

Hawkeye REC News

The Power Is Yours



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"Part of Your Co-op" Series

Our office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 6th in celebration of Labor Day.



Efficient and Reliable Renewable Energy

Heating and Cooling Efficiently with Heat Pumps

Managing the temperature in a home or business has the hands-down biggest impact on energy costs. In trying to keep warm in winter and cool during summer, the average U.S. homeowner spends \$1,400 annually, accounting for 56 percent of all home energy expenses.

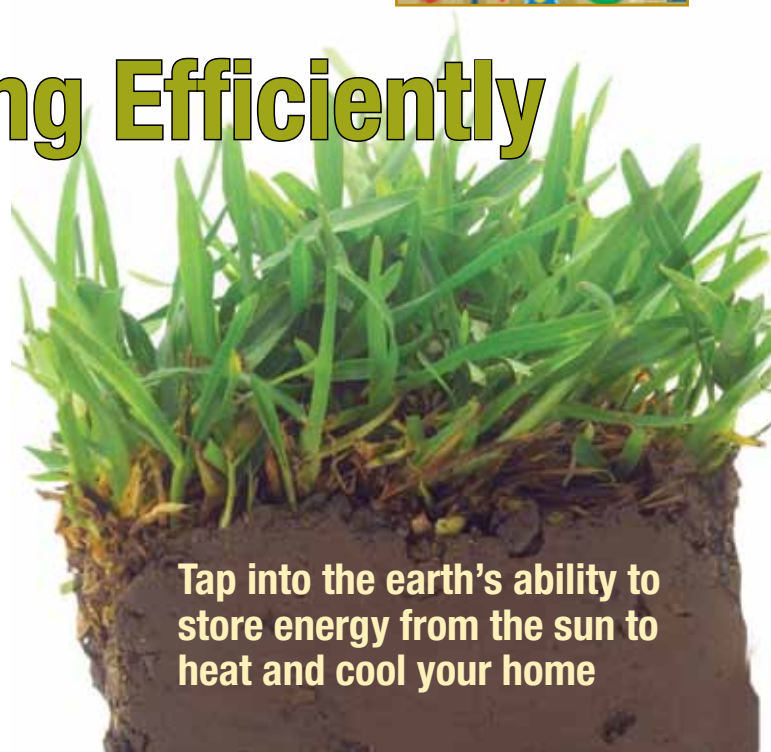
While this outlay can be trimmed by tweaking efficiency, some folks have taken it a step further and installed heat pumps, highly efficient devices that can provide both heating and cooling comfort.

As the name implies, heat pumps simply move heat from one place to another. During winter months, they collect and consolidate heat from outside sources and move it inside; during summer months, they reverse the flow and send warm, indoor air out.

The most common type is an air-source heat pump that resembles an air-conditioning unit and uses the air around it to transfer heat. Geothermal heat pumps, also known as ground-source heat pumps, use the earth itself or ground-water as a means of transferring heat.

When replacing an electric heating system, air-source heat pumps can trim the amount of electricity needed for heating by as much as 30 percent to 40 percent. Although a typical high-efficiency, ENERGY STAR-qualified air-source heat pump comes with a substantial \$6,000 price tag, it's estimated that energy savings will offset the purchase price within five years.

Geothermal heat pumps come in two types: a groundwater (open-loop) system uses well water; an earth-coupled



Tap into the earth's ability to store energy from the sun to heat and cool your home

We Have Moved!

The office staff is now located at the Howard County Fairgrounds Featherlite Center in Cresco. This will be our temporary home for the next nine months. Members can stop by the temporary office to pay bills, request service work, purchase water heaters, and all other member service needs.



The payment drop box has also been moved to this location.



More on page 6...

Straight talk about...

Regulations Continue...



Brian Krambeer, CEO
(563) 547-3801 or (800) 658-2243
bkrambeer@tec.coop

Last month I highlighted some of the regulators' decisions that will have an impact on electric utilities and ultimately, future electric rates. Just one day after printing the July newsletter another regulation hit my desk. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a new regulation to eliminate the use of diesel generators for peak shaving, which is reducing energy use during times of peak system loads. *The National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines* takes effect in 2013 and Hawkeye REC members' will no longer be allowed to run diesel generators and participate in our very successful load management program. The load management program sheds electric demand on our power grid to relieve congestion and avoid having to build new electric generation. Hawkeye REC alone has over 65 peak alert participants in this program, which reduces electric demand equivalent to a small peaking plant generation station.

Most of our peak alert participants are livestock facilities that need an emergency backup and further utilize the diesel generation asset to help our cooperative reduce electric demand during these peak periods. Most of these systems are less than 150 kW or about

150 horsepower, which is comparable to operating a tractor used for farming operations.

This new ruling will have an even greater effect to municipals and large commercial accounts that use the diesel generators for their capacity. Hopefully, we can overcome this ruling that would require utilities to quickly begin building new electric generation.

Energy Legislation Update

The Senate recently discussed a new approach to energy legislation. Senate Majority Leader Reid stated he has settled on a "rough draft" of a bill that will contain four titles: oil spill response, clean energy and job creation, energy efficiency, and a "utility-only" greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan. At this time we have not received the details of the draft legislation, but being singled out early is not a very good sign. There has also been talk of a "delay" in the utility portion of the energy bill, which only means that it is still on Congress' radar screen for action.

I very much encourage you, our membership, to contact Congressman Latham, Senator Grassley and Senator Harkin to express your thoughts, ideas and opinions. Links for these contacts are available on the Hawkeye

REC website as part of our grassroots communications program, and are also listed below.

Cooperative Headquarters Update

On August 6 your cooperative staff will be moving the administration office to the Howard County Fairgrounds in the Featherlite Center. Following our move, the asbestos abatement process will begin on our old office, followed by demolition. Upon completion of the office demolition, site work will begin that includes grinding and pulverizing all the old concrete for re-use as fill.

Upon completion of the site work, the project will move very quickly with the footings and foundations for the concrete tip-up walls that are scheduled to arrive in September. We have seen a tremendous amount of interest in our project from contractors since releasing our project for bids, which is certainly good news.

As always I welcome your calls, e-mails or personal visits.

"...contact Congressman Latham, Senator Grassley and Senator Harkin to express your thoughts, ideas and opinions."

Senator Chuck Grassley
(202) 224-3744
<http://grassley.senate.gov/>

Senator Tom Harkin
(202) 224-3254
<http://harkin.senate.gov/>

Representative Tom Latham
(202) 225-5476
<http://www.tomlatham.house.gov/>

BOARD *Report*

Hawkeye's Board of Directors conducted the monthly board meeting on Wednesday, July 27th.

Highlights of the meeting:

- ▶ Reviewed monthly management and financial reports from Hawkeye REC Staff
- ▶ Approved Hawkeye's annual Reliability Plan filed with the Iowa Utilities Board
- ▶ Approved final building plans for the new headquarters facility
- ▶ Approved combining Annual Meeting with Open House and 75th Anniversary Celebration

**Always Call
Before You
Dig!
811**



SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

- Never climb a tree near power lines.
- Never fly a kite in an area close to power lines.
- Always call your local utility if your kite or belongings get caught on power lines or equipment.
- Never play on or around utility equipment.
- Be sure to visit SafeElectricity.org for more safety tips and games to help teach kids about electrical safety.

TLC
Teach what you know.
Earn what you need to.
Care enough to share it.

Each year, children are killed climbing trees that come into contact with power lines. Teach children to never climb trees near power lines. Even if the branches aren't touching the lines, they could make contact when the weight of the child is added to the branches. Keep them safe.

FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC INSURANCE EXCHANGE | SafeElectricity.org

July Outage Report



Individual – 51
Planned – 4
Weather – 29
Animals – 6
Other/Unknown – 18
Affected Members – 993

When the lights go out, so do we

As a member of an electric cooperative in Iowa, you are eligible to

ENTER TO WIN A 6500W GENERATOR AND RECEIVE TWO FREE CFLs**

at Farm Progress Show
Lot #801 • Boone, Iowa
August 31 - September 2



NAME* _____
BUSINESS _____
PHONE* _____ CELL PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____
SERVICE ADDRESS* _____
CITY* _____ ST* _____ ZIP* _____

I AM MEMBER OF **HAWKEYE REC.**

BY SIGNING, I VERIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE.

MEMBER SIGNATURE _____

*Required information. All entrants must be members of an Iowa electric cooperative.
**While supplies last. Maximum of one entry per membership. Bring this coupon to lot 801 at Farm Progress Show to enter drawing and receive CFLs.

Booth Employee: Member received 2 CFL bulbs? Yes No



Hawkeye
REC
The Power Is Yours

Your Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives



Touchstone Energy Cooperatives will sponsor



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives
The power of human connections

Energy-efficiency Display at Iowa State Fair

Are you considering remodeling a room in your family's home? Might you be evaluating updates to improve energy efficiency and lower your home's electric bill? Are you in the initial stages of planning to build a new home?

Then visit the display in the 4-H Building sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa at the Iowa State Fair Aug. 12-22 to get the efficient home building information you need.

Located inside the 4-H building on the south end of the fairgrounds, the display features a modular panel format demonstrating various energy efficiency topics. You can see

detailed information on insulation types and effectiveness; infiltration reduction; external wall construction; lighting options; correct window installation and flashing; water heating; heat pumps and old appliance recycling.

Representatives from Touchstone Energy Cooperatives will be on hand from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day to answer members' questions about energy-efficiency measures and rebates offered by local cooperatives.

This is the first year Iowa Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have sponsored the 4-H Building.

For more information on how you can start saving now, go to www.TogetherWeSave.com.



TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Congratulations to the fair winners!

Hawkeye REC sponsored the following events at our local county fairs.

Howard County:

Apple Pie (12 entries)
1st Place: Diane Kovarik, Cresco
2nd Place: Melissa Farmer, Cresco
3rd Place: Ruthie Iverson, Cresco

Strawberry Dessert (6 entries)

1st Place: Hilary Harding
2nd Place: Diane Kovarik, Cresco
3rd Place: Marsha Baethke, Cresco

Lightbulb Decorating

1st Place: Rachel Russell
2nd Place: Brooklyn Stevenson
3rd Place: Haley Stevenson

(Fairgoers voted for their favorites)



Winneshiek County:

Apple Pie (6 entries)
1st Place: Amy Olson, Ridgeway
2nd Place: Amy Olson, Ridgeway
3rd Place: Joanie Sheahan, Decorah

Homemade Bread (5 entries)

1st Place: Lois Matter, Postville
2nd Place: Dakota Gooder, Cresco
3rd Place: Arlene Rue, Ridgeway



Amy's Never Fail Pie Crust

1¼ c. lard	1 T. vinegar
3 c. flour	1 egg, well beaten
pinch of salt	5 T. water

Mix liquid and eggs, beat well. In separate bowl cut lard into flour, add salt. (use flour sparingly when rolling crust.) Keeps well in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

Looks like it's time for



Iowa State Fair

August 12-22, 2010

Iowa's

Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives are looking to the future by sponsoring the 4-H Exhibits Building.

Your local electric cooperative is the place to look for innovation, accountability, integrity and commitment to community.

We'll be looking for YOU at the fair!



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives of Iowa

proud sponsors of the 4-H Exhibits Building at the Iowa State Fair.

Bigger isn't better when it comes to a/c

If your older air conditioning system didn't keep your home as cool as you'd like this summer, you might want to replace it before the end of the year. If you buy an energy-efficient air conditioning system by Dec. 31, you could qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$1,500.

One of the biggest mistakes homeowners make when replacing their a/c systems is to believe bigger is better—so they buy one that's too big for their home.

When it comes to air conditioning, it's actually better to err on the side of smaller. A system that's too big for your home will leave the air feeling clammy because it won't regulate indoor humidity properly. High humidity indoors can lead to all kinds of problems—and not just with your comfort. Uncontrolled humidity can invite mold.

An air conditioning unit that's just the right size for your home will run long enough to bring your home to the temperature you like, and it will cycle the moisture out of the air. A unit that's too big for the home won't run long enough to wring out the humidity. It will cool your home too quickly, and then cut itself off before it has time to deal with the humidity. So you'll wind up with cool, clammy air.



That said, you don't want to buy a unit that's too small, either. An undersized unit will run all the time without ever making your home as cool as you'd like it to be.

Let an HVAC professional determine the right size for your new air conditioning unit. You'll be more comfortable, and you'll save money and energy.

World's most expensive dirt

By John Bruce

Dust dollars off your energy bill by regularly changing air filters

The most expensive dirt in the world may lurk in your home's heating and cooling system. If neglected, dust collecting the equipment's air filter could increase your energy bills hundreds of dollars every year and result in costly repair or replacement costs.

Dirty filters cause a system to work harder and break down faster. That's because unfiltered dust and grime work into critical parts, creating friction that causes unnecessary wear and, eventually, failure.

As you move around your home you drive dust into the air from carpets, drapes, and furniture. Pets generate dust particles by shedding, grooming, and tracking in dirt from outside.

Regardless of where it comes from, dust trapped in a heating and cooling system air filter leads to several problems, including:

- ▲ Reduced air flow in the home and up to 15 percent higher operating costs.
- ▲ Costly duct cleaning or replacement.
- ▲ Lowered system efficiency.

Every time a system with a dirty filter kicks on, the day of reckoning—total replacement—draws closer. To avoid this

expense, change filters monthly when a system's in regular use. Discuss cleaning the unit and ductwork with your heating and cooling service professional.

While most types of filters must be replaced, a few filters are reusable. They're available in a variety of types and efficiencies, rated by a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV). MERV, a method developed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, tests filter effectiveness. The higher the MERV number, the higher the filter's effectiveness at keeping dust out of your system.

To learn more about how to save energy around your home, visit www.TogetherWeSave.com

Sources: *High Performance HVAC, U.S. Department of Energy*

John Bruce is a freelance writer based in South Carolina. He writes on energy efficiency for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).



“Dirty filters cause a system to work harder and break down faster. That's because unfiltered dust and grime work into critical parts, creating friction that causes unnecessary wear and, eventually, failure.”



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Heat from sunlight coming through windows and hitting the roof can increase air conditioner use significantly. Use shade trees and shrubs in landscaping design to reduce cooling costs. Block heat in the summer—but let it through in the winter—with deciduous trees, which will lose their leaves in the winter.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



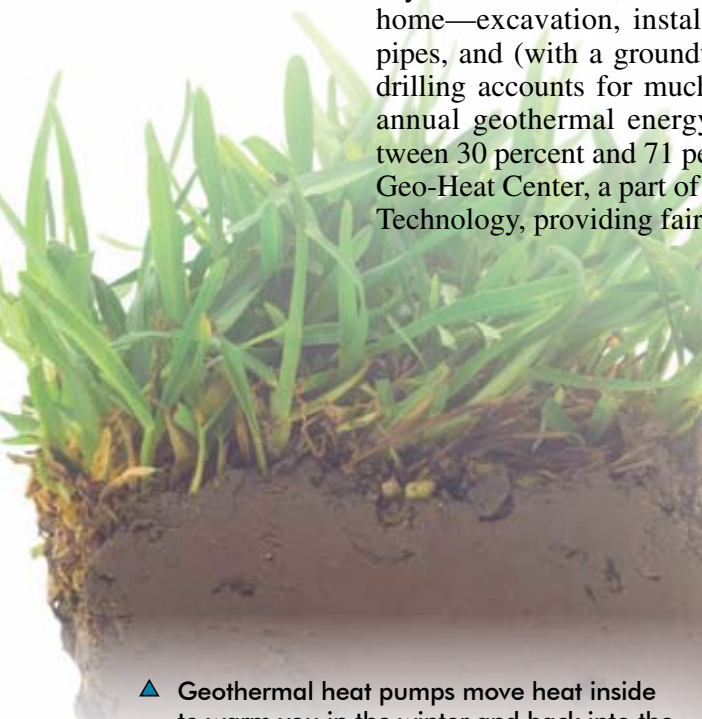
Heat Pumps...

Continued from cover

(closed-loop) model moves a water and antifreeze solution through underground pipes. They can cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$40,000 for an average home—excavation, installation of underground pipes, and (with a groundwater heat pump) well drilling accounts for much of the price tag. But annual geothermal energy savings average between 30 percent and 71 percent, according to the Geo-Heat Center, a part of the Oregon Institute of Technology, providing fairly rapid payback.

Sources: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; Cooperative Research Network; OIT Geo-Heat Center; U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

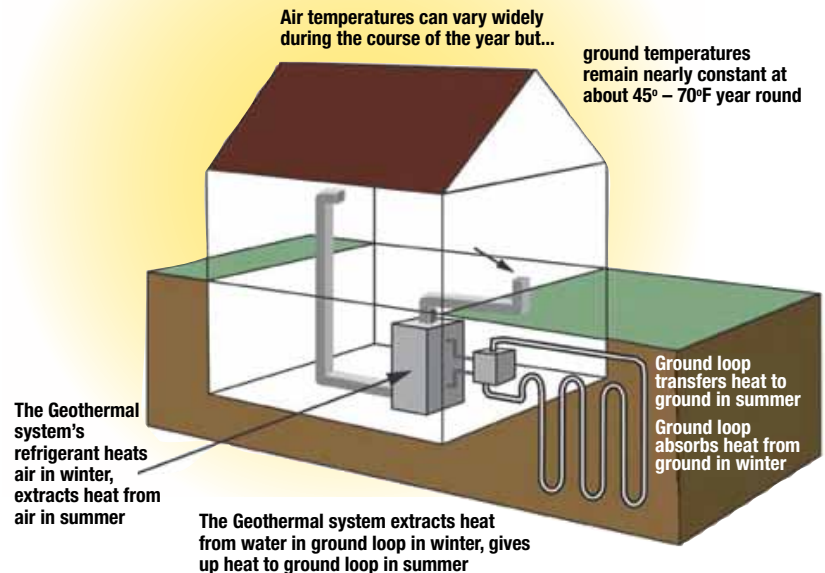
Scott Gates writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)



- ▲ Geothermal heat pumps move heat inside to warm you in the winter and back into the ground to cool you in the summer.
- ▲ Clean, comfortable and easy to maintain.
- ▲ Low operating cost...highly efficient geothermal systems use a small amount of electrical energy to capture a large amount of free renewable energy from the earth.
- ▲ Excellent choice for homes, schools and businesses.
- ▲ With qualifying units eligible for a 30% federal tax credit and a purchase incentive from your Touchstone Energy cooperative, you'll save on more than just your electric bill.

How Does Geothermal Heating and Cooling Work?

Geothermal heat pumps tap into the earth's ability to maintain nearly constant temperature, moving heat inside to warm you in the winter and back into the ground to cool you in the summer.



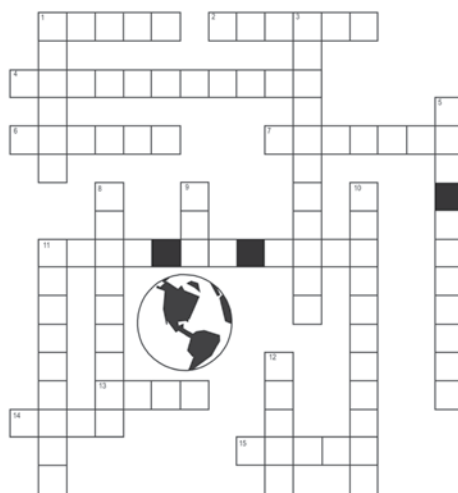
Depending on your building site, the loops can be installed either vertically (as shown) or in a horizontal orientation. With the majority of the heating and cooling capacity coming from the earth and pumped through these loops, the outside air temperature does not affect performance. So even in the cold of winter and peak summer heat, you can expect both comfort and savings on your energy bill.



Source: The NEED Project 2008, Manassas, VA

Answers can be found on our website at www.hawkeyerec.coop

GEOHERMAL



ACROSS

1. Melted iron
2. Greek word for heat
4. Where geothermal energy is located
6. The Earth's crust is in giant pieces called ____
7. Mountain with geothermal energy
11. Area of Pacific with geothermal resources
13. Produced by volcanoes
14. Center of the earth
15. Outer layer of the earth

DOWN

1. Earth layer with magma and rock
3. Geothermal energy is caused by ____ decay
5. Geothermal resource good for bathing
8. Replenished in a short time
9. Greek word for earth
10. Produced by geothermal plant
11. Underground geothermal pool
12. Greek word for water



Recipes...

Fresh raspberry recipes!



Easy Raspberry Pie

- 2 c. of fresh raspberries
- 1 small pkg. raspberry Jell-o
- 1 small box vanilla pudding (cook & serve)
- 1 graham cracker pie crust
- 1½ c. water

Put both the Jell-o and the pudding in a saucepan with the 1½ cups of water; bring to a boil, stirring often. Remove from heat, stir in raspberries. Pour into pie crust. Refrigerate several hours. Add cool whip to each serving.

Diana Ness • Waukon

Raspberry Cake

- 1 (10 oz. pkg). frozen raspberries or 1 pint fresh raspberries (Reserve 2 T. raspberries for the frosting)
- 1 White Cake Mix
- ½ c. oil
- 4 eggs
- 1 pkg instant vanilla pudding

Place all ingredients including ½ c. rasp juice in mixing bowl. Mix and pour batter in 9 x 13 pan and bake 25-30 minutes at 350°. Cool completely. Mix together and frost: 2 c. powdered sugar, ¼ c. marg., 2 T. raspberries and ½ t. almond extract.

Judy Spalla • Decorah

Raspberry Salad

- 1 (6 oz. pkg.) raspberry Jell-o
- 2½ c. boiling water
- 1 (10 oz. pkg.) frozen raspberries
- 1 (15 oz. can) crushed pineapple
- 2 large bananas (sliced)
- 1 c. whole pecans
- ½ c. chopped pecans
- 4 c. whipped desert topping
- 2 T. lemon juice
- 3 c. miniature marshmallows

Pour boiling water over Jell-o and stir to dissolve. Add raspberries and stir until thawed. Add pineapple, bananas and nuts. Let set in refrigerator until firm. For topping, combine desert topping, lemon juice and marshmallows. Spread over Jell-o mixture. Chill 6-8 hours or overnight.

Janice Dougherty • Waukon



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

All recipes can be found on our website.

Sept. - Apple Fest (need by Aug. 15)

Oct. - Different Party Dips (need by Sept. 15)

Nov. - Stuffing/Dressing (need by Oct. 15)



Raspberry Crumble Coffee Cake

Recipe makes either 2 - 8" round baking pans OR one 9 x 13 x 2" cake pan (greased) Yield: 16-20 servings

Filling:

- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 2 cups fresh or frozen whole, unsweetened raspberries (If using sweetened raspberries you can reduce the amount of sugar)
- 3/4 cup water or raspberry juice, about 2 or 3 Tablespoons less, if you choose
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice

Coffee Cake Batter:

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 Tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground mace (optional)
- 1 cup cold butter or margarine (I would use at least 1/2 cup of butter)
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Topping:

- 1/4 cup cold butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds

In a saucepan, combine sugar, cornstarch, water and berries; cook over med. heat until thickened and clear. Add lemon juice. Set aside to cool.

In a bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, and mace. Cut in the butter until mixture resembles fine crumbs. Add eggs, milk, and vanilla; stir until blended. Divide in 1/2 and if using the 2 8" pans divide batter, putting 1/2 in each pan. If using the 9 x 13 x 2 pan, still spread 1/2 the batter in the greased pan. Divide the filling and spread evenly over the batter in either the two pans or the larger size pan. Drop the remaining batter in small spoonfuls over the filling; spread as carefully as possible. For the topping, cut the butter into the flour and sugar; stir in sliced almonds. Sprinkle over batter.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40 - 45 minutes (ovens may differ), if using the two pans; bake at 350 degrees for possibly 45 - 50 minutes if using the 9 x 13 x 2" pan.

A delicious raspberry coffee cake!

Carol Lou Brunner • Riceville





Howard Cty. Fairgrounds - Cresco, Iowa 52136
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801
www.hawkeyerec.coop

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday • 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Closed Sat., Sun., & Holidays)

**Payment and billing inquiries
are available 24-7**

OUTAGES

1-800-927-5265

**IOWA STATE ONE CALL
1-800-292-8989**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dean Fisher, President - Lawler
- Charles Frana, Vice President - Calmar
- Dennis Ptacek, Secretary/Treasurer - Elma
- Norman Dickman - Decorah
- Roger Nibaur - Elma
- Dean Nierling - Burr Oak
- Dennis Young - Decorah
- Darla Rance - Lime Springs
- Carl Reicks - New Hampton

PERSONNEL

- Brian Krambeer, Chief Executive Officer
- Mike Walton, Operations Manager
- Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer
- Ted Kjos, Marketing & Mbr. Services Manager

EDITOR

Meagan Moellers

DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Aug. 10 Hawkeye REC prints bills based on July meter reading.
- Aug. 11 Bills are mailed to members from NISC in St. Louis.
- Aug. 25 Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of September. If needed, member reads meter and records on payment voucher.
- Aug. 30 Automated payments from checking accounts and credit/debit cards are processed.
- Aug. 24 Disconnect services for non-payment.
- Aug. 31 AMR meters are read by the cooperative.
- Sept. 1 Bills become delinquent.

OTHER EVENTS

- Aug. 13-15 Sweet Corn Days • Lime Springs
- Aug. 12-22 Iowa State Fair • Des Moines
- Aug. 19 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting
- Aug. 20-22 Czech Days • Protivin
- Aug. 20-22 'digIN Green Initiative' • Decorah
- Sept. 2-6 Chickasaw Big4 Fair • Nashua
- Sept. 4 150 Year Celebration • Spillville

Hawkeye REC
PO Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
DPC

Teachers Are Part of Our Electric Cooperative.



When you're part of a co-op, you know exactly what the co-op stands for.

Members of your electric co-op come from all walks of life. Members are community leaders, teachers, business owners, farmers and students.

Be proud to be part of a local cooperative!



The power of human connections

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative