

FARMERS *Open Lines*

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

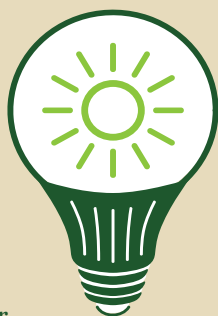


**Farmers Electric
Annual Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 16**


Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes dryers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower.

Running heat-emitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary.



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

YOUTH TOUR 2025



Brooke Davis receives instructions on the wreath-laying ceremony held at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

This year's Farmers Electric Cooperative Youth Tour representative, Brooke Davis, has returned from her week-long trip to Washington, D.C., that occurred June 15-21.

Accompanying her and the other students from Iowa as a group chaperone was Farmers Electric Journeyman Lineman Joe Blankenship.

Brooke will speak about her experiences on the trip during the Farmers Electric Annual Meeting Sept. 16 at the Adair Co. Fairgrounds.



Brooke Davis and Joe Blankenship in front of the U.S. Capitol. Joe volunteered as a chaperone for the students as they toured Washington, D.C.



2024 POWER SUPPLY REPORT: MEMBER DRIVEN. RELIABILITY FOCUSED.

The reliable and affordable power we benefit from today is the result of careful planning and prudent investments that occurred decades ago. To be sure, when Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., was founded in 1938, the energy landscape looked quite different than it does today. Once in its infancy, our bulk electric system has now matured with the assistance of diversified power generation sources and improved technology.

As your representative on the Central Iowa Power Cooperative Board of Directors, I am committed to the critical work of continuing the stewardship of your electric service that began all those years ago. Decisions made then, and decisions made now will determine our future path to success. To get there, we need to keep our eyes focused on the horizon.

For that reason, the CIPCO Board of Directors began 2024 by refreshing our strategic plan. Safety and security, reliability, strategic partnerships and financial strength were the pillars upon which we weighed every action we took on behalf of our Member-owner electric cooperatives. We mindfully and conservatively deliberated plans for much-needed new power generation, fortified by the findings of an updated Integrated Resource Plan, which clearly asserted the demand for electricity shows no signs of slowing down.

Basically, the sooner we can have new generation up and running, the better.

Rising demand for electricity across our region stems from industrial expansion of manufacturing facilities, data centers, mining cryptocurrency, small businesses and ongoing residential growth and general electrification. While it certainly

presents an opportunity, it is not risk-free. Today's complex regulatory environment complicates our business and has threatened the affordability and reliability of the generation we need to serve these large loads. Our ongoing partnership with fellow CIPCO Member-owners to mitigate some of these risks through innovative rates and contract structures has prepared us to welcome new businesses and industries and expand existing ones.

As a CIPCO Board member, I am excited about what the future holds for CIPCO, and Farmers Electric, as we pursue opportunities to bolster our balanced and diverse portfolio with reliable energy and capacity that will consistently serve us for decades to come. The planning for the development and construction of new generation assets in 2024 will be remembered as the launch of the latest capacity expansion for CIPCO.

CIPCO's positive financial standing is due to the long-term support of its Member-owners like Farmers Electric. For 2024, CIPCO realized a net margin of \$30.4 million, well ahead of budget. Throughout the year, CIPCO maintained stable rates, returned patronage capital to our cooperative, and strengthened the balance sheet as we planned for major capital additions.

Despite May 2024 tornado outbreak that caused widespread damage across the CIPCO system, CIPCO maintained an overall outage rate of 0.84 hours per consumer, still under the target of 1.00 hour per consumer. For 2024, Farmers Electric's was 1.17 hours per member.



DAN WESTPHAL
Representative on
the CIPCO Board
of Directors

On the financial side, in 2024, both Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings once again maintained CIPCO's 'A' ratings which confirm CIPCO's financial strength. This was echoed in the sound financial practices that allowed margins to be returned to CIPCO Member-owners in the form of patronage, a key component of the cooperative business model. In 2024, CIPCO returned patronage totaling \$465,468 to Farmers Electric.

CIPCO was created for one reason: to serve its Member-owner cooperatives. Its transmission system remains reliable, and its growing power supply resources enhance the value of membership. We are proud of our accomplishments and remain confident that the path ahead will bring continued reliability and opportunities for your local electric cooperative.

SEE YOU AT THE IOWA STATE FAIR! AUG. 7-17, 2025



Visit our booth in the 4-H Exhibits Building. We'll hand out plastic hard hats and suckers (while supplies last). Snap a pic in our co-op safety selfie station!



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives of Iowa

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Mission Areas, agencies, staff, offices, 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.

Program information may be made available in language other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible Mission Area, agency, or staff office; the USDA TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY); or the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

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.usda.gov/forms/electronic-forms>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address,

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WATER SAFETY WORD SCRAMBLE

Outdoor water activities and electricity never mix because water is a powerful conductor of electricity. When electrical devices or cords come into contact with water—like at a pool, lake or beach—it can cause serious electric shocks. Keep all electrical items far away from water and always follow safety rules when you're outside near water.



Read the sentences below, then unscramble the bolded letters to complete the safety tips.

1. Never touch electrical **cseviel**, switches or plugs when your hands are wet.
2. Always place **lacertceil** items like radios, speakers or lights at least 10 feet away from the water's edge.
3. After using outdoor electronics, **ngulup** them and store them away from water to prevent accidents.
4. Keep extension **dsroc** far away from water sources to prevent tripping hazards.
5. Always pay attention to “no **wmsining**” signs, whether at the pool, beach or lake.

Answer Key
(1) devices (2) electrical (3) unplugging (4) cords (5) swimming

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION...continued

telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of the alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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GRILLED CHEESE STUFFED PEPPERS

- 2 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 T. shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 T. minced onion
- 1/2 clove garlic, minced
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. lime juice
- 7 jalapeno peppers or 3 red bell peppers halved and seeded

Heat grill to medium (400 degrees). Combine all ingredients but the peppers. Fill peppers with cheese mixture and place cheese side up on greased, grill safe pan. Cook 8-9 minutes.

Cindy Moss, Fontanelle



cookinchicks.com

GRILLED BRUSCHETTA CHICKEN

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1/4 c. olive oil
- 2 T. balsamic vinegar
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 T. Italian seasoning
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 2 c. plum tomatoes, diced
- 1/4 c. red onion, diced
- 1/2 c. shredded Italian cheese (or parmesan)
- 1/4 c. fresh basil, chopped

In a small bowl, combine olive oil, balsamic vinegar, garlic, Italian seasoning, salt and pepper. Place chicken into sealed plastic bag and pour half the marinade into bag. Seal and shake to coat chicken evenly. Marinate for 15 minutes, minimum. Preheat grill to medium heat (350 degrees). In medium bowl, combine the other half of the marinade with the diced tomatoes and red onion. Grill chicken for about 5-6 minutes per side, or until cooked through. Transfer chicken to a serving plate and sprinkle shredded cheese on top. Spoon unused half of bruschetta mixture on top of each chicken breast and add fresh basil if desired.

CALL FOR RECIPES

Each month, Farmers Electric invites readers and members to submit their favorite recipe for publication in this newsletter and a chance to get \$5 off their next electric bill.

To enter, mail your recipe with your bill to: Farmers Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 330, Greenfield, IA 50849; or email it to: HWeston@farmersrec.com.

AUGUST: Vegetables

SEPTEMBER: None

ABOUT US



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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.

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TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



If you receive an email that appears to be from Farmers Electric but you are unsure about it, delete it. Never click on a link, open an attachment or send a reply to an untrusted source. When in doubt, contact Farmers Electric directly to report the email.

