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 "Part of Your Co-op" Series

Hawkeye REC Office Closed May 31 in honor of Memorial Day. Enjoy the Holiday!



New Headquarters Facility Update

Temporary Facilities Notice

Hawkeye REC will soon be moving into temporary facilities. On May 17th the operations staff and fleet will be moving to the old Campsite RV facility which is located at 330 2nd Ave. SW (Highway 9 East) in Cresco. Our main office will be relocating to the Howard County

facility is scheduled to be finished in April 2011.

Demolition of Current Facilities

The demolition of the current facility required a great deal of research and planning as well. As a federal borrower, we had to make sure that the building built in 1941 was not a historic landmark and also complete an environmental assessment regarding potential asbestos abatement. Members will begin to see demolition efforts in the coming months. The operations buildings have been sold to a member who will be dismantling them in June. Please do not hesitate to call or email with any questions.

- ▲ Polished concrete floors
- ▲ Recycled products throughout the building
- ▲ Motion sensors for lighting throughout the facility

The new facility will be a model for our members to look at for further energy efficient features, things that we have been educating our members on for years. The co-op is also evaluating a photovoltaic system for domestic hot water heating. In addition, the existing facility's concrete will be ground and recycled as part of the fill-process for the new construction and one of the buildings will be relocated to the back of our existing pole yard for additional storage.

Local contractors interested in bidding on our project should contact Wieser Brothers at 507-895-8903.



Implementation of 'Green' Technology

The new headquarters will incorporate a number of different 'green' technology and energy efficient features including:

- ▲ Ground-source heat pumps
- ▲ White roof to reflect sunlight

Keep Up-to-Date on the Building Progress

Continued communication will be published in upcoming issues of the monthly newsletter and a photo gallery of the construction process will also be available on our Web site at www.hawkeyerrec.coop.

Open House Showcasing Energy Efficiency

Websters' Housing Development

Wednesday, June 2nd • 4-7 p.m.

1130 Cambridge Street in the Websters' Housing Development in Cresco.

Come and check out all the energy efficient options including geo-thermal heating & cooling system, spray foam and stabilized cellulose insulation and much more.

2,700 finished square feet (including basement)



Straight talk about...

the cooperative difference



The first week in May I traveled to our nation's capitol to address concerns and issues impacting Hawkeye REC and our electric cooperatives nationwide.

One of the pivotal issues is to retain funding for the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) program, which provides loans to electric cooperatives to replace our aging distribution system. The administration's 2011 budget reduces the RUS loan program nearly \$2 billion dollars. Electric cooperatives need continued funding at the \$6.5 billion dollar level to maintain their infrastructure improvements, especially during this period of transition into smart-grid technologies. The RUS program is not an expense to our federal government, unlike the bailout of our financial institutions. In fact, in 2009 the RUS program generated a profit of \$30 million.

I am pleased to report that Iowa Senator Tom Harkin has signed a letter of support with 25 other senators that is being circulated requesting that funding for RUS be retained at its current level. Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley has also pledged his support.

The administration's 2011 budget also eliminates RUS funding for natural gas generation facilities. Yet, electric cooperatives and utilities across the country are being directed to bring on more renewable energy, specifically wind generation. With the directive, natural gas peaking plants have even greater importance of providing critical backup when the wind is not blowing.

"...electric cooperatives and utilities across the country are being directed to bring on more renewable energy, specifically wind generation."

Weathering the storm

Our nation's electric utility industry is also heading into a storm as we continue to address climate change – again – but with a new twist today, the Environmental Protection Agency.

In December, the EPA declared that six key greenhouse gases from auto emissions, including carbon dioxide (CO₂), are "endangering public health and welfare" of current and future generations. Emissions from motor vehicles from four of those greenhouse gases, including CO₂, were also said to contribute to dangerous air pollution.

The endangerment finding puts a foot in the door for the EPA to issue sweeping new rules that could impose strict limits on carbon emissions, including those from power plants. The cost of generating electricity would go up, and in the end those costs would hit member's pocketbooks.

Congress is mulling over its own set of CO₂ regulations, and we must continue to ask that any resulting legislation be fair, affordable and technologically achievable. If passed, Congressional legislation should also preempt use of any other existing laws, fixing a regulatory disaster that would only add to costs for members with a mess of overlapping regulatory red tape.

Whatever the political outcome, the honest truth is the change won't come overnight. Fossil fuels currently account for more than 70 percent of all electricity generated in the U.S. and an even greater amount in the Midwest. New technology will be key to both keeping these traditional options up-to-date and refining new ways to affordably keep the lights on. Cleaner use of fossil fuels, an increased use of renewable energy and a big commitment to energy efficiency will all be necessary.



Electric co-ops have a long history of providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to their members, and no "storm" is going to keep us from continuing to do our job. Co-op research projects are already underway to expand the current limits of renewable energy, make coal and natural gas-fired power plants cleaner and more efficient, and possibly even capture CO₂ from plant emissions before they go up a smokestack and store them deep underground to keep them out of the atmosphere.

The Cooperative Research Network, of which our co-op is a member, was recently awarded a \$33.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, which will support a wide-ranging "smart grid" research project. With a smarter electric grid, we'll be able to deliver electricity to our members more efficiently—cutting the amount of emissions generated as a result.

Co-ops have stepped up to challenges in the past, and I have no doubt about our response. We need your continued help in relaying to Congress just how important it is to keep climate change legislation fair, affordable and technologically achievable.

Thanks for your cooperative support and I welcome your calls, e-mails and personal visits.



April Outage Report

April 14 - Dairyland Transmission Broken Crossarm - 695 Affected Members (Winneshek County)

April 24 - Broken Insulator - 98 Affected Members (Chickasaw County)

Due to software conversion efforts this month, this is a monthly report of major power outages only. Go to www.hawkeyerec.coop for current major power outage information.

When the lights go out, so do we

BOARD *Report*

Hawkeye's Board of Directors conducted its monthly board meeting on April 28, 2010.

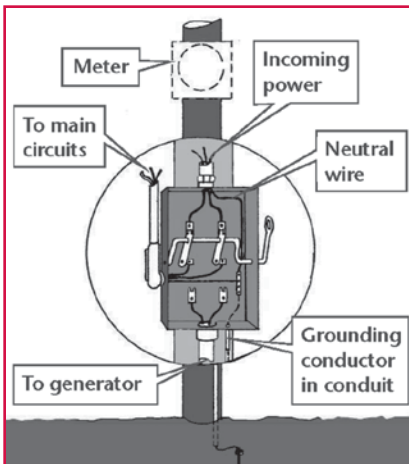
Highlights of the meeting:

- ▶ Election of Board Officers
- ▶ Approved Delegates to Dairyland Power Cooperative's Annual Meeting
- ▶ Approved sale of Cooperative buildings
- ▶ Approved TIFF Application to Howard County Supervisors for paving York Street



Staying Safe: Portable Generators

Portable generators are useful when temporary or remote electric power is needed, but they can be hazardous. **The primary hazards? Carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock or electrocution, and fire.**



CARBON MONOXIDE HAZARDS:

Always use generators outdoors. NEVER use generators in homes, garages, basements, or any enclosed areas, even with ventilation.

Install battery-operated or plug-in (with battery backup) carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home, and follow manufacturer's instructions. Test alarms often and replace batteries when needed.

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS:

Plug appliances directly into generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord.

NEVER plug the generator into a wall outlet. This practice, known as "backfeeding," can electrocute line workers and others served off the same utility transformer.

Did You or Someone You Know Go on Our Youth Tour?

We are looking for stories from our Youth Tour Alumni. We want your story for our archives for the 75th anniversary book. The first year Hawkeye sent a representative on the free trip to Washington, D.C. was 1963. We welcome any photos as well.

Tell Us How the Trip:

- ▲ Led to Career Choices
- ▲ Created Lifelong Friendships
- ▲ Engaged Political Interest

Call Meagan at the office by June 1st!




Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

The power of human connections

Do You Know Where Your Directors Are From?

It is important to understand that your elected directors are positioned proportionately throughout our three-county service territory to fairly represent the membership.

Chickasaw District



1. Dean Fisher
President & Dairyland
Power Director
Lawler
Elected 1991



2. Carl Reicks
New Hampton
Elected 2010

Winneshiek District



6. Norman Dickman
Decorah
Elected 1995



7. Charles Frana
Vice President
Calmar
Elected 2003



8. Dean Nierling
Decorah
Elected 1999



9. Dennis Young
Decorah
Elected 2004

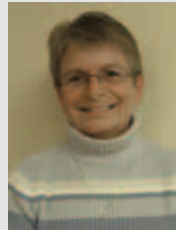
Howard District



3. Roger Nibaur
Elma
Elected 1993



4. Dennis Ptacek
Sec./Treasurer
Elma
Elected 1996



5. Darla Rance
Lime Springs
Elected 2010



Get Your House in Shape for Summer

- ▶ Set your thermostat to a higher temperature in the summer.
- ▶ Replace filters on your air conditioner.
- ▶ Plug air leaks in your home. Weather strip and caulk any leaky doors and windows and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers.
- ▶ Check insulation levels. If necessary, add insulation in attics and crawl spaces.
- ▶ Use energy-efficient landscaping. Leafy trees and shrubs properly placed on the south and west side of your home can provide shade during the peak daytime heat.
- ▶ Keep blinds and curtains closed on windows facing the sun.
- ▶ Consider cooling alternatives for your home. Fans and dehumidifiers use less energy than air conditioners and can help to increase comfort by reducing humidity levels and maintaining steady air flow.
- ▶ When replacing air conditioners or other cooling equipment, choose high efficiency ENERGY STAR qualified models.

Reducing Your Energy Use

It's Good for the Environment!

Reducing home energy use can provide homeowners with significant long-term financial benefits. After all, the typical U.S. household spends \$1,000 to \$2,000 per year on energy bills. In addition to saving you money, taking steps to lower energy consumption can also help to protect the environment. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the residential sector makes up about 18% of total greenhouse gas emissions, most of which is related to home energy use. By reducing your home energy consumption you can help reduce your carbon footprint.

**Need a Mother's or Father's Day Idea?
Give the Gift that Keeps on Giving!**

Do you...

Get Your Own Mail?



Fill the Bird Feeders?



Mow the Lawn?



Take Out the Trash?



**Work in your
Garden or
Flower Beds?**



...You Still Can!

**Look at all the things you can still do....
with the help of FirstCall**

Have you reached a point in your life where daily tasks can sometimes be difficult when you are facing them alone? Do your family members worry about you? Hawkeye offers the perfect thing for the elderly who still want to maintain their independence and freedom, and yet still have help at the press of a button.

The FirstCall Emergency Unit can summon help by pressing the button on a personal alarm device. The light-weight pendant or bracelet is a wireless transmitter. It features one button, which when pressed, will make a call to the central station to alert them of an emergency. Professional CSOs (central station operators) are available 24-hours a day. When your console calls them, your address and family contact information is available for them to send appropriate help if needed.



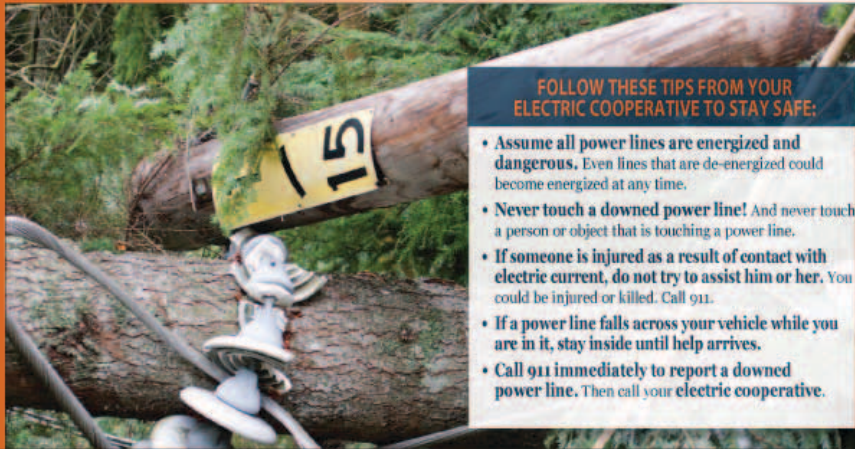
Call Karen today at (800) 658-2243 or go to www.hawkeyerec.coop for more information. FirstCall is available for Hawkeye members and non-members.



May is Electrical Safety Month

Stay Clear!

A downed power line may not be a dead line. It could cause serious injury or death.



FOLLOW THESE TIPS FROM YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE TO STAY SAFE:

- Assume all power lines are energized and dangerous. Even lines that are de-energized could become energized at any time.
- Never touch a downed power line! And never touch a person or object that is touching a power line.
- If someone is injured as a result of contact with electric current, do not try to assist him or her. You could be injured or killed. Call 911.
- If a power line falls across your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives.
- Call 911 immediately to report a downed power line. Then call your electric cooperative.

National Electrical Safety Month is a time for all of us to reexamine our surroundings and determine what steps we can take to prevent the hundreds of deaths, thousands of injuries, and billions of dollars in economic losses that occur each year because of electrical hazards.

Electricity is the cause of over 140,000 fires each year, resulting in more than 500 deaths, 4,000 injuries, and \$1.6 billion in property damage in the United States. In the workplace, more than 300 workplace fatalities and approximately 4,000 injuries occur each year due to electrical hazards, according to a study published by the National Safety Council.

Be Prepared Before the Storm

Here are some basic items you should store in your home in case of emergency:

- ☑ **Water:** Three day supply, one gallon per person per day
- ☑ **Food:** Three day supply, non-perishable, high-energy
- ☑ **Clothing, bedding, and sanitation supplies**
- ☑ **Tools:** Can opener, plates, utensils, flashlight, batteries, cash, bleach, hand sanitizer
- ☑ **First aid supplies, medicine**
- ☑ **Important documents**



Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency

May is Beef Month

Hawkeye salutes area beef producers.

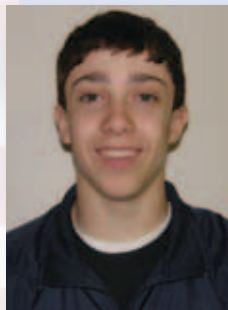
- In Iowa, 40,000 jobs are related to the beef industry
- Iowa's beef industry contributes \$5.1 billion in business activity to Iowa's economy
- Roughly 16,892,894 people can be fed with the beef produced in Iowa every year

(Source: Iowa Beef Industry Council)



Spelling Correction

We apologize to Jonathan Gardner who is this year's Youth Tour winner for misspelling his last name in the April edition of the newsletter. Congratulations again Jonathan!



Q: What is the most popular cut of beef consumed in the U.S. today?

A: Ground beef! Ground beef accounts for 59% of total in-home beef eatings, followed by steak and roast.

(NCBA/NPD)



Recipes...

Are you planning graduation celebrations, showers, weddings, or a Mother's Day family gathering this spring? Try a new punch recipe to dazzle your guests!



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.

June - Marinades for Grilling (need by May 15)

July - "Fresh From the Garden" Salsa (need by June 15)

Aug. - Raspberries (need by July 15)

Sept. - Apple Fest (need by July 15)



Cran-Apple Punch

- 1 (46 oz. can) Orange Juice (not concentrate)
- 2 (12 oz. cans) frozen Cranberry juice (concentrate)
- 1 (12 oz. can) frozen Apple Juice (concentrate)
- 2 c. sugar
- 6 c. water

Boil sugar and water together for 1 minute: Cool. Pour over juices: put in Ice cream bucket and Freeze. Add a scoop of slush to a glass of 7-up or Sprite. Enjoy on a hot day!

Diana Ness • Waukon

50-Cup Punch

- 4 (3 oz. pkg.) cherry Jell-o
- 2 (12 oz. cans) frozen orange juice (concentrate)
- 2 (12 oz. cans) frozen lemonade (concentrate)
- 1 lg. can pineapple juice
- 2 lg. bottles 7-Up

Mix Jell-o as directed. Mix orange juice and lemonade as directed. Combine all ingredients, except 7-Up in a large container and mix. Chill. (You can freeze some into ice ring molds to keep chilled while serving.) Pour in punch bowl and add 7-Up.

Donna Rue • Ridgeway

Wedding Punch

- 2 c. sugar
- Juice of 3 limes
- Juice of 8 oranges
- Juice of 8 lemons
- 3 qt. unsweetened pineapple juice

Combine juices and sugar. Chill well. Just before serving, add 4 qt. dry ginger ale and 2 qt. plain soda water. Serves 60-70.

Janice Dougherty • Waukon



Red Punch

- 2 pkgs. red cool-aid
- 2 c. sugar
- 8 c. water (2 quarts)
- 1 (46 oz. can) pineapple juice
- 4 c. 7-Up

Nancy Solomonson • Decorah



Start the Grilling Season off Right

Purchase an Electric Grill today!

Go to www.hawkeyerec.coop for more styles and prices available to purchase from Hawkeye.

Don't forget to send in your favorite recipes for grilling marinades for the June newsletter edition.



Lock & Go Portable Electric Grill
\$58.50 (plus tax)



Deluxe Electric Cart Grill
\$175.00 (plus tax)



29049 State Hwy 9 - 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

Hawkeye REC
PO Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136



Graduates 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!

DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- May 10 Hawkeye REC prints bills based on April meter reading.
- May 11 Bills are mailed to members from NISC in St. Louis.
- May 25 Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of June. If needed, member reads meter and records on payment voucher.
- May 25 Disconnect services for non-payment.
- May 28 Automated payments from checking accounts and credit/debit cards are processed.
- May 31 AMR meters are read by the cooperative.
- June 1 Bills become delinquent.

OTHER EVENTS

- May 27 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting
- May 31 Office Closed – Memorial Day

The power of human connections
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative