	R	C	Q
Z	M	J	Y	L	X	R	L	B	E	N	B	H	C	K





Help Us Shine The Light on Community Volunteers

Again this year, Farmers Electric is excited to join electric cooperatives across the state to “shine the light” on local volunteers in our communities. Nominations will be accepted through June 30 at www.iowashinethelight.com.

Sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, three winners will each receive a \$2,500 donation to their local charity or nonprofit.

Members and employees of Iowa’s electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate local volunteers. If you receive electricity from Farmers Electric, you’re a co-op member and we encourage you to nominate someone who is making a positive impact in the community.

The volunteer being nominated does not need to be a co-op member, however. Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians. The three winners will be announced in September and featured in Iowa Electric Cooperative Living magazine.

Contest rules and more information are available at www.iowashinethelight.com.

Help us shine the light on community volunteers this summer and consider making a nomination!

Preparing to Serve You Better

Providing reliable power to you is and will always be top priority for Farmers Electric. These days, power reliability seems to be making news more than ever.

As the energy industry continues to transition and more segments of the economy are becoming electrified, such as vehicles, machinery and even lawn equipment, additional pressures are being placed on our nation’s electric grid.

With summer storm season upon us, I thought it would be a good time to tell you about a few measures we’re taking to ensure you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

Let me be the first to say I love trees and the charm they add to our communities, and I know you do too. While trees provide shade and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounts for about half of all power outages.

That’s why we strive to keep the co-op’s power lines clear in right-of-way (ROW) areas. A ROW area is the land a co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. This ROW enables our co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder distribution power lines. The overall

goal of our vegetation management strategy is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our area. Generally speaking, healthy trees don’t fall on power lines, and clear lines don’t cause problems.

Although it may seem counterintuitive, we also maintain power reliability through planned, controlled outages. By carefully cutting power to one part of our local area for a few hours, Farmers Electric can perform system repairs and upgrades, which ultimately improves electric service. Rest assured, we will always notify you in advance of a planned outage, so make sure we have your correct contact information on file to receive updates.

Vegetation management is an essential tool in ensuring power reliability and minimizing the risk of outages. As advancements become more accessible and costs drop, we anticipate using additional technologies to ensure a consistent energy supply while managing the environment.

Lastly, I encourage you to follow us on social media so you can learn about the latest co-op updates and any power outages that may affect you or your family.



HOLI WESTON
CEO

Together we can

BEAT THE PEAK

Run your washer or dryer during off-peak times
such as before 3 p.m. or after 8 p.m.

Raise your thermostat a few degrees

Turn off all lights during the day or in empty rooms

Supplement air conditioner use with ceiling fans to keep cool



BLT Pasta Salad

8 oz. spiral pasta
3-4 c. chopped romaine lettuce (or 10 oz. pkg. pre-cut romaine lettuce)

1 pint grape tomatoes, halved

1 1/2 c. shredded cheddar cheese

1 1/2 c. chopped bacon

Dressing:

3/4 c. mayo

1/4 c. sour cream

1 T. milk

1/2 tsp. pepper

1/4 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. garlic powder

1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper, optional

Stir together all ingredients for dressing until smooth and well-combined. Set aside. Prepare pasta according to package instructions. When finished cooking, drain well and transfer to a large salad bowl. Add chopped lettuce, grape tomatoes, cheddar cheese, bacon bits/pieces, and your prepared dressing. Toss/stir very well, until ingredients are well-combined.



midgetmomma.com

Jalapeño Popper Chicken Salad

10 slices of crispy bacon, crumbled
3 jalapeños diced, stem & seeds removed
5 green onions
4 c. cooked, shredded chicken
1 c. shredded cheddar cheese
4 oz. cream cheese
1/2 c. mayonnaise
Salt and pepper to taste

In a bowl add chicken, bacon, jalapeños, green onions, and cheese. Add mayo, cream cheese, and salt, and pepper to taste. Stir until well combined. Refrigerate until ready to eat. Top with extra bacon or green onions and for an extra spicy kick drizzle with your favorite hot sauce!



stylishcravings.com

Enter to win \$5 off your electric bill!

Mail your recipe with your bill to: P.O. Box 330, Greenfield, IA 50849; or e-mail to: HWeston@farmersrec.com. Send recipes by the 15th of each month to be included in the newsletter.

JULY: Grilling Recipes for National Grilling Month
AUGUST: Summer Vegetables



HAPPY
Father's Day
JUNE 18



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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.