

Teaming Up For Farm Safety

Hawkeye REC is committed to the education of our area youth when it comes to electricity and farm safety. It is very important to teach youngsters about the dangers that lurk around our rural farmsteads. It is especially critical during the busy harvest season when the rush is on to get the crops harvested before the seasons change. It's easy to overlook basic safety concerns which can lead to serious injuries or even fatalities.

Over the past five years, Hawkeye REC has provided safety demonstrations to over 2,500 students in Chickasaw, Howard and Winneshiek counties. We are proud to provide this type of education to kids at such young ages, but it's also important that parents and caregivers also know the dangers of electricity. Turn to pages 4 and 5 to read about the 4-H Farm Safety Day Camp, get some harvest safety tips, and kids can complete an "A-maze-ing" farm puzzle.



(More on pages 4-5...)



Hawkeye REC employees Jeff Henderson and Ron Stika demonstrate electric safety to students at the 4-H Farm Safety Day Camp.



"It's easy to overlook basic safety concerns which can lead to serious injuries or even fatalities."

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



Tom Miller
General Manager

Inquiring Minds Want to Know

Your Cooperative recently held Member Informational Meetings and would like to thank those members who attended. The meetings were very informal and members had the opportunity to ask questions in an effort to better understand the issues facing their electric cooperative, now and in the future. Below are some of the questions and answers discussed at the meetings.

more to update than other generation sources. Dairyland is in the process of dismantling the plant.

Q. Why AMR meters and what was the cost of the project?

A. The automated meters allow meter readings, and electric bills to be more consistent for members as they are always read the same day every month. In outage situations, the Cooperative is able to determine if the problem is the member's or the cooperative's equipment. The meters also help pinpoint outages and potential outage situations. Our state regulators are pushing for all utilities to be automated in order to offer time-of-use rates (members are charged different rates depending on what time of the day they choose to use electricity.) The cost of the project was \$1.2 million spread over four years.

Q. How do I know my rate is fair?

A. The Cooperative completes a cost of service study (COS) determining the rate of return on rate base. The Cooperative uses the COS to ensure each rate class provides enough revenue to cover expenses plus a margin.

Q. Is most of the damage from the 2007 ice storm repaired?

A. About one-half of the damage is repaired with most of the large projects completed. Hawkeye crews and one contractor are replacing the 400 miles of storm damaged line. Commercial wind turbine projects have diverted some of our efforts this past year.

Q. What is your opinion regarding electric demand (tankless) water heaters?

A. The elements in the electric heaters are energy intensive causing most households to require a larger transformer. In many

Q. How can I get wind turbines on my farm?

A. The large wind farms under construction in the area are investments by large corporations that qualify for tax credits, therefore making their projects cost effective. Many utilities are trying to increase their RPS (renewable portfolio standard) as mandated by area state government agencies, 25% renewable energy by the year 2025.

Cooperatives & individuals do not qualify for those tax credits. The western part of Hawkeye's system has many companies proposing projects, EnXco, Horizon, Navitas and Eco. Many members have already signed agreements with one of those companies. Individuals interested in wind projects should hire a consultant to assist with the project scope applications and perform feasibility studies measuring wind capacity before committing to such a project.

Q. Why not put Dairyland Power's nuclear plant back into commission?

A. It is outdated and would cost



"Elected officials need to push for sound solutions that protect consumers."

cases they cannot supply enough hot water for simultaneous, multiple uses in large households. Therefore, you would need two or more, connected parallel heaters to meet your demands. However, they work well in remote areas (cabins) or churches where there isn't a huge hot water demand.

Q. Do you have any projections on future electric rates?

A. Electricity is going up, but is still considered a great value and form of energy. Escalating costs for fuels used to generate electricity, power plant construction materials, and government regulations are pressuring future rates. Elected officials need to push for sound solutions that protect consumers. Climate change policy needs to curb greenhouse gas emissions from power plants while ensuring that our nation's power needs are met. This must include a blend of energy-efficiency programs, clean coal, nuclear, natural gas and renewable generation sources.



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America



Individuals interested in wind projects should hire a consultant to assist with project scope applications and perform feasibility studies measuring wind capacity before committing to such a project.



Planting Seeds of Caution Reaps Safer Harvest



The rush during harvest can yield tragic results. Each year, dozens of farm workers are killed and hundreds injured in accidents involving power lines and electric equipment. We urge farmers to be proactive in identifying potential safety hazards so accidents can be prevented.



Steps for a safe harvest season:

- Review with all workers the farm activities and work practices that take place around power lines.
- Know the location of power lines and keep farm equipment at least 10 feet away.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of a grain truck. When moving large equipment or high loads near a power line, always use a spotter, or someone to help make certain that contact is not made with a line.
- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level - under 14 feet - before moving or transporting them. Variables like wind, uneven ground, shifting weight or other conditions can combine to create an unexpected result.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path!
- Don't use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around bins.
- As in any outdoor work, be careful not to raise any equipment such as ladders, poles or rods into power lines. Remember, non-metallic materials such as lumber, tree limbs, tires, ropes, and hay will conduct electricity depending on dampness and dust and dirt contamination.
- Use qualified electricians for work on drying equipment and other farm electrical systems.

For more information on farm and home electrical safety, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

4-H Farm Safety Day Camp

Excitement was in the air, along with a helicopter, at the Steve and Rosalie Christensen farm on Saturday, September 4th, for an area farm safety camp. The Howard County Coordinator, Lynette Anderson, led the efforts by bringing together 125 4-H youth ranging from ages 5-12, 50 parents and 84 volunteers. Through the hard work of volunteers, the Christensen's and Lynette, our area youth were made aware of the dangers on the farm while enjoying a fun day of safety education.

13 Safety Sessions

- Grain Bin
- Electric
- Chemical
- Tractor
- Lawn Mower
- Livestock
- Bicycle
- PTO/Auger
- Smokehouse
- Rural Roadways
- First Aid
- Fire/Ambulance/Helicopter
- Wheel of Misfortune



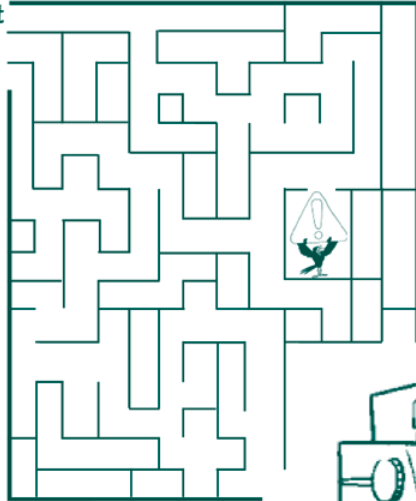


A-MAZE-ING Puzzles

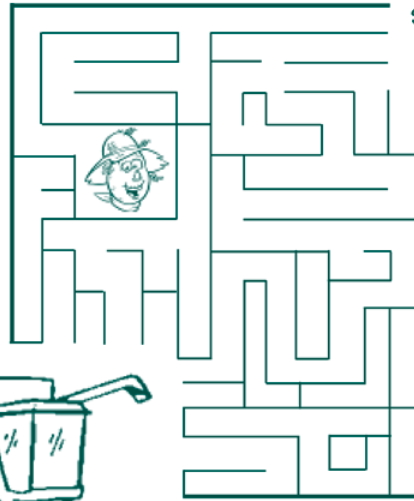


It's harvest season on the family farm. Can you help farmer Bob find his combine in the crop mazes? You may cross paths with some old friends along the way but there's no time to stop and chat, winter is coming!

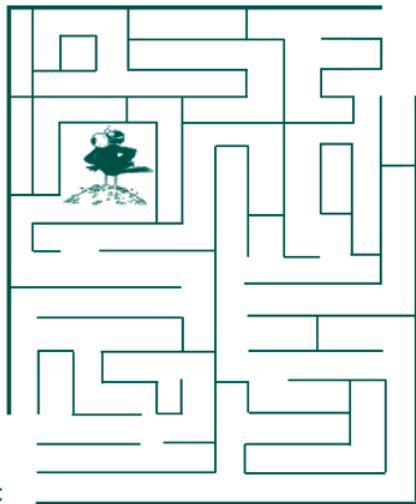
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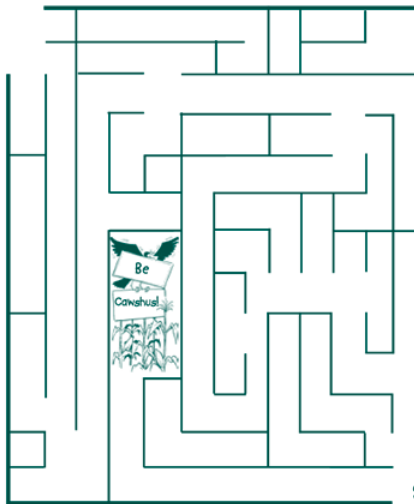
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Start



Start



Source: Farm Safety 4 Just Kids • www.fs4jk.org • 1-800-423-5437

Farm Safety 4 Just Kids is a non-profit organization headquartered in Urbandale, Iowa. The organization works to educate rural youth and their families about farm safety and health hazards. FS4JK develops a variety of educational materials, including brochures, coloring books, demonstration ideas, games, puzzles, and posters to teach kids about ATV, animal, grain, seatbelt, and tractor safety. The organization currently has 137 volunteer chapters located across the U.S. and four Canadian providences.



Fall is here! As we look forward to the changing colors of our countryside, pumpkins will adorn front door steps and corn shocks. It also means that there are plenty of fall festivals, craft shows and corn mazes to partake in across our great state and in our own neighborhoods.

Full Circle Gifts & Gallery

“RECYCLE THE EARTH. SAVE YOURSELVES!”

It's time to become conscious of the impact we have on our environment. As our society becomes more focused on “going green”, Brenda Dietzenbach decided that she could spread the important message in her own backyard. Brenda and her husband Kevin own the Full Circle Gifts and Gallery and Corn Maze 3.5 miles west of Cresco on State Highway 9. Each year they incorporate a theme for the corn maze and this year their goal is

to see how the world can become a much better place for our future generations by recycling. Visit their website at www.fullcirclegallery.net.



Highlandville Fun Fest

Saturday, September 20
Highlandville School Grounds
1:00 to 6:00 pm
Benefit for Batten Disease Research Duck Races, Cow Chip Bingo, Hog Roast, Silent & Live Auction and many kids events! Visit www.mnbdsra.org for more information

Norman Borlaug Harvest Fest

September 26-28
Cresco
This fest will pay tribute to Cresco native Dr. Norman Borlaug, one of only 5 people in the world to win the Nobel Peace prize (1970), Presidential Medal of Freedom (1977) and the

Congressional Gold Medal (2007) all for his humanitarian efforts in fighting hunger. He is credited with saving millions of lives worldwide. Visit www.crescochamber.com for more information about the Harvest Fest.

Apple Fest

October 4-5 • Fort Dodge
Pumpkin Decorating Workshop

October 23 • Ames
www.reimangardens.com

Pumpkin Days

October 3-5 • Guttenberg

Autumn Days

October 10-12 • LeClaire

Spooky Village Tour

October 25 • Nashua
At the Old Bradford Pioneer Village Museum

Madison County Covered Bridge Festival

October 11-12 • Winterset

Early Childhood Development Center Ribbon Cutting



Your electric cooperative was one of the significant contributors for the Early Childhood Development Center in Cresco. Hawkeye REC donated the property in the Websters Subdivision for the project and provides electric service to the 20,000 square foot all-electric building.

The facility that houses Kessel Kids Day-care, HAWC Partnerships, Head Start, and Pre-School opened in June and celebrated the ribbon cutting ceremony and an open house for the public on Saturday, Septem-

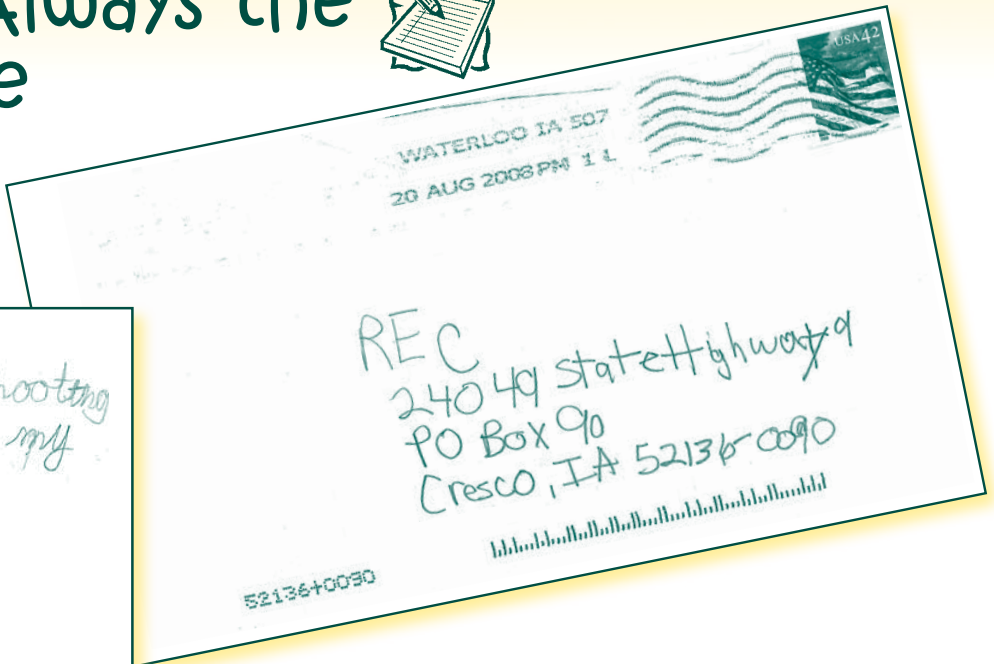


Significant contributors for the Early Childhood Development Center were recognized during the ribbon cutting presentation. From left to right, Brian Nye; Howard-Winneshiek School Superintendent, Rhonda Albert; C US Bank, Donna Thomas; Cresco Bank & Trust, Eric Clement; Featherlite, Tom Miller; Hawkeye REC and Ross Merritt; Hawkeye Sanitation.

Honesty... Always the Best Choice



We received this letter from one of our “younger” members, proving that honesty is still always the best choice.



Dear Rec sorry for shooting
the yard light out with my
P-B gun

Sincerely
Dmmlt
Peter

Consumer Alerts...

Telephone Scam Alert

Recently a member of Hawkeye REC from Winneshiek County received a phone call from a party claiming to be from their utility company. The caller claimed that our member's account was past due and would be disconnected the next day if a payment was not made over the phone. They asked for our member's checking account number and bank information, claiming it was the only way to avoid disconnection.

Please be advised that before Hawkeye REC disconnects a service, our members receive several notifications, including a mailing, an automated phone call, and a bright yellow plastic bag containing notification of account status posted on their premises.

If any party contacts you asking for a payment, we would advise you to call us directly. Our

phone number is (563) 547-3801 or (800) 658-2243. This scam is happening throughout the state of Iowa. Attorney General Tom Miller encourages consumers to notify the Attorney General's Office as well by calling the Consumer Protection Division at (888) 777-4590 or send an email to consumer@iowa.gov so officials can keep tabs on the scam and capture any useful information.

Caller ID “Spoofing”

Scam artists can now attach a different caller ID to their outgoing calls. The scammers know that many people screen their calls using caller ID and they know that consumers are much more likely to answer the phone if the call is from someone local. A list is generated of local phone numbers and they use Voice Over Internet protocol (VoIP) systems to attach these numbers to their outgoing calls. The technology

available to scam artists will affect consumers for many years to come so it is important to be alert when receiving any phone calls. And vice versa, just remember, your home phone or business number could be used without your knowledge as well. The term “vishing” has been used for a particular scam where a borrowed caller ID appears on a call and the caller asks for credit card information.

A member from an electric cooperative in Alabama received a phone call that appeared to be from their REC on their caller ID which turned out to be an automated sales call offering medications at discount prices. They immediately called their co-op to notify them of the scam.



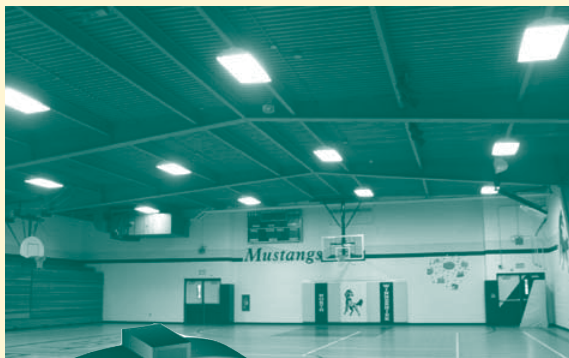
Commitment to Community...

Friends of Education

Energy minded North Winneshiek School is trying to light up the lives of their students while saving energy through an extensive lighting project over the next few years. This year, lights were replaced in the gymnasium and administrative offices. Superintendent-Principal Tim Dugger contacted your local electric cooperative to inquire about the rebate program regarding the 19 new fixtures in the gymnasium. Each fixture includes eight T-8 fluorescent bulbs which have more lumens (light output) and use 50% less energy when compared to the old fixtures.



The school received a customer rebate of \$2,000 toward the \$10,000 project. Superintendent-Principal Tim Dugger receives the rebate check from Hawkeye REC director Dean Nierling.



Jackson Heights Committed to Energy Savings

Elaine Hoey, Manager of Jackson Heights Golf Club replaced over 45 light bulbs with new CFL lightbulbs that your cooperative provided. Check out the cost savings and their impact on our environment by replacing these bulbs.



Electricity Savings Summary

Electricity Cost to use Incandescents for 8,000 hours:	\$3,024.00
Electricity Cost to use equivalent CFLs for 8,000 hours:	\$806.40
Total savings in electricity using CFLs for 8,000 hours:	\$2,217.60

CO2 Emissions Savings Summary

CO2 emissions caused by using incandescents for 8,000 hours:	36,180 lbs (16.41 tons)
CO2 emissions caused by using equivalent CFLs for 8,000 hours:	9,648 lbs (4.38 tons)
Total CO2 emissions saved by using equivalent CFLs for 8,000 hours:	26,532 lbs (12.03 tons!)

Results based on 45 bulbs; \$.112 per kWh; 8,000 hour CFL

Fall is time to plant for energy efficiency

Well-planned landscaping can purify the air, add beauty and value to your home, block out noise and, most importantly, save money on your energy bill.

By shading your home from the sun, trees and shrubs can keep your home cooler in the summer and protect it from harsh weather in the winter. In fact, landscaping for energy efficiency could reduce your air conditioning costs by as much as 15 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

The best time to plant trees is in the fall, giving roots enough time to take hold before the winter cold.

When deciding which trees to plant, consider what purpose you most want them to serve. Deciduous trees will block sun in the hot summer but allow the winter sun to

shine through. Evergreen trees, though, will offer protection from wind and harsh weather year round.

Plant trees on the east, south and west sides of the home for optimal shade from summer sun.

Plan for the mature size of the tree when choosing the tree variety. Tall-growing trees may eventually end up shading too much of the yard. They also pose a hazard if they grow into power lines. No matter the size of the tree, always check with your electric cooperative to identify any underground power lines before digging.

Trees aren't the only plants that offer energy savings. Planting shrubs, bushes and vines close to the home creates a layer of insulation to lock in heat.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Light your landscape with efficient LEDs

As you wait for your neighborhood's little ghosts and goblins to ring your doorbell this Halloween, leave the porch light on and illuminate your whole sidewalk.

Sidewalk and landscape lighting lend a decorative touch to your yard with the added benefit of safety for you and your neighbors' costumed kids.

You can light sidewalks and pathways efficiently with new, outdoor-rated LEDs (light-emitting diodes), which are durable and use about one-tenth the energy of regular incandescent lighting.

LEDs are perfect for walkway lighting because they produce directional light, and only

the amount needed for the path you want to illuminate. That means no light is wasted.

You might be the first "kid" on the block to use LEDs, so you'll have bragging rights if you shine them on Halloween for all the neighbors to see when they bring their kids over to raid your candy bowl.

The Department of Energy calls LEDs "the future of lighting."

LEDs aren't just for outdoors. They're showing up as accent lighting around walls, as task lighting under cabinets and as room lighting in the form of ceiling-mounted, recessed downlights.

You'll find these state-of-the-art lights in lighting specialty shops and online.



"You can light sidewalks and pathways efficiently with new, outdoor-rated LEDs..."

Our Longtime Maintenance Crew

Hawkeye employees Dick Schorr and Eldred Rethamel have combined years of service to this cooperative that total over 70 years. Dick, also known as RAS, and Eldred, also

known as EL, have been working together for many years as Hawkeye's only maintenance crew. They are responsible for everything from fixing security lights, responding to all trouble and outage calls during

regular business hours as well as disconnects and reconnects. RAS and EL will both be retiring within the next year. Thank you for all your years of service!



Eldred Rethamel and Dick Schorr, longtime Hawkeye employees, have served as Hawkeye's only maintenance crew for many years.

Ice Storm Construction Progress		Total Miles:
Jobs Not Yet Started	104.68	
Staking in Progress	21.23	
Staked and Ready to Build	65.92	
Construction in Progress	2.25	
Construction Complete	189.50	
Total To Build	194.08	
Total Project	383.59	

Map of Outages

OAKDALE 1 	CHESTER 2 	FOREST CITY 3	ALBION 4	FREMONT 29 	BURR OAK 30	HESPER 31	HIGHLAND 32
JAMESTOWN 8 	SARATOGA 7	HOWARD CENTER 6	VERNON SPRINGS 5	ORLEANS 36 	BLUFFTON 35 	CANOE 34 	PLEASANT 33
AFTON NORTH 9 	HOWARD NORTH 11	PARIS NORTH 13	NEW OREGON NORTH 15 <i>Weather OCR</i>	LINCOLN 37	MADISON 38 <i>Took line down</i>	DECORAH 39 <i>Equip Corrosion</i>	GLENWOOD 40
AFTON SOUTH 10	HOWARD SOUTH 12	PARIS SOUTH 14 	NEW OREGON S 16	SUMNER 44 <i>Weather</i>	CALMAR 43 	SPRINGFIELD 42 	FRANKVILLE 41
DEERFILED N 23	WASHINGTON N 21	JACKSONVILLE N 19	UTICA NORTH 17	JACKSON 45 	WASHINGTON 46 	MILITARY 47 	BLOOMFILED 48
DEERFIELD S 24	WASHINGTON S 22	JACKSONVILLE S 20 	UTICA SOUTH 18	JACKSON 45 	WASHINGTON 46 	MILITARY 47 	BLOOMFILED 48
CHICKASAW 25	DAYTON 26	NEW HAMPTON 27 	STAPLETON 28	= Pole Change outs = Single Outage = Planned Outages			

August 2008

Have you experienced an outage lately?

Recipes...

Perfect Pastas



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



Oct. – Wild Game Recipes

Nov. – Shrimp or Seafood Recipes

All recipes can be found on our website.

Quick & Easy Pasta

- 1 (16 oz. pkg.) large macaroni shells
- 1 (16 oz. pkg.) sour cream
- Large can of spaghetti sauce (may add onion, green pepper or mushrooms)
- 1 ½ lb. ground beef
- 2 c. mozzarella cheese (or more)

Cook macaroni shells, drain, and cool. Mix sour cream with shells and pour into a greased 9 X 13 pan. Cook ground beef. Drain if needed and add spaghetti sauce. Pour all over the shells and put cheese on top. Bake for 50-60 minutes at 350°.

Donna Rue • Ridgeway



Pasta Quick Facts

- The first industrial pasta factory in America was built in Brooklyn in 1848 by, of all people, a Frenchman, who spread his spaghetti strands on the roof to dry in the sunshine.
- There are more than 600 pasta shapes produced worldwide.
- October is National Pasta Month.

Taco Pasta Salad

- 3 c. uncooked spiral pasta
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 1 ¼ c. Mayonnaise
- 2 to 3 T. milk
- 3 ¾ t. cider vinegar
- 3 ¾ t. sugar
- 1 T. ground mustard
- 7 c. torn lettuce
- 1 to 2 med. chopped tomatoes
- 2 c. (8 oz.) shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 to 2 c. crushed nacho tortilla chips.



Cook pasta according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a large skillet, cook beef; drain. Stir in taco seasoning; heat through. In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, milk, vinegar, sugar, and mustard; set aside. Drain pasta, place in large bowl. Add beef and mayonnaise mixture; toss to coat. Add lettuce, tomatoes and cheese; toss to combine. Sprinkle with tortilla chips.

Yield: 12 to 14 servings

Carol Burnikel • Cresco



BLT Macaroni Salad

- 2 c. elbow macaroni (uncooked)
- 5 green onions (finely chopped)
- 1 large tomato (diced)
- 1 ¼ c. celery (diced)
- 1 ¼ c. mayo
- 5 T. white vinegar
- ¼ t. salt
- ¼ t. pepper
- 1 lb. bacon (cooked & crumbled)

Cook macaroni, drain and rinse in cold water. In large bowl, combine macaroni, onions, tomato and celery. In a small bowl, combine mayo, vinegar, salt and pepper. Pour over macaroni mixture and toss to coat. Chill at least 2 hours. Just before serving, add bacon.

Makes 12 servings

Geraldine Otto • Lime Springs



DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Sept. 25** Member reads meter and records on payment voucher. Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of October.
- Sept. 29** Automated payments from checking accounts and credit/debit cards are processed.
- Sept. 30** AMR meters are read by the co-op.
- Oct. 1** Bills become delinquent.
- Oct. 10** Hawkeye REC prints bills based on September meter reading.
- Oct. 14** Bills are mailed to members from NISC in St. Louis.
- Oct. 21** Disconnect services for non-payment.

OTHER EVENTS

Sept. 26 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Highlandville Fun Fest** Sept. 20 Highlandville
- Norman Borlaug Fest** Sept. 26-28 Cresco
- Rendezvous Days** Sept. 27-28 Fort Atkinson



The Power Is Yours

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

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

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Jim Murphy, Information Tech. Manager
Cindy Christensen, Communications Manager
Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer
Pat Boyle, Business Dev./Mbr. Serv. Manager

EDITOR

Meagan Moellers

The value of \$200



Back-to-school shopping adds up to about \$200 per child. For \$200 you can power a computer for 10,000 hours.

The Value of Electricity



The Power Is Yours

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Hawkeye REC
Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

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