

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Introduces New Payment Software!

Manage your account and make payments using the SmartHub APP. Some members may need to update their account information.



Please see details below
for required actions.

Please note:
Our office
will be closed
on Thursday,
Nov. 23rd
in observance
of Thanksgiving.

Happy
Thanksgiving!



Auto Pay Re-Registration

On November 13, we are switching to a new payment system.

If you are currently signed up for **Auto Pay with a credit/debit card**, this will affect your account. We have provided some dates and important information for you to easily re-register for Auto Pay in our new system.

If you are registered with auto direct payments **through your checking/savings account, no action is required.**

Dates and Information

Wild Rice is excited about an upgrade heading your way on November 13. **If you are currently registered for Auto Pay in our system with a credit/debit card**, mark the following dates on your calendar:



4:30pm 11/6

Last day you can make debit or credit card payments until November 13th!

After 4:30 pm on November 6th no payments will be able to be made via debit or credit card on the website or in the office during this transition period.

Cash and check payments can still be made in our lobby or checks can be mailed or left in our night drop box.



11/13

Visit our site to find links and instructions on how to register your account.

YOU MUST REGISTER TO RE-SIGNUP FOR AUTO PAY with your credit or debit card, paperless billing, and to take advantage of all the new features like usage details, account history, easily pay your bill, or contact customer service all with your smartphone, tablet, or computer.



Web & Mobile Instructions

After we launch on November 13, we will have instructions on how to register your account and re-activate your Auto Pay settings for credit/debit card users.

On November 13, you will find the instructions on our SmartHub support page at <https://wildriceelectric.com/smarthub>



Need Some Assistance?

After launch day on November 13, if you have questions or issues with the registration process, you may contact customer service at 800-244-5709.

**SmartHub registration
available November 13.**

You can find more information on our SmartHub support page: <https://wildriceelectric.com/smarthub>



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

by **Mike Wade**

New Software Conversion

November is an exciting month at Wild Rice Electric as we prepare for the transition from our legacy billing software to the new NISC platform. NISC (National Information Solutions Cooperative) is an IT cooperative specializing in providing software solutions and services to electric cooperatives across the nation. In recent months, we have been steadily migrating to NISC's financial software, and the month of November marks the critical shift to their customer care and billing software.

For those who like to manage your electric account online or through your mobile device, you will like the new features available to you on NISC's SmartHub app. SmartHub is available on both your mobile device or home computer and allows you to access your account information 24/7. Additional information in this edition of Rural DeLight details how to make the most of these exciting new capabilities.

Blink Mitigation

For many of our members in the southwestern part of our service area near Hitterdal and Flom, we know you have experienced a number of transmission related blinks this summer and fall. Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier, has

been working to identify the source of the blinks. Using drones, they recently discovered a number of transmission structures with flash marks on the insulators in a 4.5-mile stretch of line. Line crews were mobilized and insulators were replaced on 10 structures. We greatly appreciate Minnkota Power's innovative approach to locating problems on such a vast transmission network.

Team Additions

Join us in extending a warm welcome to our newest team member, Mariah Lunak. Mariah comes to us with financial work experience as well as dual degrees in Accounting and Banking/Finance, and we are excited to have her working in our Finance Department. Mariah, welcome to Wild Rice Electric and the cooperative family.

Planning for the Future

As the year draws to a close, Wild Rice Electric is actively engaged in developing a financial budget for the upcoming year. We are committed to maintaining our focus on enhancing our maintenance programs and evaluating capital projects to incorporate. As always, our goal is to ensure that we continue to provide you with reliable and affordable electric service.

Giving THANKS to our Members

Thank you to all who joined us in celebrating Cooperative Day on Oct. 17th. Thanks to our partner, Minnkota Power, for providing the use of their all-electric Ford F-150 Lightning for members to learn about and experience an electric vehicle. It was a true pleasure visiting with members.

This Thanksgiving, we want to express our gratitude to you, our valued members.

Your trust and support are vital to our cooperative's success. As we

gather with our loved ones to celebrate, we extend warm wishes to you and your families for a joyful Thanksgiving. We are deeply thankful for the privilege of serving you, and look forward to a bright future together.



**SAFETY
TIP**

Child-Proof Your Outlets

If there is even a remote possibility that children will be in your home, be sure to install outlet covers. Spring-loaded covers that automatically shut when there's nothing plugged in is the best option.

Highlights from the Board Room:

The Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on August 29, 2023. During the meeting, discussion was held on facility expansion and improvements, viewed a video submitted by US Representative Michelle Fischbach supporting the rural cooperatives, and received a report on the new Minnesota Cannabis Law.

A quorum of directors was present and the following actions were taken:

- **Approved** the financial reports and statements for July 2023
- **Appointed** a building committee to research facility expansion
- **Authorized** the change of date for the December 2023 regular board meeting to December 19, 2023
- **Authorized** the change of date for the January 2024 regular board meeting to January 23, 2024
- **Appointed** CEO Mike Wade to be WREC delegate at the RESCO annual meeting
- **Authorized** management to proceed with RUS loan application, supporting the 2023-2026 Construction Work Plan
- **Approved** the monthly Cooperative Policy Review Report with adoption or amendments to five policies
- **Accepted** the department and CEO reports
- **Accepted** the Energy Issues Summit report
- **Accepted** the Minnkota Power report
- **Accepted** the MREA report

The November regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023.



SmartHub Coming Soon!

Save time and money by managing your account at anytime from anywhere. Here are some of the ways SmartHub will put you in control of your account.

HOW CAN SMARTHUB HELP YOU CONTROL YOUR ACCOUNT?

Our SmartHub web portal or mobile app will keep you informed and will show you where to save time and money on your bills.

Billing & Payments: No more waiting for your bill to arrive in the mail, access your bill at anytime from anywhere. Save time with easy payment options to avoid late fees and service interruptions.

Alerts & Notifications: It can be frustrating waiting on hold to get your questions answered or pay your bill. Stay informed on important account events via email or text messages.

Paperless Billing: What if you could save some time and a tree at the same time? Activate SmartHub paperless billing, an eco-friendly way to instantly access your bill.

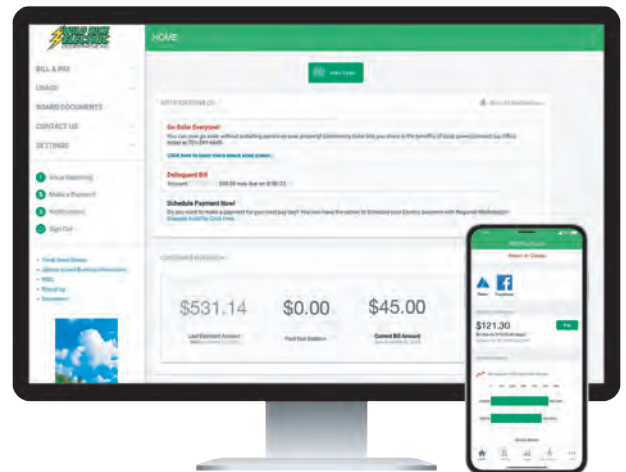
Usage Monitoring: Worrying about usage or surprising bill amounts can be stressful. When you know what devices are using the most energy, you can make money-saving decisions about your account.

SmartHub gives you complete control over your account by giving you the tools that deliver the right information at the right time so you can make the right decisions about your account.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO REGISTER FOR SMARTHUB?

You will need an email address. This email will be used to send you notifications and alerts.

You will also need your account number. You can find your account number on your bill.



HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you have any questions or issues, you may contact us by calling 800-244-5709.

Visit our SmartHub support page at wildriceelectric.com/smarthub for more information.

Important Dates and Information

On November 13, 2023, we'll be launching our new SmartHub app and billing layout. This upgraded software provides features to help you save time and money. The process of switching over to the new system creates a few key dates you should know about:

Starting 4:30 pm November 6th THROUGH November 13th

Some payment options will be unavailable (payments, pre-pay, auto-pay and paperless billing). We will be accepting payments via mail, lobby and drop box.

Payments will not post to your account until the new system is in place. Because of this transition, late charges will be waived during this time. If you are on our current Auto Pay

system, please take note of these dates. We will have a grace period regarding late fees.

On our launch date November 13, please register your account in SmartHub and follow the directions on this page to resetup your Auto Pay settings.

November 13th: SmartHub is Live!

Our team has been working hard to get this new system ready for you. It's going to make managing your account easier than ever.

Please register your account using the information on this page.

Reach out to us if you have any questions.

Visit wildriceelectric.com/smarthub for more information

Ads

For Sale

Baldor 2HP 220 volt 3450 RPM electric motor w/ 75ft of 220 cord asking \$150. Clipper 1-1/2 HP 115 or 230 volt 1750 RPM electric motor asking \$75, 218-435-1086.

All aluminum sled bed trailer 8'3"x 10', 2200 lb cap, tilt bed, torsion bar suspension, lifetime license w/ spare tire, \$2,000, 218-261-3415.

King Kutter 6 foot all gear driven tiller (#TG-72-YK). Very good condition and used very little. \$2,150. 218-261-0368.

Wall mt exh fan. Many boxes new auto parts. Metal standing shelves. Lg metal work bench. 8000 pro generator Honda, 218-849-8963.

413cid Dodge "Baby Hemi" disassembled with engine stand, 4 used Cooper Discoverer tires P245/75R16, Snap-On toolbox 379A, 7 drawer Vidmar box, 701-866-4681

Firewood: Basswood \$50, Oak \$100 612-278-1967 lv message.

Good selection of skid steer attachments new & slightly used. Snow buckets, ice scrapers, grapple/skeletal buckets, pallet/hay forks, tree/post pullers, 701-261-3574.

Used paver's. Z brick style about 700 sq ft 1350 full bricks & some 6x6, \$700, 218-280-7375.

Mantis garden tiller. Recently tuned up, new plug and start rope. Runs great and is useful for gardening. \$50, Call 218-850-1500, or email: Keith.gilbertson@q.com

JD 9750 STS rotary combine rwd dual, fnt cut chopper all reconditioned. IHC TD 6 Cat w/ dozer, \$5,500. Super C IHC tractor 141 trip loader painted near new tires, very nice shape, \$2,800. New skid steer rock picker universal mounts never used, \$4,000. 1000 gal 4 wheel chemical daddy, \$3,500, 218-596-8626.

4 set Mattracks M# SCS for side by side or small vehicle 14" wide. 2003 Dodge pick-up 5.7 Hemi magnum 4 dr cab, short box clean not rust life spent int San Diego, CA, 20" wheels, \$10,000, 218-435-6702.

Jiffy Stealth ice auger, 2 Used 50 gal. water heaters & a Stihl weed trimmer, 218-668-2090, anytime.

Snow blower blizzard by Murray 10 hp 29 in cut, 218-596-8307

Call ducks, black, white & mallard color, \$6 a piece, 218-261-0103.

Circle saw arbor & belt, Walk behind snowblower as is w/ new tires. Sell or trade black angus bull 2 1/2 year old (good despo) 584-4603

Cream color Lazy boy clutch & love seat very good condition \$150, 218-289-7065.

Wind fence- excellent for cattle- 60 plus steel sheets 24'x3, 10'x3. 20 -2x4s several lengths, 218-280-2014 or 218-574-2269.

New hi-flow radiator core for T600-T800 Kenworth truck, \$775. Full-size ladder rack, \$200. Ruff cut 48" mower, \$950, 218-935-5110 days.

2004 Polaris 550 Super Sport snowmobile w/ reverse, 1,900 miles. 3rd cutting alfalfa round bales, small square straw bales, 218-261-0971.

4 used P245/75R16 M+S Cooper tires, 34 ft. stainless steel propane gas line, 4 new 265/60R18 Firestone tires, 2 old strollers, 701-866-4681.

1950 Farmall M International tractor, serial # 119105, wide front, good tires, runs good. \$2,350, 701-361-3726.

CVA Optima .50 cal black powder rifle w/ redgield revolution 3 (9x50) scope. Tool box loaded w/ primer, powder, bullets, & cleaning supplies, \$400 obo. Stihl MM55 power head w/ wheel kit, sweeper brushes, 2 sets of tilling tines, \$150 obo, 218-637-3585 M-F 8-12 or 580-917-6796

Tractor chains 23-30. Animal traps all sizes 1-14. Kitchen & bathroom tile 2 & 4 in. Tanned fur fox, coyote, beaver, fisher, otter bobcat & hand made Native American crafts, 218375-3109.

Old MM Tractor, 1940's w/ front trip loader, runs, good tires. KYMCO UTV 2015 w/ blade & soft cab, 218-532-2287.

32 ft 5 th wheel trailer. Triple axle goose-neck, good tires & ramps. 1000E series. Official NFL Vikings football jersey, stitched lettering & numbers, 50th anniversary patch. New, never worn. Early 50's Ford one ton truck six cylinder, doesn't run. 701-715-2837. No Saturday calls

Large round bales 5x5 some grass crop 3 alfalfa or hard grass inside first crop alfalfa or hard grass. 32" Larson storm door, 218-596-8383/ 218-227-9034.

Wanted

Go cart call/text, 218-849-3069.

Couple of Red & White Simmental heifer yearlings or calves for a small hobby farm. Would appreciate any info on where to find, 218-850-7019 leave a message.

Young bred angus heifer that has had 1 calf or bred angus cow (young), 584-4603.

19.5 HP Briggs mtr that fits older Craftsman riding mower 218-668-2639.

Pickup or grain truck from 1940s to 1950s, w/ or w/out title, call/txt 218-280-9973.

Email ads to ...

info@wildriceelectric.com

Mail ads to ...

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

LED Lighting Rebate

Buy energy efficient Christmas lights and decorations

Purchase LED Christmas plug-in (not battery operated) lights and decorations in 2023.

Complete this rebate form and submit it to Wild Rice Electric by December 31, 2023 with a copy of your sales receipt and the packaging showing the number of lights per string. ENERGY STAR LEDs are recommended.

Rebate cannot exceed 50% of the cost. Maximum of five strings per member.

Lights per string	# of strings	Rebate per string	Total rebate
Fewer than 99		\$3	
100-199		\$6	
200-299		\$9	
Greater than 300		\$12	



Mail to:

Wild Rice Electric
PO BOX 438 Mahn-
omen MN 56557

NAME

ACCOUNT

INSTALLATION ADDRESS

CITY/ ZIP

PHONE

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which helps low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. Household income must be at or below the state median income (\$62,822 for a family of four) to qualify for benefits. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2024.

To learn more about the EAP program or to apply for assistance:

- Visit the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Assistance website, <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>, for more details and to access the application portal.

- Contact your county EAP service provider for additional information and assistance.

Mahube Community Council
PO Box 76
Mahnomen, MN 56557
218-935-5022

Mahube Community Council
PO Box 747
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502
218-847-1385

White Earth Energy Assistance Program
3303 US Hwy 59/ PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591
218-473-2711 or 888-458-1385

West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.
715 11th St N Suite 100
Moorhead, MN 56560
800-492-4805/ 218-685-4486

Inter County Community Council
PO Box 189
Oklee, MN 56742
218-796-5144/ 888-778-4008

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
102 N Broadway/ PO Box 607
Crookston, MN 56716
218-281-5832/ 800-584-7020

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and do not qualify for either of these programs, please contact us immediately to work out a mutually agreeable payment plan.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

Wild Rice Electric and Minnkota Power will again provide an opportunity for area electricians to obtain credits for license renewal by attending one of the six continuing education classes being offered throughout eastern North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

Instructor Tim Pull will cover the 2024 National Electrical Code (NEC) changes and other important NEC rules. The seminars are approved in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota for eight hours of continuing education credit necessary for renewing electrical licenses. The classes will be held at the following locations:

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Fargo Holiday Inn
3803 13th Avenue South
Fargo, ND

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Fargo Holiday Inn
3803 13th Avenue South
Fargo, ND

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Bemidji Eagles Club
1270 Neilson Avenue SE
Bemidji, MN

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Bigwood Event Center
921 Western Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Minnkota Power Cooperative
5301 32nd Avenue South
Grand Forks, ND

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Minnkota Power Cooperative
5301 32nd Avenue South
Grand Forks, ND

This marks the 36th year of the successful program, which is aimed at providing area trade allies with the latest information on electrical code and practices. Taking the class on multiple days will not qualify for 16 code credits. The registration fee is **\$80 for eight code credits**. Registration can be done online at www.minnkota.com and must be completed at least seven days prior to the seminar.

For residential building contractor continuing education workshops, contact your local home builders association.

For more information about the program, please call **(701) 795-4292** or e-mail any questions to contractortraining@minnkota.com.

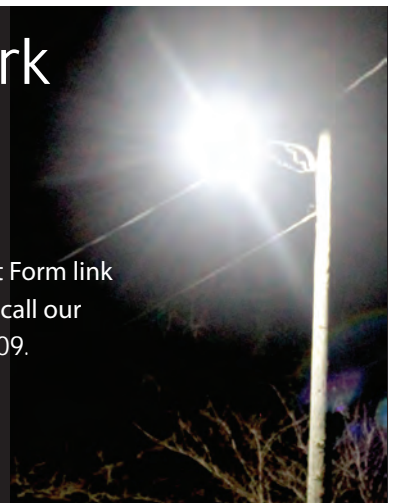
\$80 REGISTRATION FEE

Don't be caught in the dark

With daylight savings time ending November 5, causing for an earlier sunset, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative reminds consumers that we can help shed some light.

For only \$11/month, Wild Rice Electric will mount a yard light on our existing poles for you.

If interested, visit our website wildriceelectric.com and click on the Yard Light Agreement Form link on the home page or call our office at 1-800-244-5709.





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Monday- Friday

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District 1: Jeff Nornes

District 2: Greg LaVoy & Roger Winter

District 3: Randy Bjornson &
Russ Okeson

President & CEO Mike Wade

**Wild Rice Electric
Cooperative would like
to introduce the newest
member to our team.**

**Mariah Lunak, Member
Accounts Specialist, was
hired to assist members
as part of our finance
department. Mariah's
experience includes
accounting, payroll, bank
reconciliation and tax
services with dual
Degrees in Accounting
and Banking/Finance.**

**Congratulations Mariah
and welcome to the
Cooperative team!**



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

WILD RICE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC. MISSION STATEMENT

Energizing our members' future.