



National Dairy Month

Wild Rice Electric is proud to support our local farmers. Farming practices have changed over the past 80 years, especially when electricity was introduced to our farming families. Breakfast on the Farm gives community members the opportunity to visit a local farm to enjoy a great breakfast, learn about the technological advancements electricity has brought to farming and food processing, and meet the hard working individuals on the farm whom make it all possible each and every day.



Which breed of dairy cow produces the highest butter fat content?

Jersey



It takes 30 cups of milk to make one pound of butter.



Dairy cows prefer cool climate vs hot because they can't sweat.

How many gallons of milk does it take to make 1 gallon of ice cream?

3 gallons

The average U.S. dairy cow produces 53 pounds of milk per day, that's 6.2 gallons.

By hand, a farmer can milk six cows in one hour. If using a milking machine, a farmer can milk 100 cows an hour.

A cow's udder can hold 25-50 pounds of milk.

What is the largest used dairy breed?

Holsteins

Dairy cows only have bottom teeth.

Wild Rice Electric would like to thank our area dairy farmers.

What better way to celebrate Dairy Month than Breakfast On The Farm(s)!

Where: Kasin Farms
4271 230th St. S
Hawley, MN

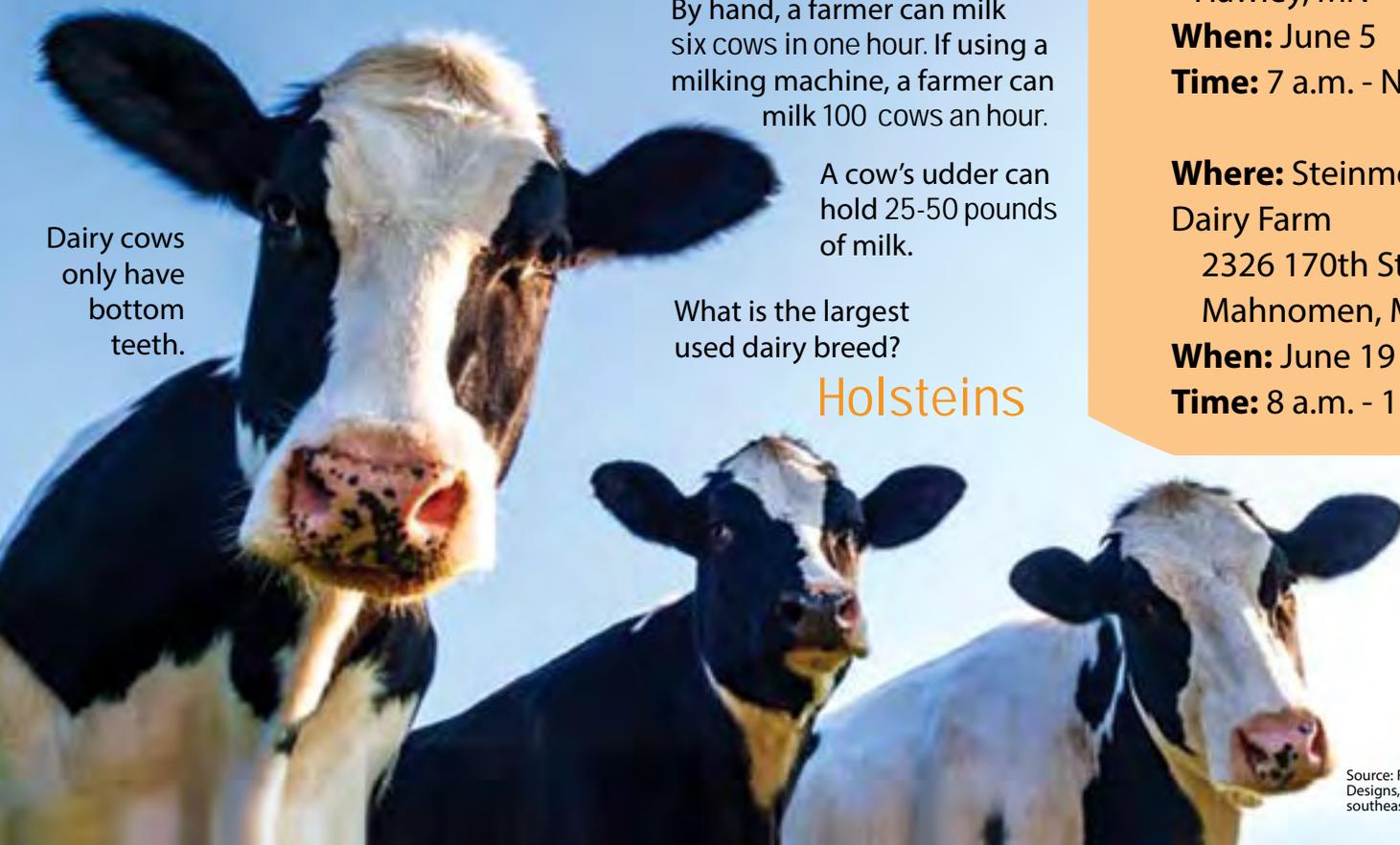
When: June 5

Time: 7 a.m. - Noon

Where: Steinmetz Dairy Farm
2326 170th St
Mahnomen, MN

When: June 19

Time: 8 a.m. - 11a.m.





OVER THE MANAGER'S DESK

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

KRISTIN DOLAN, CEO

Wild Rice Electric (WRE) and electric cooperatives across our nation were established to bring electricity to rural communities. The originating members of our local community created WRE to solve this need of powering their homes and businesses. In the creation process, they advocated for and received financing from the Federal Government out of necessity. These same drivers that created WRE continue to stand the test of time and are as important today as they were the day the first pole was set in the rural countryside.

Our local community is innovative, and service focused. We possess a "can do" mindset, finding solutions to more challenging obstacles commonly found in our rural settings. We have had to wait several years before the conveniences of modern day reached our homes and businesses. The formation of cooperatives is an excellent representation of our community's resourcefulness.

WRE extends our thanks to our local and federal legislators. We appreciate the time they take to listen to our energy needs and support energy policy important to us. Please help us by reaching out to your legislators to advocate for important energy policy and to thank them for listening and their support.

Energy Conservation and Optimization Act (ECO) - S.F. 227/H.F. 164

On a local front, this is one of the most important pieces of legislation we are currently working on. Both the House and the Senate have passed their respective bills from the floor. ECO now goes to conference committee to work through the different provisions of the two bills.

The ECO Act would transition the current Conservation Improvement Program (CIP), modernizing language to allow for more energy efficient programs. CIP mandates we reduce energy sales 1.5% annually and spend 1.5% of our gross operating revenue to achieve conservation goals. CIP has been beneficial, however it has become outdated as it doesn't support many advancements that have positive environmental impacts.

ECO would eliminate the CIP spending requirement and allow electric cooperatives and municipal utilities flexibility for efficient electrification. We would continue to promote conservation and efficient technologies; such as air-source heat pumps, electric storage water heaters and electric vehicles.

Flexible Financing for Rural America Act - H.R. 2244/S. 978

Access to affordable federal loans was imperative to finance the build-out of the electric distribution grid. It remains equally important today as we maintain our distribution system and transition our power supply portfolio, prioritizing reliability and affordability.

This legislation would provide needed flexibility to electric cooperatives and savings for our members. Many homeowners and businesses have been able to refinance their mortgages in this low interest rate environment. Electric Cooperatives have been unable to do the same due to prepayment penalties we would experience. This legislation would update current language to allow us to do the same.

Capital Credits - Retirement

The originating member's innova-

tive solution of a cooperative structure to serve WRE provides many benefits. A few key items include local governance of your cooperative, local dedicated service, and financial savings through capital credits.

Capital credits provides the ability to serve our members at cost. At the end of each calendar year, we subtract operating expenses from the total amount of money collected during the year; the balance is the "margin." This margin is allocated to each member based on the amount each member paid for electricity. When financial conditions allow, the margin or capital credits are returned to members.

At the April board meeting, your Board of Directors authorized the distribution of \$917,615 in capital credits. Active (current) members will receive a credit on their July statement for their capital credits from 1995 and a portion of 1996. Checks will be mailed to inactive (former) members.

Capital Credits - Allocation

The board authorized the allocation of WRE's 2020 margins totaling \$1,463,656 to each active member in 2020. This amount is allocated based on the members' patronage in that year. Members will see their assigned amount on their July statement.

New Services

If you are actively planning to build or expand your home or business, please make sure to reach out to WRE early in your planning process. This will allow us to plan accordingly to help in meeting your project scheduling needs.

Have a happy and safe summer!

Highlights from the Board Room:

Wild Rice Electric's Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on March 30, 2021 at the Wild Rice Electric headquarters. During the meeting, the following items were discussed: load control device installation, change-outs and inspection fees; planned outage phone notification process update; redesign of the Co-op's Emergency Response Plan including Crisis Communication Plan; building maintenance and security system; and 2021 Annual Meeting review. Board members participated in a legislative visit via Zoom with several Minnesota legislators and MREA Director of Government Affairs to discuss legislation pertinent to the electric co-op industry. A quorum of directors was present, and the following actions were taken:

- **Accepted** Consent agenda reports as presented by department managers including financials, member services/load management, safety/operations reports; and director compensation as presented by Board Treasurer;

- **Adopted** resolutions on RUS Financial and RD Apply Intake Certification Authorizations;

- **Approved** Thursday, March 24, 2022, for the Annual Meeting of the Membership;

- **Accepted** NRECA Annual Meeting report;

- **Accepted** Minnkota Power Board meeting and Minnkota Power/Square Butte Annual Meeting reports;

- **Approved** the date for the regular December board meeting to be held Monday, December 20, 2021;

- **Accepted** the MREA Annual Meeting and MREA board meeting reports;

The June meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021.

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Conducting Member Survey



At Wild Rice Electric, our mission is to promote an ever-improving way of life for our members by providing quality cost-effective services. But, in order for us to better serve you, we need a little feedback. That's why Wild Rice Electric is planning to conduct a 2021 Member Satisfaction Survey this summer to learn more about you and how to best continue to serve you in the future.

Wild Rice Electric will be conducting an online survey. Randomly selected co-op members will receive an email asking them to complete the electronic survey. It will take just a few minutes to fill out the survey, we ask for your time to complete it and submit your responses.

Please update your account contact information with us by calling our office at 1-800-244-5709, or online by visiting our website at www.wildriceelectric.com and clicking on the 'Update Your Account' icon on our home page. Keeping your information current allows us to better communicate with you. Member engagement activities like this survey or our outage notification process helps us to enhance your member service experience.

Later this year, Wild Rice will conduct a strategic planning exercise. The input we receive from you through the mechanism of this survey is a critical component to that process. Your feedback will help design a strategic plan centered around your energy needs. The survey will consist of questions such as:

- Length of service with the cooperative
- Most recent contact with the cooperative
- Cooperative satisfaction and loyalty
- Value added products and services interest

- Views on energy efficiency, renewable energy and the environment
- View on electric costs
- Use of technology and personal communication opportunities (social media, texts, mobile apps, etc.)

Your responses to these questions will allow us to determine ways we can enhance our customer service to better suit your needs. Rest assured that all information we gather will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shared with any third parties.

By participating in this survey, you will help us learn more about your needs while assisting us in making important decisions about providing you reliable power and exceptional customer service. After all, at Wild Rice Electric, our members are the owners, and we are here to serve you.

For questions about the 2021 Member Satisfaction Survey, contact Wild Rice Electric at 1-800-244-5709.

What can you get for \$1?



In the hot summer months, don't sweat the cost of electricity. Did you know \$1 of kilowatt power can run your ceiling fan for about 120 hours? So don't worry about skimping on that cool breeze – you can keep the air flowing without your cash flowing.

Wild Rice Electric has now joined Facebook. Our page was created to share information about electrical safety, major outage updates, cooperative events and more.

You may like and follow our page which can be found by searching 'Wild Rice Electric Cooperative'.



Ads

For Sale

Snapper riding lawn mower, new engine \$150, 218-483-3298.

Beetle Cat Sailboat, recently refurbished. Good condition. Comes with sails, \$500 OBO, 503-680-6246.

24-foot cedar sectional dock for sale, 3-8 foot sections, 2 x 6 cedar, \$300, Cotton Lake, 701-371-0676.

4-265-17 tires about 60 percent, \$40. 1 set of tires & alum rims for 4 wheeler tire sz 8"-25"-12"-25", \$100, 218-841-4072.

Farm fresh beef whole, 1/2's, 1/4's & hamburger. \$2- \$2.50 lb hanging weight, buyer pays processing, 218-849-5901.

18000 # Reese 5th wheel hitch, \$300, 218-255-5519.

Electric Winch...Dutton-Lainson's STRONGARM Model SA12000, 12V DC, 4,500 lb. lift w/manual. Used. \$500 new. Asking \$250, 952-906-3449. Lv msg.

15 - 6'x12 chain-link fence panels, \$20 ea. 1966 Ford pick up V8, 4 speed, 3/4 ton. 7x 20 trailer made from trailer house frame, treated wood hay hauler, 218-841-9355.

Garmin GPS #12, \$50. Two-wheel trailer 4x8, \$250. Fishing buddy 1200 w/ bottom line & side finder, it's a portable clamp on, \$100. 2 older MoPar radiators. Sportsman hanging scale, 300 lb cap, \$30. Days 218-935-5110.

30 gallon aquarium in good shape. No accessories included, 701 580-7938.

Skid steer attachments dirt, grapples & stump buckets, mowers, pallet forks, tree pullers, receiver hitches, 701-261-3574.

2008 Hustler Zero Turn 54" FasTrak Mower. Yearly oil changes/main-tenance, new mulching blades, Works great, just got a different one. \$3,000. Serious Inquiries only 218-280-7128.

AlumnaCraft Lunker V-16 LTF powered by 4 stroke Yamaha, kept in shop, 410-259-9755.

Old harness & straps for working horses, yours for the taking, 701-238-1412.

Trailer, make PJ trailer 12x18 ft flat bed, single axel 10 in high angle iron removeable side. Used to haul ATV, will haul 3, less than 400 miles, always kept in shed since new, 218-937-5331.

A Schwinn Air-Dyne exercise bicycle, \$75, 218-439-6073.

Dock Rite grey canopy cover for boat or pontoon lift. 114" x 26' fair condition \$375.00 701-371-1902 Bed 3/4 size excellent shape w/ drawer bottom. Suit case lg, small, & cosmetic case used once. Crock like new, cream separator parts in bowl, beautiful condition, 218-935-1044.

Evinrude 1954 7.5hp outboard with tank - great condition \$400. Reese 5th wheel hitch 16k capacity, heavy duty and like new - \$200 (cost new \$550.00) 651-764-5537.

Picnic tables & gliders, 218-850-9316.

Delta 6" jointer, Craftsman 9" band saw, Craftsman 6" disc & 4" x36" belt sander, DeWalt 10" table saw all in excellent condition, 218-687-3407.

15 gal. drum chuck full of 12, 16, & 20 gauge high base spent shotgun shells from the 70's, 80's and 90's. Make an offer. Mr. Heater, propane radiant heater, adjustable 8000 - 14000 BTU use in fish house, campsite, cook on, \$15. Turkey Fryer model #TKF-300. large 30qt aluminum pot w/lid, turkey stand and lifter. High pressure cast iron burner. like new, in box. \$25. 701-367-9614

2 push lawn mowers fix-up or for parts lawn boy w/ bagger, 218-584-4603.

1991 Buick Park Avenue, winters in used in Arizona. Mechanically excellent, good tires, \$1,575, 218-356-8626.

1941-46 Chevy pickup cab only, no doors. Good transmission, gas tank, motor, bumper, all original asking \$150 or BO, 218-535-1891.

Band duels 16.9-34 w/ hardware kept in shed, \$75, 218-596-8383/ 218-227-9034.

50 year IH cub cadet lawn mower tractor, starts good w/ owners manual, \$500 obo. Polaris pull behind ruff cut 10 hp, \$500, 218-532-2287.

1997 Hyline 35' camper w/ one slideout in good condition w/ deck & storage shed. Will take best offer. 1981 Skyline boat w/ 70 hp evinrude motor w/ ezon trailer good condition, best offer, 218-584-5516/ 218-415-0490.

1996 Geo sedan good motor, transmission & tires. New radio & speakers, \$550, 218-277-0863.

Four counter stools, \$100. Snapper lawn mower, \$100, 701-238-8678.

Wanted

Hay land & pasture to rent, 218-350-1959.

Looking for a Marlin 45-70 caliber rifle model SBL (Stainless Big Loop with synthetic stock) Not interested in 30-30 caliber. 701-361-8448, lv message.

To buy domestic ducks, need not be egg producing. Need companions for very lonely drake. 218-234-5595

12' Boat Trailer in good condition, 218-849-4065.

Yearling anges bull, good dispo. Windshield for 95- F150 pick-up, tire changer, 218-584-4603.

45 RPM records, 218-287-2243.

Our Ad Policy

- Ads will be abbreviated at the coop's discretion.
- No real estate or commercial ads will be accepted.
- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.
- Ads must be resubmitted to run an additional month.
- Ads must be typed or in clear readable print. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- You can submit your ad by mail, email, fax or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.
- Fax ads to . . . 218-935-2519
- Email ads to . . . info@wildriceelectric.com
- Mail ads to . . . Wild Rice Electric P.O. Box 438 Mahnomen, MN 56557

Members of Operation Round-up Committee back row: Eloise Kettner, Jeff Nornes, Deb Krogsgaard, Myles Bakken & David Tangen



The Operation Roundup Trust Board

met Thursday, May 13, 2021 with the following organizations being awarded funding: American Legion-Twin Valley Post 431; Callaway Fire Department; Center of Human Environment-Mahnomen; City of Mentor; Erskine Fire & Rescue Department; Fair Meadow Foundation-Fertile; Flom Area Lions; Mahnomen Area Baseball; Mahnomen Area Community Fund; and Win-E-Mac Baseball.



Wild Rice Crews work together during Pole Top Rescue training on May 5th. Conducted by Terry Ehli, Safety Trainer with the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), the exercise teaches line workers how to safely lower a fellow worker down from a pole whom has come in contact with a live wire, a maneuver any line worker hopes they never have to use in real life.

PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, slow down and move over when possible. **It's the Law.**

Together, we can keep our crews safe.



S A F E T Y L I V E W I T H I T

When it comes to safety, you strive to keep your family and friends safe from harm...at Wild Rice Electric, it's no different. Wild Rice Electric employees train to work as safely as possible and prepare themselves for a magnitude of situations so that if something does happen, they have the knowledge and quickness to react. Wild Rice Electric has been recognized for its efforts by the Rural

Electric Safety Achievement Program (RESAP), National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), as well as Federated Rural Electric Insurance. For over 80 years, Wild Rice Electric has instilled safety awareness and electrical safety practices into their employees, members and communities because we care about you, and your safety.

CALL ...



BEFORE YOU DIG



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**Wild Rice Electric
 Co-op, Inc.**

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 Monday- Friday

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www.wildriceelectric.com

Pay bill 24 hours/ 7 days
 a week: 833-250-4481

Also download the Wild Rice
 Coop app for free at your App
 Store of choice, to monitor
 usage, pay your bill and more.

Directors:
 Randy Bjornson, Mark
 Habedank, David Hamre,
 Jim Kaiser, Greg LaVoy, Jeff
 Nornes, Russ Okeson, Larry
 Sollie and Roger Winter.



Wild Rice Electric would like to introduce the newest employee to its team. Vickie Heisler was hired as a Customer Service Representative to assist our members at our front desk. Congratulations Vickie and welcome to the Cooperative!