

Hawkeye REC recognized by Winneshiek Development

Winneshiek County Development, Inc. recently presented four businesses with its "Impact Award" and one business with its "Partners in Progress Award." The Impact Award, which recognizes the economic contribution of businesses in Winneshiek County, was given to Hawkeye REC, Eclips Salon & Day Spa of Decorah, Viking State Bank, and Decorah Bank & Trust. The "Partners in Progress Award", which recognizes the help that Winneshiek County businesses have given to economic development activities in Winneshiek County, was awarded to Spectrum Industries.



(L to R) Winneshiek County Economic Development Director Randy Uhl, Hawkeye's Business Development Manager Pat Boyle and CEO/General Manager Tom Miller accept Hawkeye's "Impact Award" given by Winneshiek County Development, Inc.

Hawkeye's Current Projects in Winneshiek County:

- ▶ Winneshiek County Memorial Hospital
- ▶ Dairy Foundation at NICC
- ▶ Decorah Jobs Industrial Park
- ▶ Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum-past project

Hawkeye has assisted with other businesses and private industries through the USDA Revolving Loan Fund program and Dairyland Power Cooperative's economic development program.

Notice: New Mail Ballot Process This Year

There will not be a REC Newsletter published in March. You will receive annual meeting information, along with a voting ballot to be mailed in a postage paid return envelope provided *instead* of the Annual Report booklet as you received in the past.

Look for these materials in your mailbox the week of March 20th along with your registration card for a chance to win great prizes at this year's annual meeting. (Must be present to win.)



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Plan to Attend Hawkeye's Annual Meeting

April 10, 2006

Crestwood High School
Cresco, IA

7 p.m. Business Meeting

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"Our vision is to provide access to safe, dependable and affordable electric services."



Tom Miller
General Manager

Taking care of Business

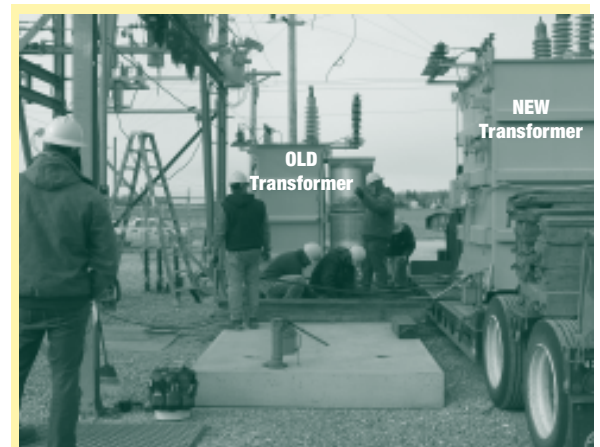
During the late 1990's, your cooperative's major focus regarding potential growth was around the cities of New Hampton, Decorah, Lime Springs and Cresco. A new substation called Wapsie, together with new feeder lines, was built on the west edge of New Hampton. A feeder is an electrical supply line, either overhead or underground, which carries power from the substation. New feeder lines were also built around the Decorah Business Park in preparation for a new substation that will be named High Point. The feeder lines around the east side of Cresco were upgraded and the lines on the west side of Lime Springs and south of LeRoy were extended.

Another major focus was a very concentrated effort in all our maintenance programs. We tested and replaced thousands of rotten poles. So many, that we had to have contractors help us. And trees! In an effort to reclaim and maintain right-of-ways, we have cut, trimmed and sprayed trees and brush. We have serviced and upgraded many of our reclosures or breakers, added breakers and fuses, and re-sectionalized our circuits for better performance in outage situations.

We've had new services and service upgrades also; between 150 and 200 services every year for the past 13+ years. Many of the new services are more than three-pole line extensions. It has been difficult at times to keep up with these assignments.

Quietly, almost with little notice or fanfare, our system has been growing in other areas too. Our substation loads have grown

and our ability to tie substations together in the event of a major outage is becoming hindered. The next few years we will be focusing on substation upgrades and feeder upgrades that tie the substations together. The photos in this article show the transformer upgrade and other work at our Saratoga substation.



In the background is the old transformer which was moved to our Lime Springs substation. In the foreground are the two new concrete slabs (11,300 pounds each) brought in to raise the transformer. To the right is the new transformer being prepared for transfer on the new pad. The new 5 MVA transformer weighs over 33,000 pounds. The cost of the transformer upgrade is estimated over \$80,000.



While Dairyland crews were working on the transformers, Hawkeye REC crews were replacing some of the porcelain insulators, about \$200 worth of material.

"The photos in this article show the transformer upgrade and other work at our Saratoga substation."



This squirrel caused the substation outage on January 18th. The electricity went up the left leg and out the left shoulder. A similar situation could occur with a human being. This is an example of why safety precautions are necessary.



Dairyland electricians replaced a \$500 transformer (used to meter the substation) that was damaged a couple of weeks earlier from a squirrel that got into substation wiring.



Hawkeye REC lineman Zach Steinmetz working at the Saratoga substation.

Notice to Land Owners

Hawkeye REC has hired Chem-trol of Des Moines to clear right-of-way near electric lines by spraying trees and brush in the following townships: Deerfield, Washington, Chickasaw, Dayton, New Hampton, Jacksonville, Afton and Howard. If you have questions or concerns regarding spraying in your area please contact Chem-trol at 515-971-4305 or 515-223-0202.



Map of Outages

OAKDALE 1	CHESTER 2	FOREST CITY 3	ARLON 4	FREMONT 29	BURR OAK 30	HESPER 31	IRKLAND 32 Scheduled Working on Line
JAMESTOWN 8	SARATOGA 7 Saratoga Substation - High Side Fuse	HOWARD CENTER 6	VERNON SPRINGS 5	ORLEANS 36	BLUFFTON 35	CANOE 34 Mastline - Clump	PLEASANT 33 Overhead Conductor/Primary
AFTON NORTH 9	HOWARD NORTH 11	PARIS NORTH 13 Fuse	NEW OREGON NORTH 15	LINCOLN 37	MADISON 38	DECORAH 39	GLENWOOD 40
AFTON SOUTH 10	HOWARD SOUTH 12	PARIS SOUTH 14	NEW OREGON S 17 Scheduled Poles	SUMNER 44	CALMAR 43 Meter - Fuse Meter Loop	SPRINGFIELD 42 Tree in Line	FRANKVILLE 41 Scheduled Poles
DEERFIELD N 23	WASHINGTON N 21	JACKSONVILLE N 19	UTICA SOUTH 18	JACKSON 45	WASHINGTON 46 Faulty Equip.	MILITARY 47	BLOOMFIELD 48
CHICKASAW 25	DAYTON 26	NEW HAMPTON 27	STAPLETON 28	= Pole Change outs			

January 2006

Have you experienced an outage lately?

Building or remodeling a home?

Attend the **FREE Home Efficiency Expo**



Wednesday, March 8
4-9 pm at Nob Hill Supper Club
(2955 US Hwy 52, Decorah IA)

The guest speaker is **Bill McAnally**, an industry expert on home energy efficiency.

Meet with representatives and view exhibit booths on geothermal heating, insulation, building products, lighting and electric heating products such as boilers, plenum heaters and electric thermal storage units.

Sponsored by your local electric cooperatives.

Call or pick up a brochure at Hawkeye for more information.

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Hawkeye is accepting bids on the following three items

Stop at the REC office and check out these items.

Please submit sealed bids to Hawkeye's office by March 1, 2006.



Miller Welder 1992
Millermatic Prota-Mig 220V. Single Phase Wire Feed and Stick

Welder Supplies: *(weights are approximate)*

◆ BOWMAWELD

- #25184 (2) 5 lb. Maximum strength steel 1/8" rod
- #25124 (1) 10 lb. General steel 1/8" rod
- #25143 (1) 2 lb. Maintenance Electrode 3/32" rod
- #25144 (2) 10 lb. Maintenance Electrode 1/8" rod
- #25186 (1) 5 lb. Ultimate Strength steel 3/16" rod

◆ EUTECTRODE

- #680 (2) 5 lb. For all steel 3/32" rod
- #680 (1) 10 lb. For all steel 1/8" rod

◆ XYRON

- #244 (1) 10 lb. For cast iron 1/8"

◆ XUPER

- #N61710X HD (1) 2 lb. 1/8"
- #2222XHD (1) 5.5 lb. 1/8"
- #185XFC Brazing rod (1) 5 lb. 1/8"
- #16XFS Brazing rod (1) 5 lb. 3/32"
- #146XFS Brazing rod (1) 5 lb. 3/32"

- ◆ Box of Miscellaneous welding rods



Vehicle for Sale

- ▲ 1991-Ford F Super Duty 4X4
- ▲ 7.3 Diesel engine
- ▲ 5 speed manual transmission
- ▲ 9' Crystal Contractor Dump Box - 10 Ton
- ▲ 7'6" Western Plow (Model #23937)
- ▲ 216,654 miles
- ▲ All maintenance and service records





Kids' Korner

Kids' Korner Kids' Korner



The Snowman



Three friends live in houses next to each other on Frosty Lane and they have built a snowman. Can you work out where each friend lives and what item each of them brought to dress the snowman?

Look at the picture and clues and fill in the answer box where you can. Then read the clues again to find the answer.



1. Mark lives in house 1 but wasn't the one who brought a carrot to make the snowman's nose.
2. Katie brought a scarf to put on the snowman.
3. Sarah doesn't live in the house next door to Mark.
4. One of the friends brought a hat.

	House 1	House 2	House 3
Name			
Item			

The solution can be found on Hawkeye's website at www.hawkeyerec.com




Welcome

Hawkeye REC welcomes New Members

- North Lawler Farms, LLC Waucoma
- Jason Kuehn New Hampton
- Colleen Bush Decorah
- Janet Wennes Decorah
- Amanda Fenske Decorah
- Country Wide Field Service Corp. San Bernardino, CA
- Jacob Hackman New Hampton
- Ed Aubrey Decorah
- Mark Kruse Lansing
- Harvey Zweibohmer Ossian
- Christopher Wright Ridgeway
- Matthew Amundson Decorah
- Raquel Marlow Cresco

Youth Tour Contest

Win a FREE trip to Washington, D.C. 
 The youth tour exam can be completed on Hawkeye's website at www.hawkeyerec.com and submitted by email to mmoellers@hawkeyerec.com. Please submit your exam by **March 20, 2006**.

Scholarships

Download the application form at www.hawkeyerec.com. Please return the completed application form by **April 14, 2006** with the following: copy of transcript, letter of recommendation and essay. More information can be found on Hawkeye's website.

Visit www.energystar.gov and use the Home Energy Yardstick.

Home Energy Yardstick



Compare Your Home's Energy Performance

- ▲ See how your energy use at home compares to other U.S. households.
- ▲ Find out how much you can save by improving your home's energy efficiency.
- ▲ Link to other resources that can help improve your home's energy performance.

You will need to enter some common information about your home such as age, square footage, number of occupants and energy bill totals for a consecutive 12-month period (one year). If you don't keep your bills, contact your utility for a 12-month summary.

After you complete the Energy Yardstick test, use these helpful tips

- ▲ Replace your 5 most frequently used lights or the bulbs in them with ones that have earned the ENERGY STAR.
- ▲ Look for ENERGY STAR Products. Available in more than 40 product categories, including lighting and home appliances.
- ▲ Heat and cool smartly. Have your heating and cooling equipment serviced annually and remember to replace air filters regularly. Use a programmable thermostat, and when it's time to replace old equipment, choose an ENERGY STAR qualified model.
- ▲ Seal up your home. Seal air leaks, add insulation and choose ENERGY STAR qualified windows when replacing.

Services

- ◆ Beam Central Vacuum Systems
- ◆ Electric Grills
- ◆ First Call Emergency Response System
- ◆ Generators
- ◆ Home Heating Systems
- ◆ Incentives & Rebates
- ◆ Long Distance Services
- ◆ Security Lights
- ◆ Security Systems
- ◆ Water Heater Program
- ◆ Water Conditioners/ Softeners
- ◆ Electric Usage Audits
- ◆ New Home Consultations



Please contact us for more information.

1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801

www.hawkeyerec.com

Dairyland Power District Meeting

Hawkeye employees and directors attended Dairyland Power Cooperative's district meeting on February 2. Personnel from Dairyland presented information on wholesale power costs, the captive railroad issue and power supply needs for the future. It is important to be informed and educated about the electric industry.



Directors, linemen and the communications department are focusing on information regarding the wholesale power rate increase. Employees wanted to have a better understanding of the details regarding the upcoming rate increase.

‘Mooving’ Day

M & C Dairy Expands

Mark Reis and his son Charlie recently expanded their dairy operation, M & C Dairy near Lime



Springs. Like many farmers, their ten-year dream of expanding their dairy herd started to become a reality in August 2005. Construction of the new parlor and open bedding pack barn began and with a lot of cooperation from area businesses, the first milking in the new parlor took place on February 6, 2006.

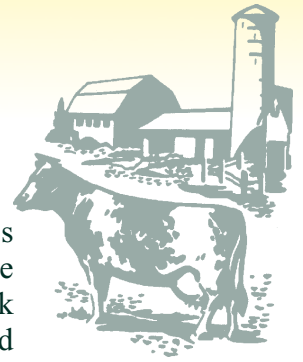
The Reis' increased their Holstein and Brown Swiss dairy herd from 60 to 200. They milk two times per day and now have the capabilities to milk 16 cows at one time. With the



new parlor and milking equipment, it takes two hours to milk their new herd, the same amount of time it took with 60 cows. Mark and Charlie also farm 680 acres of corn and beans. They buy their hay from South Dakota to feed their herd.

Mark's wife Winky works at the FSA office and Charlie's wife Shannon is employed at C US Bank. Winky does all the bookwork for the farm, but both wives commented that they are glad they don't have to help with the daily milking and chores.

M & C Dairy purchased the water heaters and mini-boiler from Hawkeye and take part in Hawkeye's load control program.



Hawkeye employee Wayne Kirkeby checks on the 9kW mini-boiler.



There was an open house at M & C Dairy on Friday, February 3rd to showcase the expansion before the first milking took place.

Electric Education

Crestwood Elementary 6th grade classes came to Hawkeye for a live high voltage demonstration given by Dave Wilkes, Hawkeye's line staking technician. This demonstration showed the danger of electricity during storms when tree branches fall on power lines. They also used a hot dog simulating how electric current would pass through the human body if contact were made.



Hawkeye's line foreman Mike Girolamo explains to the students how a power outage is handled at the REC office. The kids asked many questions about the big green board, which is a detailed map of Hawkeye's service territory in Chickasaw, Howard and Winneshiek counties.



The students also had the opportunity to go on a tour of Hawkeye's operations facility including the warehouse, truck storage and offices. They learned what equipment the linemen have to wear when they are working on power lines and got a close look at the burnt tree branch from the high voltage demonstration. Hawkeye is dedicated to the education and safety of young students.

Annual Meeting Information

(continued from cover page)

Exercise *your* member rights by voting

It is *your* cooperative

During mid March you will receive balloting information for director elections. This is one of the most important decisions as a Cooperative member that you are asked to make all year. It is a decision that has a three-year effect on you and your Cooperative! It is your director ballot. You will be voting for the member who will be making decisions for you in the boardroom. Director biographies and photos will be included with the balloting information.

Candidates for Your Board of Directors

Chickasaw County

Dean Fisher-Lawler

Darel Reicks- New Hampton

Howard County

Roger Nibaur- Elma

Art Bina- Cresco

Ron Deike-Lime Springs

Winneshiek County

Charles Frana- Calmar

James Wenthold- Ossian



You have the power to make a difference.

Fuels used to generate electricity are getting more expensive. That's driving prices up. Your electric cooperative is working hard to make a difference.

And you can do your part, too.

Change your light bulbs to make your home more energy-efficient. Compact fluorescents are 75 percent more energy-efficient than conventional light bulbs. Contact your local electric co-op for more information.

Annual Meeting Agenda

6:30 p.m.
Doors open & registration begins

7:00 p.m.
Business Meeting

Election of 3 Directors

Drawing for Attendance Prizes

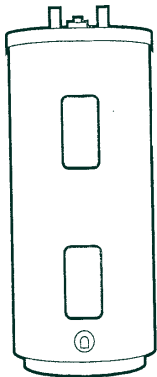
Milk, Coffee & Kolaches served after the meeting

Drawings for electric bill gift certificates and other prizes totaling over \$1,000.

Attend the Hawkeye REC Annual Meeting on April 10, 2006 at Crestwood High School. 7 p.m.

Does your water heater keep up with you?

"You can count on electric water heaters for safe, worry-free operation, versatility in its application and ease of operations."



Electric water heaters cost less money to buy, install and maintain. Electric water heaters use affordably priced electricity which has a long history of price stability. On the other hand, propane and natural gas fuels regularly demonstrate their price volatility.

With an electric water heater there is no need to worry about potentially dangerous gas fumes or problems lighting a pilot. You can count on electric water heaters for safe, worry-free operation, versatility in its application and ease of operations.

Call Hawkeye REC to learn more about electric water heaters and how to purchase one for your home or business.

Reduce your costs for water heating

There are four ways to cut your water heating bills:

- 1) use less hot water,
- 2) turn down the thermostat on your water heater,
- 3) insulate your water heater,
- 4) buy a new, more efficient water heater.

About 80% of the energy used for washing clothes is for heating the water.

There are two ways to reduce the amount of energy used for washing clothes—use less water and use cooler water. Buying an Energy Star® machine will cost more but will use about a third the energy and less water than typical machines. You'll also save more on clothes drying, because most remove more water from your clothes during the spin cycle.



Hawkeye's Water Heater Program

New Construction	\$1
Gas Change-Out	\$1
General Replacements	\$150

Hawkeye's Water Heater Program

Water Heaters	2003	2004	2005
Gas Replacements	23	21	33
New Load	18	29	31
General Replacements	27	38	26

General Water Heater Tips

- ▶ Repair leaky faucets promptly. A leaky faucet wastes gallons of water in a short period.
- ▶ Install aerating low-flow faucets and showerheads.
- ▶ Lower the thermostat on your water heater. Water heaters sometimes come from the factory with high temperature settings, but a setting of 120° F provides comfortable hot water for most uses.
- ▶ Take more showers than baths. Bathing uses the most hot water in the average household. You use 15-25 gallons of hot water for a bath, but less than 10 gallons during a 5-minute shower.



Hawkeye employee Marc Mikkelson with the water heaters installed at M & C Dairy in Lime Springs.

Recipes...

Quick & Healthy recipes

Kidney Bean Salad

2 celery stalks, diced 1 small onion, diced
1 T. oil 1 T. honey
1 T. cider vinegar
16 oz. can kidney beans, drain & rinse

Cook onion in oil. Add honey and vinegar. Add beans and celery. Chill to blend flavors.

Rose Goetsch – Cresco, IA

Lemon Cheesecake

(salad or dessert)

4 small boxes of sugar-free lemon Jello
1 regular size can crushed pineapple
(drained-keep juice)
2 pkgs of fat-free cream cheese
1 carton lite or fat-free Cool Whip

Boil 2 cups of water in glass bowl in microwave (at least 2 quart size). Add Jello and stir well with whisk. Add the pineapple juice and several ice cubes. Stir constantly until Jello cools and begins to thicken. Remove unmelted ice cubes. Add the cream cheese and mix with an electric mixer until mixture is smooth and frothy. Fold in drained pineapple and Cool Whip. Pour into cake pan and chill.

**Weight
Watchers
Recipe**

Chocolate Chip Cookies

3 c. flour ¾ c. sugar
1 t. baking soda ¾ c. brown sugar
1 t. salt 1 t. vanilla
1 c. unsweetened 2 eggs
applesauce 1 c. choc. chips

Combine flour, baking soda and salt in bowl. Beat applesauce, sugars and vanilla in mixing bowl. Add eggs, beat well and add flour mixture. Stir in choc. chips. Drop by teaspoon on baking sheet sprayed with non-stick baking spray or use Reynolds release aluminum foil. Bake at 375° for 9-11 minutes or until brown. Let stand for 2 minutes and cool on wire racks.

These cookies are a bit spongy, but if you store them in the freezer and eat them frozen they are great!

**Weight
Watchers
Recipe**

Send or e-mail your favorite recipe. If we print your recipe in our newsletter you'll receive \$5 off your next electric bill.



E-mail to: mmoellers@hawkeyerec.com

March - No Newsletter

April - Out-of-the Ordinary Cakes

Easy Applesauce Muffins

You can have your kids help make these!

6 T. butter 1/2 t. salt
1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour 2 eggs
1 t. baking powder 2/3 c. brown sugar
1/2 t. baking soda 1 1/2 c. chunky applesauce
1 t. cinnamon



Heat the oven to 375°. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with baking cups and set aside.

In a small microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter on high for about 30 to 60 seconds; set aside to cool slightly.

Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt into a large mixing bowl. When mixing dry and wet ingredients for muffins, gently stir just until the flour disappears. This will produce muffins with a nice crumbly texture.

In another large bowl, whisk together the eggs and brown sugar. Stir in the applesauce and melted butter until the mixture is smooth. For mess-free muffins, use an ice-cream scoop to spoon the batter into the bake cups.

Pour the apple mixture over the flour mixture. Mix with a wooden spoon until combined (it's ready when you can't see any traces of flour).

Fill the baking cups about two-thirds full with batter. Bake for 20 minutes or until light brown.

Makes 12.

Karen Klotzbach – Decorah, IA

DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

Feb. 24 Member reads meter and records on payment voucher. Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of March.

Feb. 28 Automated payments from checking accounts and credit cards are processed.

March 1 Bills become delinquent.

March 10 Hawkeye REC prints bills based on February meter reading.

March 13 Bills are mailed to members from Dairyland in La Crosse.

OTHER EVENTS

Feb. 28 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting

April 10 Hawkeye REC Annual Meeting



The Power Is Yours

Box 90 - Cresco, Iowa 52136
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801
www.hawkeyerec.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday • 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed Sat., Sun., & Holidays)

OUTAGES

1-800-927-5265

IOWA STATE ONE CALL
1-800-292-8989

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean Fisher, President - Lawler
Dean Nierling, Vice President - Burr Oak
Dennis Ptacek, Secretary/Treasurer - Elma
Norman Dickman - Decorah
John Hockspeier - Alta Vista
Janelle Mahr - Lime Springs
Roger Nibaur - Elma
Charles Frana - Calmar
Dennis Young - Decorah

PERSONNEL

Tom Miller, CEO & General Manager
Roger Halverson, Operations Manager
Jim Murphy, Information Tech. Manager
Cindy Christensen, Communications Manager
Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer
Pat Boyle, Business Dev./Mbr. Serv. Manager

EDITOR

Cindy Christensen

www.hawkeyerec.com

What's the better value?

One cup of coffee...

One speciality coffee from a coffee house - \$3.50



750 cups of coffee...

Electricity to brew 125 pots of coffee in the convenience of your own home - \$3.50



Hawkeye
REC
The Power Is Yours

The value is
Electric



Hawkeye REC
Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

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