

JUNE 2022

VOLTS & VIEWS



Congratulations

to the 2022 Cooperative Knowledge
\$500 Scholarship Winners



Ginevra Johnson
Roseau High School



Kyle Kvarnlov
Warroad High School



Ellie Sabourin
Grygla High School



Lauren Stenberg
Greenbush High School



Brooke VonEnde
Badger High School

*Thank you to all the seniors who participated.
Best wishes in your future endeavors!*

VOLTS & VIEWS

JUNE 2022 – Vol. 67, No. 6

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1107 3rd Street N.E.

The Volts & Views (USPS-663420) is published monthly by Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Roseau, MN 56751. Periodicals postage paid at Roseau, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ROSEAU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., P.O. Box 100, Roseau, MN 56751.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Chairman Mark Sax
Vice Chairman Jim Hallan
Secretary-Treasurer Mike Wahl
Directors . . . Jim Christianson, Brian Grafstrom
Shawn Gust, Dale Moser,
Joe Tesarek, Ed Walsh
Tracey Stoll *General Manager*
Ryan Severson *Assistant Manager*
Mike Millner *Line Superintendent*
Jeremy Lindemann *Member Services*
Alex McMillin *Office Manager*

Regular Business Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone (218) 463-1543

OUTAGE CALLS:

Toll-Free 1-888-847-8840

MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

Northwest Angle, Kittson, Marshall,
Pennington and Roseau counties
and parts of Beltrami County:

Ronald Ditsch – 218-779-6758

Lake of the Woods County:

Curt Collier – 218-966-5070

Inspector list is subject to change at any time.

The State of Minnesota has high wiring standards, which are in the best interest of you and your family or business. Improper wiring can damage your home, your property and equipment, and injure or kill the people you love. Currently, the state does allow homeowners to do their own residential wiring; however, it is critical that the current electrical code is followed. 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 information visit dli.mn.gov and go to the electrical page.

Gopher State One Call
1-800-252-1166 or 811
www.gopherstateonecall.org



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electrical lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Roseau Electric Cooperative is committed to providing its member-owners low-cost, high-quality, safe and reliable electricity with friendly, efficient and knowledgeable service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



From the manager

Tracey Stoll, General Manager

Thank you for the continued feedback on our annual meeting! We believe the Roseau City Center served as a good hosting site, and we plan on being back there next April. Right-of-way tree trimming remains an issue of interest, and with a push for clearer policy, you should expect to see more on this topic in the near future.

Last month we welcomed Joe Tesarek back to the boardroom after winning a contested election at our April annual meeting. A sincere thank-you to Joe's ballot opponent Don Miller for his willingness to consider serving! This month, with the retirement of Wes McFarlane, we will welcome Jim Christianson — board-appointed director for District 2. Jim will serve until our next annual meeting and, upon filing the proper petition, will be on the ballot

along with the three other districts in rotation.

With winter hanging on a little later than in previous years, we've started the year strong on energy sales, especially evidenced by the April financials in this issue. This, along with our recent rate increase, will serve us well towards booking a healthier operating margin as compared to 2021.

We remain hopeful for a little drier weather, increasing our chances of getting system maintenance done without doing damage to the surrounding terrain.

As I write this, graduation is just around the corner — a sincere congratulation to all the area graduates! Before we know it, we'll be halfway through summer and enjoying a visit at the Roseau County Fair.



YOUR OFF-PEAK PROGRAM

Navigating electricity traffic jams

Just as a big city has traffic jams, the electric grid of Roseau Electric Cooperative runs into its own energy rush hours. This happens when people across the region are using a lot of electricity at the same time. Early-morning and evening hours are common times for these high energy demand periods, when people are active at home. Extreme weather events that require heating and cooling systems to run nonstop can drive demand for electricity even higher – above the available supply.

Cities don't build new highway systems to accommodate a few hours of traffic – and Minnkota Power Cooperative (our wholesale electricity provider) doesn't build additional power plants for the times each year when electricity demand reaches its peak.

There's a better way.

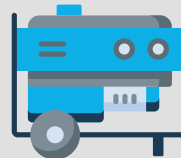
If Minnkota isn't able to economically purchase the additional energy it needs from the regional market or another utility, the off-peak program launches into action. This program can remove one-third of the electrical demand from the system during the highest peak periods. Over the last four decades, the program has helped strengthen the reliability of the grid, while saving member-consumers millions of dollars.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Electricity consumers in our region voluntarily sign up for the program, which allows Minnkota to temporarily turn off electric heating, water heating, vehicle chargers and commercial account service.



During these "control periods," most consumers are automatically switched to a backup heating system or generator.



As more intermittent resources like wind and solar are added to our grid, maintaining reliable and resilient electricity is becoming more complex. The off-peak program is a perfect tool to help manage the fluctuations of these resources.



When Minnkota avoids purchasing additional power and navigates energy rush hours, the savings are passed on to consumers through a lower electric rate. It's a true win-win-win for the grid, the cooperative and you, the member.



If you are interested in learning more about our off-peak program, contact our co-op office at 218-463-1543.

**WANT TO SEE
THE VIDEO?**



**SCAN THIS CODE
WITH YOUR PHONE!**

5 things you'll LOVE about **ELECTRIC LAWN CARE**

The warm weather has allowed flowers to finally bloom throughout your yard but along with those flowers come weeds, thistles, and that crabgrass you swore you took care of last spring. Not to worry, you have some new tools in your tool kit that are going to help you maintain the best yard on the block—and they're electric!

No longer will you have to pull a stubborn cord on your grass trimmer to get it to start. By going electric, you only need to pop in a battery and press a button to take on any yard challenge – big or small. Whether it's a grass trimmer or a lawn mower, here are five things you'll love about electric lawn care!

1 No odor or harsh chemicals

Fresh cut grass will be the only thing you smell with electric lawn care equipment. Since there is no need for gas to power your equipment, you are not exposed to harsh odors.

2 Easy to stop and start

Electric grass trimmers are equipped with a button or switch that turns on the machine quieter and faster than a traditional two-stroke or four-stroke grass trimmer.

3 Less noise

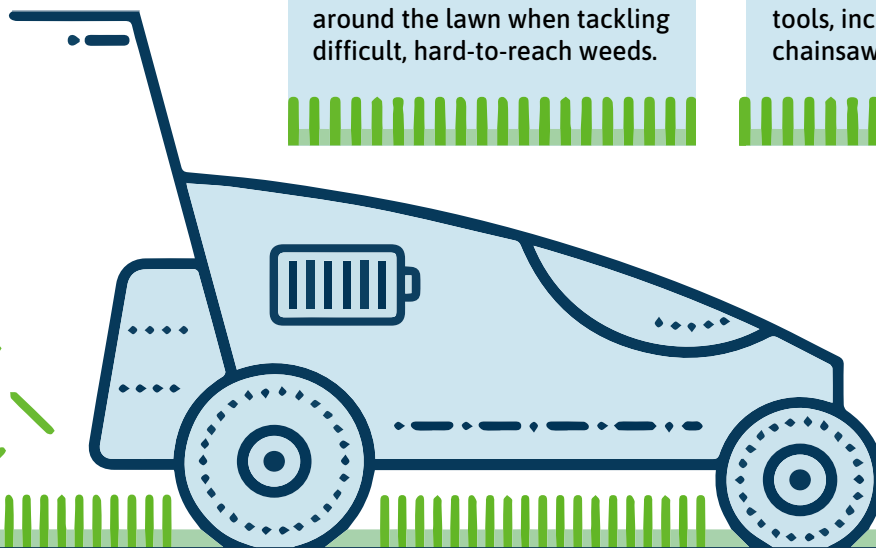
Electric lawn mowers are built with less rumbly machinery so they make less noise than traditional gas-operated mowers. This means your lawn maintenance won't bother your neighbors no matter how close you are.

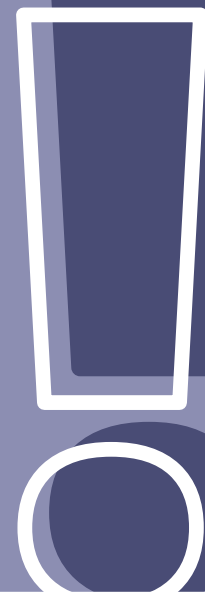
4 Light weight

On average, electric grass trimmers weight less than seven pounds. The lighter, electric model is easier to tote around the lawn when tackling difficult, hard-to-reach weeds.

5 One battery does it all

One battery does more! Most electric grass trimmer brands have batteries that can be used in multiple tools, including leaf blowers, chainsaws and more!





DON'T FALL VICTIM TO UTILITY SCAMS

Every day, millions of Americans are targeted by scammers through phone calls, emails, text messages, online or in person. Scammers' tactics can change daily, which is why it's important to stay alert and cautious.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Take control of the situation, if targeted:

TAKE YOUR TIME

Utility scammers try to create a sense of urgency so that you'll act fast and hand over personal information, especially over the phone. Take a moment to think about the situation before acting.



BE SUSPICIOUS

Scammers typically request immediate payments through prepaid debit cards or third-party apps. Unusual requests like this should raise red flags. Remember, if the request seems strange and out of the ordinary, you're likely being targeted by a scammer.



CONFIRM BEFORE YOU ACT

If you're contacted by someone claiming to represent Roseau Electric Cooperative or any other utility but you're unsure, just hang up the phone and call REC at 218-463-1543 to verify the situation.



REPORT IT

Contact Roseau Electric Cooperative with information about the scam so we can alert other members on Facebook, etc.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES

Sample 2022 PowerSavers/Value of Electricity/REC Residential Electric Incentives for Members (Incentive shall not exceed 50% of project costs)

Equipment	Specifications	Incentive
LED Screw-in Bulb	40-60W equivalent incandescent. ENERGY STAR® recommended.	50% of the purchase price up to \$2/bulb
LED Screw-in Bulb	65W or greater equivalent incandescent. ENERGY STAR® recommended.	50% of the purchase price up to \$4/bulb
LED Fixture	Complete fixture or replacement kit. ENERGY STAR® recommended.	50% of the purchase price up to \$4/fixture
LED Outdoor Fixture	Dusk to dawn operation required. DesignLights™ Consortium or ENERGY STAR® recommended.	50% of the purchase price up to \$10/fixture
Clothes Washer	Must be ENERGY STAR® approved.	\$25/unit
Clothes Dryer	Must be ENERGY STAR® approved.	\$25/unit
Refrigerator or Freezer	Must be ENERGY STAR® approved.	\$25/unit
Recycle Old Refrigerator or Freezer	Recycling receipt required.	\$50/unit
Electric Water Heater • 55 gallon or less • 56-99 gallon • 100 gallon or greater • Conversion from gas to electric	Must be on demand response program.	\$125/\$125/\$125/unit \$200/\$200/\$200/unit \$300/\$300/\$300/unit \$250/unit
Programmable Thermostat		50% of the purchase price up to \$25
ENERGY STAR® Smart Thermostat	Wi-Fi connectivity required.	50% of the purchase price up to \$50
Tune-up for Central AC	Not valid on window AC units. Checklist on form must be completed with application.	\$25/unit
Tune-up for Air-Source Heat Pump or Mini-Split Ductless ASHP	Checklist on form must be completed with application.	\$25/unit
Supplemental Heating Source Air-Source Heat Pump	Must modulate to allow ENERGY STAR®-rated air-source heat pump to operate down to 5° F and be on demand response.	\$500/unit
Air-Source Heat Pump or Mini-Split/Ductless ASHP	Less than 17 SEER Equal to or greater than 17 SEER	\$300/\$150/\$50/ton \$500/\$150/\$50/ton
Ground-Source Heat Pump Open Loop less than 135,000 BTUH @ 59° F	16.2 EER/3.6 COP Maximum incentive \$2,500/home.	\$200/\$250/\$50/ton
Ground-Source Heat Pump Closed Loop less than 135,000 BTUH @ 77° F	14.1 EER/3.3 COP Maximum incentive \$5,000/home.	\$400/\$250/\$50/ton

Insulation and air-sealing incentives for existing homes are available. See Roseau Electric for details.

All incentives, criteria and guidelines for residential and business members can be found at www.roseauelectric.com or by calling 888-847-8840.

LOOKING AHEAD:
Roseau County Fair
 July 17 - 22

Stop by our booth starting the evening of July 19
roseaucountyfair.com

BUILDING A NEW HOME?

Roseau Electric offers a FREE electric water heater:

- Large capacity: 85-gallon
- Must be on “off-peak” – under the daily cycled load group category
- Incentives are excluded from the free water heater program

JUNE IS NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

HONK IF YOU LOVE DAIRY FARMERS!

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	April 2021	April 2022	April 2021	April 2022
Members	6,553	6,645	6,553	6,645
kWh purchased	11,224,229	12,904,664	57,898,756	65,240,149
% change		14.97%		12.68%
Revenue	1,360,013	1,576,524	6,702,406	7,328,896
Cost of power	882,325	954,758	4,074,788	4,456,463
Other expenses	498,461	557,643	2,201,508	2,262,688
Operating margins	(20,773)	64,123	426,110	609,745
Nonoperating margins	23,851	(34,774)	60,648	182,706
Patronage dividends	179,055	-	179,055	-
Total margins	182,133	29,349	665,813	792,451

member connection

ENERGY TIP

Plant trees or shrubs to shade air conditioning units and air-source heat pumps (but don't block the airflow). A well-placed tree near the house can deliver effective shade, act as a windbreak, and reduce your energy bills up to 25%. Just make sure to keep those trees away from nearby power lines. And always... **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 14**
Flag Day
- June 19**
Father's Day
- June 21**
Electric bill is due
Summer begins
- July 4**
Independence Day;
Office is closed
- July 12-13**
Power Plant Tour
- July 17-22**
Roseau County Fair

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 Phone 218-463-1543

AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE NUMBER

Toll-free 1-888-847-8840
 (main outage call center)

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

1-800-252-1166 or 811

PAY BY PHONE

1-877-999-3412

SMARTHUB

<https://roseauelectric.smarthub.coop/>

WEBSITE

www.roseauelectric.com



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
 TO STAY UP TO DATE!

@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc

Power Plant Tour

**Tuesday - Wednesday
July 12 - 13, 2022**

Tour highlights this year:

- Minnkota's Grand Forks headquarters
- Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D.
- BNI Coal mine
- Lodging in the Mandan/Bismarck area
- Meals and transportation included

Use the form below and send with your payment of \$85 per person or \$150 per couple.

SIGN-UP DEADLINE IS JUNE 20.

Please print names of participants the way you would like them to appear on your name tags. We will send further details prior to departure. Return with check for \$85 per person or \$150 per couple to:

Roseau Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 100, Roseau, MN 56751

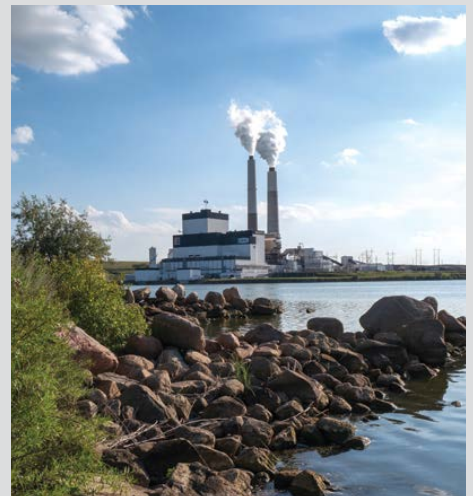
Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____ Customer No. _____



Milton R. Young Station



Minnkota's headquarters



BNI Coal mine