

A Safe, Happy House

May is Safe Electricity Month and at Wild Rice Electric, we care about you and your safety. Wild Rice Electric reminds everyone that most electrical injuries around the home are preventable. Always use proper care when using electricity. Just because you flipped a switch, or opened a breaker, it doesn't mean the power is out. Always verify that the power is deenergized to what or where you are working. Don't take unnecessary risks when it comes to protecting yourself and those you love. **Safety...Live with it!**

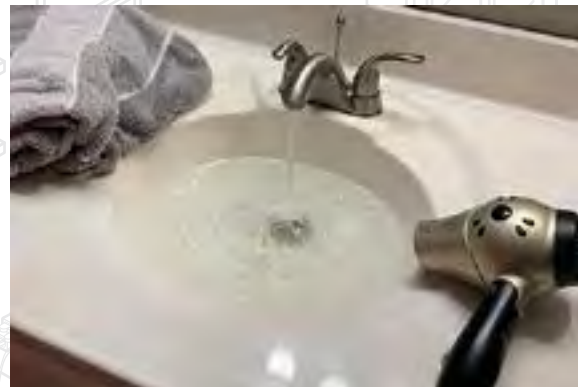


DON'T

overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

DO

keep electrical appliances away from water to prevent electric shock.



DON'T

place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.



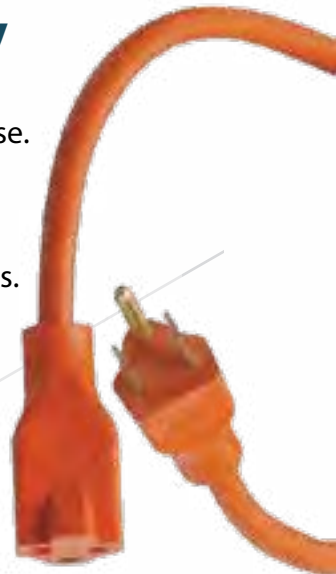
DO

ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.



Extension Cord Safety

- Use on temporary basis.
- Keep unplugged when not in use.
- Keep slack, don't stretch tight.
- Don't place across doorways, heavy traffic areas, or under rugs.
- Do not staple or nail to wall.
- Do not alter a 3 prong plug.
- Do not use "indoor" cords outdoors.
- Store all cords indoors when not in use.
- Never use in wet conditions.



STAFF COMMENTS

Director of Operations

by Al Brunner

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative has an aggressive plan this year to replace six miles of underground wire and more than 10 miles of overhead wire with three-phase underground. These changes will increase the reliability in our service territory. We also will be building new services, performing system improvements, changing poles, as well as vegetation management. This month crews plan to work in Erie and Oakland townships.

Contractors will be hired to help with some of the tree trimming, cable plowing, pole changes and testing, so please offer the courtesy to those coming in and out of your property. All of these components are to enhance and improve the quality, safety and service of the cooperative.

Your cooperative was awarded a safety grant from the state of Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry created a program in 1993 to assist employers looking to make their work places more safe and healthy.

With this grant, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative purchased five battery operated ergonomically-friendly power tools for construction and maintenance on power lines, and a regulator neutral detector that positively confirms the system is ready to be bypassed. The regulator neutral detector will sense equipment failure that could cause serious injury to our line workers.

These items will have a positive daily impact on our line workers by enhancing their safety, productivity, and ultimately aid in achieving our safety goal of zero injuries.



Cody Turner and Ryan Omang with our new ergonomically-friendly power tools.

Gopher State One Call

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW

CALL



BEFORE YOU

DIG.

One FREE easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.



The average home in our area can be powered for about **\$45 per week** – the price of a new outdoor game set.




VALUING EVERYTHING
THAT POWERS YOUR WEEK.

THAT'S THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY.




DON'T GET **BURNED** ON SOLAR SCAMS


Wild Rice Electric Cooperative supports making electricity more environmentally responsible while keeping power reliable and affordable for our members. However, we've been alerted that some deceptive companies are beginning to take advantage of our members' growing commitment to going "green." Many are offering too-good-to-be-true solar panel systems that may leave you in debt – and in the dark. Not all solar companies are out to scam you, but be on the lookout for these signs.




Dishonest leases can be disguised as great financing options for new solar panels for your home. A scammer may lure you into thinking you own the panels and thus may collect incentives offered by buying panels. However, if you don't outright own the panels, you can't collect incentives or rebates – and the value of the panels is not added to your home.




If you encounter a **pushy solar salesperson** who isn't answering your questions clearly, you should take pause. These people may be looking for a sale whether or not solar is right for your particular situation. If they try to force a deal without an onsite inspection or a contract, just say no.



Tax incentives for solar installation are somewhat complicated, and some **unreputable companies may try to take advantage of your tax credit confusion**. Before speaking with a solar company, make sure you research your eligibility for solar tax credits and other programs, both federal and local.



Some **fraudulent companies will try to resemble utility representatives** and contact homeowners by phone, email, or even door-to-door. These salespeople may spout exciting claims that you can get rid of your electric bill entirely or that you will soon miss the boat on important federal tax incentives.



Be wary of any online ads, social media links or emails that tout free or zero-dollars-down solar panels. These are usually scams. Always go through a company's official website to schedule an in-person meeting and solar evaluation.



PROTECT YOURSELF

Contact Wild Rice Electric in the early stages of any solar panel planning – our experts will help you determine if solar interconnection is right for you.

Do your research on available incentives and tax credits (and if you qualify).

Get a few in-person site evaluations and quotes before signing any contract.

Read online reviews of solar companies, including from the Better Business Bureau.

If your gut says something is wrong with a company, trust that feeling.



Small change makes a BIG difference!

With your help, the members of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, will improve the quality of life in our area. A program called Operation Round Up aims to make a big difference with small change. This program is designed to provide financial assistance to worthwhile projects and charities in our surrounding communities.

Purpose of the Trust Fund:

To provide support for charitable and educational organizations within our area.

Responsibility for Decisions:

A separate trust board has been established for Operation Round Up.

This board assures that collected funds are given to local charitable and educational organizations.

Should your organization be interested in applying for an Operation Round Up grant, please contact Wild Rice Electric at 1-800-244-5709.

Capital credits



Be sure to see if your name is on the uncashed capital credit check list.

You may have money waiting for you! Visit **www.wildriceelectric.com** and click on the Capital Credits link on the Member Advantages Page or feel free to call our office at **1-800-244-5709**.



Mission Statement

"Energizing
our
members'
future."



Wild Rice Electric
Co-op, Inc.

*This Institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

Phone: Serving you 24 hours
a day: 800-244-5709

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Monday- Friday

Website:
www.wildriceelectric.com

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

Also download the Wild Rice
Electric app for free at your App
Store of choice, to monitor us-
age, pay your bill and more.

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



PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

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

Together, we can
keep our crews safe.

Ads

For Sale

Skid steer attachments for Sale: New and used buckets, grapples, stump buckets, brush mower, and more 701-261-3574

Oak firewood split for next winter season, 218-401-0450.

O'Brien competitor ski, \$72, 218979-0730

6' x 12' crank down fish house. Bunk beds. Furnace. Two new batteries, \$3,200 218-850-9445.

10' Cotterman loft/library ladder with rail and wheels. Asking \$440. Compare to new at \$998. Also, for sale 20 foot pontoon, Suncruiser 1999 model TR200, 40 hp Johnson two stroke, Asking \$6,240, 701-219-1486 or genepboyle46@yahoo.com.

CVA 50 cal black powder rifle, 3x9 scope hard case, too box full of sabot powder caps, \$375. Nikon D3200 camera, 2 zoom lenses up to 200 ft nice case, \$250 cost \$575 w/ user's manual. 218-668-2222 or 218-849-6899.

Registered Red Angus yearling bulls for sale. Top bloodlines, nice temperament, 218-841-2688.

Snowblower walk behind (as is) . Chaparral snowmobile- excellent, 584-4603.

Skid steer tires 2 ea Titan Good Condition 12-16.5 8 ply, \$25 ea 218-849-8047.

2004 Polaris 550 Super Sport snowmobile w/ reverse, 218-261-0971.
2004 Polaris 550 Super Sport snowmobile w/ reverse, 218-261-0971.

Box of 10 new u-joints. Large box of new serp belts. Branik model 7200 str machine on stand. Lg dog kennel 19'x40', 218-849-8963.

Hay 5x5 large round bales 1st & 3rd crops som grass alfalfa or hard grass. Inside 32" Larson storm door, 218-596-8383 / 218-227-9034.

3 pc luggage set, 218-935-9034.

Wanted

Pick up or grain truck from 1940's to 1960's w/ or w/out title, 218-280-9973.

Angus cow (you bred). 6 young laying hens. Older 4x4 pickup truck, 584-4603.

Our Ad Policy

- Ads will be abbreviated at the Wild Rices Electric's discretion.
- You can submit your ad by mail, email, or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.

Email ads to . . .
info@wildriceelectric.com

Mail ads to . . .
Wild Rice Electric
P.O. Box 438
Mahnomon, MN 56557

Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, **Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work.** A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more info., visit **dli.mn.gov** and go to the electrical page.

- Clearwater, Mahnomon, East Becker Counties
Terry Lane: 218-237-8467
- Norman/ East Clay/ West Becker Counties
Lowell Bradbury: 218-849-6059
- Polk County
George Stage: 218-284-1083

It's time to get PUMPED about air-source heat pumps!

Did you know that one system can keep you cool in the summer, warm you in the winter, and save you money all year long?

Air-source heat pumps are super efficient because they transfer warm air from one place to another rather than burn fuel. In the summer, warm air is pushed from inside your home and replaced with cool air. In the winter, the air-source heat pump does the reverse. It pulls the warm air from the outside and pushes it into your home, keeping it at a comfortable temperature all year round.

TOP 5 REASONS TO GET PUMPED

#1 Great incentives #2 Comfort

Many rebates available from Wild Rice Electric Cooperative for the installation of a qualifying air-source heat pump.

With a single system delivering warm and cool air throughout your home, its versatility keeps your comfort in mind around the clock.

#3 Efficiency #4 Low off-peak rates

Since heat is moved instead of generated, your system will deliver three times more energy than the electricity consumed.

In addition to rebates, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative offers low off-peak electric heating rates that are about half of the standard rate.

#5 Cold-weather capable

Cold-climate heat pumps can operate efficiently in below-zero temperatures. This cutting-edge technology is a fan favorite in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Contact your Member Services Department at Wild Rice Electric Cooperative to learn more about how you can save on your installation of a new air-source heat pump.



Statement of Non-Discrimination

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



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Phone: 218-935-2517.

Not too late to sign up for the **Power Plant Tour**

Please complete and return the sign-up form with pay-
ment or call 1-800-244-5709 today to reserve your spot.



BOOKED

Power plant tour dates Wednesday & Thursday, June 27th & 28th.

Name(s): _____

Phone #: _____

Cell(s) #: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Number Attending: _____

Enclosed: _____

(\$100/person or \$180/double occupancy)