

Hawkeye REC News

The Power Is Yours



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 "Part of Your Co-op" Series

Use caution when traveling—school is back in session.



Energy Star Home Behind the Scenes... Open House

Saturday, September 11th • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

1154 Cambridge Street

in the Webster's Addition on the East Side of Cresco



MIDWEST Drafting & Design is in the process of building a Design Show Home and would like to invite you to a behind the scenes "During Construction" Open House.

At 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. see an Energy Star certification demonstration including blower door testing and insulation inspection. There will be an air exchange system representative on site explaining indoor air quality and humidity solutions. There will also be experts on hand to answer questions regarding ICF

construction, spray foam insulation, house wrap and drainage planes, geo-thermal systems, windows, material suppliers, water conditioning and more.

Learn more about MIDWEST Drafting & Design and the Design Show Home by visiting the company's website at midwestdesign.biz.

New Headquarters Groundbreaking

The Hawkeye REC Board of Directors and employees conducted an informal groundbreaking ceremony on August 25th. The demolition of the old facilities is near completion and construction is planned to start mid-September.

New "Green" Facilities

The latest in "green" building practices will be incorporated into the new headquarters facility:

- **LED exterior lighting**
- **Fluorescent interior task lighting**
- **Ground-source heat pump for heating and cooling**
- **Recycled glass for the front office countertops**
- **Polished concrete floors**
- **Solar water heating**
- **White reflective roof**

These features, in addition to standby generation that will power the entire facility during a storm or disaster – will allow the employees to focus on **job #1 – keeping the lights on for the membership when you need it!** The new headquarters will also include an on-site fuel storage system, allowing **the cooperative to be self-sufficient in operating of our vehicles during any extended outage or crisis situation.**



Straight talk about...

Moving Hawkeye REC Forward



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

This past month has been a busy month for your electric cooperative and I'm pleased to report the progress on the construction of the new headquarters facility.

The week of August 23rd, demolition on the old office began. In a matter of just a few days the site has been transformed into a flat building site. All of the concrete, brick and block from the old facility has been hauled off-site for grinding and pulverization and will be returned to the site as fill. This will minimize landfill waste and expense.

On August 25th, the Hawkeye REC Board of Directors and employees conducted an informal groundbreaking ceremony to document this time in our history of moving forward. Following the short program, the board conducted a special board meeting at our temporary facility at the fairgrounds with our design build team – Architectural Design and Wieser Brothers—to review the results of the bid packages.

The first bid package for demolition and site preparation was awarded to Mehmert Tiling Inc. at last month's board meeting. Enviro-Tec Inc. of Cresco was

awarded the installation of the ground-source heat pump loop field, which will begin once demolition is finished.

The results of the second round of bids for the construction of the new facility was very promising with over 100 contractor bids received for the many categories of work to be performed during construction. As a result of the increased interest in our project, a very competitive list of contractors and pricing were selected by the board. They diligently took into consideration the use of local contractors.

Preliminary predictions were showing a ten percent savings on the project over conventional construction costs due to the economic recession and demand for work by contractors. The end result exceeded that amount and is approaching a 15 percent savings for the cooperative, putting our project below the \$5 million budget and close to \$90 per square foot. The recent action by the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates is also working in our favor.

The new headquarters will be a tremendous tool and resource for our cooperative in the future for continuing to deliver reliable electric service to our membership. Having all employees in one facility will improve communications and allow greater cross-training of employees that will provide future labor savings. The addition of new technologies such as outage management, electronic mapping and staking, global positioning for our trucks, and distribution infrastructure will improve outage response times and increase efficiency. The end result will be better service to our membership.

The old cooperative's headquarters was originally built in 1941. It had been remodeled countless times and was not a facility that could be integrated with new technologies, energy efficiencies,

American Disabilities Act requirements or Homeland Security requirements. Reinvesting more cooperative dollars into that facility was determined not to be an efficient and long-term investment.

Fortunately today, construction costs are extremely competitive. Long-term interest rates are at 20-year lows and 100 percent financing for the headquarters is currently available to your cooperative through the Rural Utilities Service. By using our existing site, your cooperative avoided an additional investment in land and infrastructure such as water, sewer and fire protection.

I'm very proud of the action taken by the Hawkeye REC Board of Directors to move our cooperative forward with the construction of this new building. I am confident that it is the right decision for the future of our cooperative and will result in lower operating costs in the future for our membership.

It is also important to note that electric rates will continue to trend dramatically upward. These increases are being driven primarily by the increased costs of wholesale power and not our new headquarters. We will continue to do our absolute best to control the daily operating costs of our cooperative through the incorporation of technology and efficiencies in this new headquarters and we ask for your continued support.

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

Respectfully,

Brian

"Fortunately today, construction costs are extremely competitive. Long-term interest rates are at 20-year lows and 100 percent financing for the headquarters is currently available to your cooperative through the Rural Utilities Service."

BOARD *Report*

Hawkeye's Board of Directors conducted the monthly board meeting and joint board meeting with Tri-County Electric Cooperative Board of Directors on Thursday, August 19.

Highlights of the meeting:

- ▶ Approved Resolution for FEMA 404 Hazard Mitigation involving the retrofitting of 100 miles of line authorizing requests for proposals for engineering services.
- ▶ Approved Service Territory Agreement with Interstate Power and Light Company
- ▶ Presentation by Heartland Security regarding security and monitoring services.
- ▶ Presentation by STAR Energy Services providing an outline of their services and business structure.
- ▶ Update on shared service arrangements between Hawkeye and Tri-County.



August Outage Report

Individual – 41
Planned – 6
Weather – 16
Animals – 10
Other/Unknown – 32
Affected Members – 606

When the lights go out, so do we

Moo-Mobile Donation Funds

Every year Hawkeye employees raise donation funds by working at the Moo-Mobile during the Howard County Fair. The employees decide together which charitable organizations they would like to donate the funds to. The funds raised from the past two years totaled \$1,806.50, which came from making approximately 4,000 malts!

A donation of \$903.25 will go toward the WWII Veterans Honor Flight. The next trip to Washington D.C. is scheduled to take place in October. Gene Koschmeder, past commander of VFW Post 4561, stated that proceeds raised at the Moo-Mobile is an outstanding example of appreciation, respect and honor of the World War II veterans.

Another donation of \$903.25 went to HoCA, the Howard County Cancer Association. HoCA gives grants to people who are being treated for cancer. We all have someone we care about who has suffered with cancer and wanted to show our community support.



Amber Ferrie and Kayla Hageman were the Hawkeye REC summer employees who managed the Moo Mobile event this past year. They presented a check to Gene Koschmeder for the Honor Flight on behalf of VFW Post 4561.



Left to right: Julie Stinson, HoCA President, received a check from Hawkeye REC summer employees Amber Ferrie and Kayla Hageman.



Question or complaint?

There may be times when you have a question regarding your electric service or the bill you receive from Hawkeye REC. Or maybe you have a complaint; if so, we would like to know.

You can contact us:

- ▲ Visit our temporary office at 220 West 7th Street, Cresco, Iowa
- ▲ Write to PO Box 90, Cresco, Iowa
- ▲ Call (800) 658-2243 or (563) 547-3801
- ▲ Email: info@hawkeyerec.com

If your complaint is related to Hawkeye's service rather than its rates, and Hawkeye does not solve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board.

- ▲ Write to 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
- ▲ Call (515) 281-3839 or (877) 565-4450



DID?
you
know

Hawkeye REC is ranked 609th out of the 855 electric cooperatives in the nation according to the number of members.

RECare

Look for an insert with your electric bill this month regarding your cooperative's RECare program. Our member's generosity makes Hawkeye's program one of the best in Iowa. All RECare recipients are qualified through Community Action.

Thank you for your generosity.



Form can also be downloaded at www.hawkeyerec.coop

NOTICE:

Please remember to inform Hawkeye of any changes to your contact information. This includes phone numbers, cell phones, mailing address and email address. It is very important to have current information for all our members in order to successfully contact the member. Thank you for your cooperation.

Daniel Slifka has ease of mind as he 'motors around' the yard and his home because of his reliance on his FirstCall system.

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.



It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3...

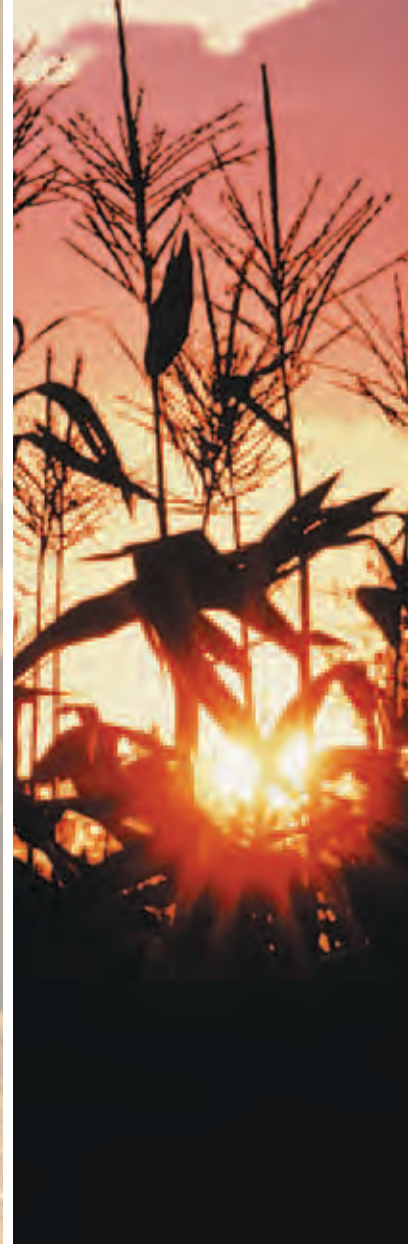
- Push **HELP** button
- Signal is submitted to response center where dispatchers are available 24/7/365
- Check on your condition and call your emergency list for help



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.



Reduce Energy Use During Peak Hours

Peak hours are the busiest times for your local electric cooperative, since many people are using electricity at the same time. In addition, it costs your co-op more to generate electricity when demand soars during peak periods—and the cost of your electricity also may rise. Obviously, using less electricity during peak periods can save your co-op—and you—money.

Here's how you can help during peak hours, which generally are on the coldest winter days between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.:

- Shift household chores and activities away from peak periods. Wait to run your dishwasher until you go to bed, for instance.



“...using less electricity during peak periods can save your co-op—and you—money.”

- Use the most energy-efficient appliances you have. Your microwave oven, for example, uses considerably less energy than your stove or cooktop.
- If you're buying a new appliance, make sure you get a highly efficient one. Look for “Energy Star” labels when you're evaluating different models.
- Be aware of your energy consumption, and try to get in the habit of using energy efficiently year-round.

Use the energy you need, but use it wisely! You'll help your co-op avoid building expensive new power plants—and that, in turn, will help keep your electric rates stable.

Planting Savings

You've upgraded your appliances, insulation, and lighting to help lower your monthly electric bill. What else can you do? Plenty, if you have a yard with landscaping options. The right combination of plants and trees can unearth hidden energy savings.

The U.S. Department of Energy claims landscaping with energy efficiency in mind, on average, could save enough energy to recoup your investment in less than eight years. There are several ways to think about planting for energy savings:

- ▲ Climate
- ▲ Shading
- ▲ Windbreaks

Climate Clarity

Climate determines the direction your landscaping planning should take. The United States is divided into four different types of regions: temperate, hot-arid, hot-humid, and cool.

Folks living in the temperate band across the Northwest, Midwest, and Northeast parts of the nation should maximize the warmth of winter sun. Likewise, summer shade should be prized. Winter winds should be deflected from buildings, while summer breezes need to be brought toward a home.

Simple Shading

You might be protected from the hot summer sun in your home, but your electric bill isn't. Solar heat absorbed

through windows and your roof causes your air conditioner to work harder.

Shading a home with trees could drop the surrounding air temperature by as much as nine degrees Fahrenheit. It gets better closer to the ground—since cool air sinks down, the air under trees may be up to 25 degree cooler than the air over the driveway.

Different trees serve unique purposes. To block summer solar heat but let the winter sun through, use deciduous trees. Evergreens trees and shrubs are ideal to provide continuous shade and block heavy winds.

Don't forget about shrubs and ground-cover plants. These short but sturdy shade-givers reduce heat radiation, cooling air before it reaches your home's walls and windows. If you have an air conditioner, shading the unit can increase its efficiency by as much as 10 percent.

Shading takes time. For example, a 6-foot to 8-foot deciduous tree planted near a home will begin shading windows in a year. Depending on the species and the home, the tree will shade the roof in five to 10 years.

Windbreaks

Shrubs and trees create windbreaks—essentially walls to keep the wind chill away from a home. Why is that important? Wind speed lowers outside air temperatures. A windbreak reduces wind speed nearby, saving your home from higher heating costs.



It's best to block wind with a combination of trees and shrubs with low crowns—foliage which grows close to the ground. Evergreens are ideal, and when combined with a wall or fence these windbreaks can deflect or even lift wind over a home.

For the best protection, plan on leaving between two to five times the mature height of the trees or shrubs between the windbreak and the protected home.

Ready, Set, GROW!

Remember, your landscaping plan depends on your climate and how your home is situated. Find out more about your climate, microclimates, shading do's and don'ts, and windbreaks at www.energysavers.gov. To learn more ways to save energy around your home, visit www.TogetherweSave.com.

—Source: U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use the moisture sensor feature on your clothes dryer if it has one. This option shuts down the dryer when clothes are dry. In addition, clean the lint filter after each load. This improves air circulation and increases the dryer's efficiency.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



Recipes...

Applefest



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.
Oct. - Different Party Dips (need by Sept.15)
Nov. - Stuffing/Dressing (need by Oct. 15)
Dec. - Creative Christmas Breakfast (need by Nov. 15)



Apple "Pie Tin" Coffeecake

2 eggs	2 t. baking powder
1 c. sugar	1 t. vanilla
1 c. flour	2 c. chopped apples

Mix all ingredients together; put in sprayed pie tin. Lightly sprinkle top with cinnamon and sugar if desired. Bake at 350° for 35 minutes.

Diana Ness • Waukon

Upside down Apple Pie

6 T. butter (melt & divide)	1 c. sugar
½ c. brown sugar	1/3 c. flour
½ c. chopped pecans	¾ t. cinnamon
Double pie crust	5 Lg. Granny Smith Apples (cored & cut)

Preheat oven, Coat pie pan with spray and line with wax paper, then coat with spray again. Combine 4 T. butter, brown sugar & pecans. Spread in bottom of pie pan- put bottom crust over pecan mix & press firmly. Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon and remaining 2 T. of butter and mix well. To that mixture, add apples and coat well. Spoon onto crust and place 2nd crust over the apples and seal. Cut slit in crust and bake between 1 hour and 1 hour and 15 minutes or until golden brown. Carefully loosen wax paper while hot. Allow to cool. Cut and serve warm.

Janice Dougherty • Waukon

Caramel Apple Salad

6 apples (cored and cut into bite size pieces)
 1 (8 oz. can) unsweetened crushed pineapple
 1 box of sugar-free butterscotch instant pudding (unprepared)
 1 c. mini marshmallows
 ¼ c. chopped nuts
 1 (8 oz.) Cool Whip

In large bowl mix first 5 ingredients (don't drain pineapple). Gently fold in Cool Whip and chill.

Linda Warnke • Lime Springs



Creamy Apple Squares

1 pkg. Pillsbury Plus yellow cake mix	3 apples (sliced thin)
½ c. soft oleo or butter	1 c. sour cream
¼ c. brown sugar (packed)	1 egg
½ t. cinnamon	

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix first two ingredients. Reserve 2/3 c. for topping. Add brown sugar and cinnamon to topping. Set aside. Press remaining mixture onto bottom of ungreased 9X13 pan. Arrange apple slices. Blend sour cream and eggs. Pour over apples. Sprinkle topping mix. Bake for approximately 30 minutes. Serve warm.

Makes 12-15 squares.

Donna Rue • Ridgeway

Caramel Apple Crisp

1 ¾ c. flour	1 c. margarine
1 c. oats	2 cans apple pie filling
½ c. brown sugar	1 can sweetened condensed milk
½ t. baking soda	25 caramels
½ t. salt	

Crust:

Mix flour, oats, brown sugar, baking soda and salt. Cut in margarine; mix. Reserve 1 ½ cups for topping. Put remaining crust mixture in ungreased 9 X 13 pan. Pat down and bake for 15 minutes at 375°.

Heat sweetened condensed milk and caramels until melted. Pour apple filling over crust, then pour the caramel mixture over the apples. Top with remaining oat mixture. Bake another 20 minutes at 375°.

Carolyn Huber • New Hampton

Norwegian Pie

2 eggs	1 c. pecans
1 c. flour	2 c. apples (diced)
2 t. baking powder	1 t. vanilla
1/8 t. salt	1 t. cinnamon
1 ½ cups sugar	

Mix all together in a large bowl. Put into a well greased pie pan. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. Serve with whipped cream. (Best to use a deep dish pie plate).

Priscilla Keck • Decorah





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

Hawkeye REC
PO Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
DPC

Teams Are Part of Our Electric Cooperative.

Friday Night Lights at the Turkey Valley High School
football games are provided
by Hawkeye REC



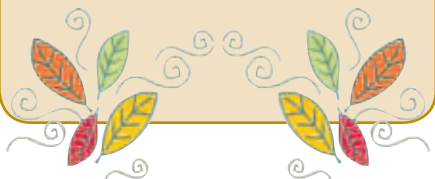
DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Sept. 10 Hawkeye REC prints bills based on August meter reading.
- Sept. 13 Bills are mailed to members.
- Sept. 21 Disconnect services for non-payment.
- Sept. 25 Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of October. If needed, member reads meter and records on payment voucher.
- Sept. 28 Automated payments from checking accounts and credit/debit cards are processed.
- Sept. 30 AMR meters are read by the cooperative.
- Oct. 1 Bills become delinquent.

OTHER EVENTS

- Sept. 10-12 Davis Rally - New Hampton
- Sept. 24-26 Norman Borlaug Fest - Cresco
- Sept. 25-26 Rendezvous Days - Fort Atkinson
- Oct. 1-3 NE Iowa Artists' Studio Tour - NE Iowa
- Sept. 29 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting



The power of human connections

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative