

# VOLTS & VIEWS



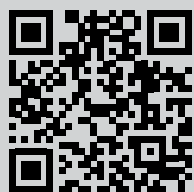
## Help NorthStream Fiber better serve the community

*It takes just two minutes!*

Take this anonymous online test to help us gauge the internet strength at your home. The results will help NorthStream Fiber build its case for increased broadband funding – which is needed in many underserved areas of Roseau County and beyond.

### How can I help?

1. While at home, visit **test.northstreamfiber.com** on your internet-connected computer or scan the QR code below with your mobile device (be sure it is connected to Wi-Fi).
2. Read the “Tips for Great Results” and “Survey Tips” listed farther down on the homepage.
3. Click “Take the Test.”
4. While the test runs, click “Take the Survey.”



Run the test at  
**test.northstreamfiber.com**

# VOLTS & VIEWS

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

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## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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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 – 651-368-2195**

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](http://dli.mn.gov) and go to the electrical page.

**Gopher State One Call**  
1-800-252-1166 or 811  
[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://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.*

# ELECTRIFY YOUR OUTDOOR SUMMER ADVENTURES

*This summer, electrify your outdoor adventures with the help of some essential and versatile electric tools. From electric bikes to portable power stations, get ready to take on the great outdoors with ease.*

## ELECTRIC BIKE

Summertime bike rides just got supercharged thanks to electric bikes — or e-bikes. E-bikes are equipped with an electric bike motor that can assist you when you are pedaling and cruising.



## PORTABLE POWER STATION

Whether you are hiking along a miles-long trail or streaming a movie under the stars, keep your phone or other small electrical appliance fully charged with a portable power station.



## ELECTRIC GRILL

No summer is complete without a cookout. Electric grills come in all shapes and sizes, are easy to use, provide consistent heat and are much cleaner than other options for your next BBQ.



## BATTERY-POWERED ESSENTIALS

Rechargeable electric radios and flashlights are essential when it comes to summer-night campouts. Use the battery-powered radio or your handy-dandy flashlight to stay safe and sound this summer.



HAPPY  
**4<sup>th</sup>**  
of July

**Our offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day**

**In case of an outage, call 1-888-847-8840.**

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES

## 2023 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
* Rebates for LED Screw-in bulbs are not valid after August 1, 2023.		
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/Clothes Dryer	Must be ENERGY STAR® approved.	\$25/unit
Refrigerator/Freezer	Must be ENERGY STAR® approved.	\$25/unit
Recycle Old Refrigerator/Freezer	Recycling receipt required.	\$50/unit
Electric Water Heater <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 55 gallon or less</li> <li>• 56-99 gallon</li> <li>• 100 gallon or greater</li> <li>• Conversion from gas to electric</li> </ul>	Must be on demand response program.	\$375/unit \$600/unit \$900/unit \$250/unit
Electric Boiler	Must be on demand response program.	\$90/kW
Brick Storage Room Unit	Must be on demand response program.	\$90/kW
Hanging/Wall Unit Heater	Must be on demand response program.	\$50/kW
Plenum Heater	Must be on demand response program.	\$50/kW
Programmable Thermostat		50% of the purchase price up to \$50
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	\$500/ton \$700/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.	\$500/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.	\$700/ton

**All incentives, criteria and guidelines for residential and business members can be found at [www.roseauelectric.com](http://www.roseauelectric.com) or by calling 888-847-8840.**

# Frequently Asked Questions About Solar



Jeremy Lindemann here - your REC Director of Member Services! A popular subject these days with the members is generating your own electricity with solar. I get many calls and visitors to the member services department. Because of the interest in this subject, I thought I would put together some frequently asked questions to help satisfy some of the curiosity of the members.

So here we go. In no particular order, here are some of the great questions I get from the members of our cooperative.

## How much would it cost to put solar on my house?

To answer this question, let's use the example of a house that has a peak demand (or in other words, a maximum consumption) of about 10 kW. The average installation price that I have seen in this area ranges anywhere from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

## Are there any rebate programs or incentives from Roseau Electric if I install solar?

No. However, the federal government has a 30% tax credit. It is recommended that you visit your tax accountant before you purchase to make sure you qualify.

## Do I need to contact my electric cooperative if I am installing solar?

Yes! We are here to answer questions and to guide you through the process of interconnecting solar to the grid safely and within the electrical codes. Roseau Electric requires that an interconnection agreement is signed to ensure all steps have been completed properly.

## What size or how many solar panels do I need for my house?

The average size house would require about 10 kW of solar to offset the majority of its usage. If a home had electric heat, you would need 15-20 kW of solar.

## If I install solar, will I have power during a power outage?

No! Solar arrays need utility power to operate and will shut down during a utility outage for safety, so they do not backfeed electricity into the power line. In order to have standby power during an outage, one would need to add a battery system with an inverter and a transfer switch or a generator. This can easily add another \$10,000 to the installation cost.

## Do you know any installers that serve our area?

We don't recommend any specific contractors; however, make sure you do your research and get multiple quotes and references to make sure you get a reputable contractor. Unfortunately, there are scams out there that one needs to be aware of.

## Will the cooperative pay me for the kilowatts I send back to the grid?

Yes. For systems under 40 kW, Roseau Electric pays the average retail rate as set by the state of Minnesota. The state has a set of rules in place for the interconnection of solar, which can be found on the Department of Commerce's website. For the rural residential rate class, the average retail rate is 10.4 cents per kWh.

# 5 THINGS TO KNOW

## *about our wind energy*

June 15 is Global Wind Day! Roseau Electric Cooperative is celebrating this key renewable resource by reflecting on why wind energy is so important to our diverse power portfolio. Here are some numbers you should know.

### *1. We were among the **FIRST** in the wind sphere.*

Minnkota Power Cooperative's system of members (including Roseau Electric Cooperative) is acknowledged as a regional leader for building the first two commercial-scale, utility-owned wind turbines in North Dakota in 2002. This leadership was recognized by the Department of Energy.

### *2. Our cooperative system uses energy from **FIVE** wind centers.*

Minnkota (our wholesale power provider) owns two separate wind turbines near the towns of Petersburg and Valley City, N.D., and holds purchased power agreements for energy produced at three wind farms near Langdon, Valley City and Center, N.D.

### *3. More than **ONE-THIRD** of our power capacity is wind.*

Wind makes up 34% of our system's generation capacity. Around 56% of our capacity comes from coal at the Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D., and another 8% comes from hydropower at North Dakota's Garrison Dam. The final 2% comes from the power market and other sources.

### *4. About **459** megawatts of wind capacity is available in our system.*

We never expect wind to be blowing at all times at every one of our wind facilities, so actual electricity output at any particular time can vary dramatically. However, 459 MW is enough to power more than 225,000 homes if every turbine were to hit its peak capacity.

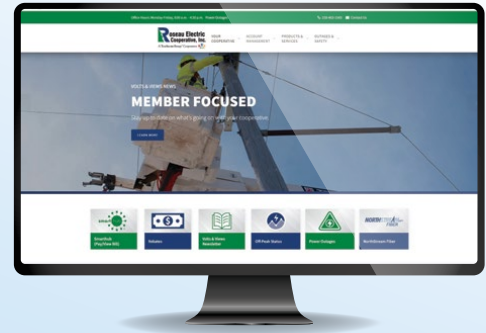
### *5. Receive up to **100%** wind energy from Infinity Renewable Energy.*

Members who enroll in the Infinity program can choose a designated percentage of electricity used that they would like to be derived from renewable resources. Renewable energy credits (RECs) are retired on the participants' behalf as record/proof of the purchase. Contact Roseau Electric Cooperative to see how you can get involved!



**WE'VE GOT A NEW WEBSITE  
CHECK IT OUT!**

**ROSEAUELECTRIC.COOP**



**Roseau Electric offers great incentives for mini-split heat pumps**

# MINI IS MIGHTY!

The summer heat can make for long, uncomfortable days, and nothing is better than being the coolest house on the block – temperature-wise, that is! Make your home, shop or garage a favorite hangout hub all summer long with the help of a mini-split heat pump.

Much like a standard air-source heat pump, a mini-split heat pump's technology allows electricity to move heat out of your space in the summer and into your space in the winter. A compressor unit is installed outside and is connected to an indoor unit by cables and a refrigerant line. This ductless heating and cooling system is perfect for individual rooms and can offer additional, cost-effective support for your existing system.



No matter the time of year, your place will stay the coolest – or hottest – spot in the neighborhood thanks to your new mini-split heat pump.

The size may be mini, but the advantages are mighty! Some reasons to invest in a mini-split heat pump include:

- 1** Mini-splits are often much quieter than central air or furnaces.
- 2** You control the unit using a remote, or you can set it to run automatically.
- 3** You don't need any existing ductwork to install one.
- 4** Mini-splits are discreet and can be placed high on the wall or ceiling to blend into their surroundings.
- 5** The units run on less power than forced-air systems, and that efficiency saves money.
- 6** The units may qualify for Roseau Electric Cooperative's super-low off-peak electricity rate.
- 7** You can save big with rebates of \$700 per ton!

**Contact your energy experts at Roseau Electric Cooperative and learn more about how you can be the coolest house on the block thanks to a new mini-split heat pump!**

# Power Plant Tour

**Wednesday-Thursday**  
**July 12-13, 2023**

## 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: June 28, 2023*

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. \_\_\_\_\_

## OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	April 2022	April 2023	April 2022	April 2023
Members	6,645	6,649	6,645	6,649
kWh purchased	12,904,664	11,943,371	65,240,149	61,471,456
% change		-7.45%		-5.78%
Revenue	1,576,524	1,556,553	7,328,896	7,110,368
Cost of power	954,758	920,350	4,456,463	4,281,424
Other expenses	557,643	573,987	2,262,688	2,267,013
Operating margins	64,123	62,216	609,745	561,931
Non-operating margins	(34,774)	(38,574)	182,706	54,289
Patronage dividends	-	-	-	-
Total margins	29,349	23,642	792,451	616,220

# member connect on

## ENERGY TIP

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**June 14**

Flag Day

**June 18**

Father's Day

**June 21**

Electric bill is due;  
Summer begins

**July 4**

Independence Day

**July 12-13**

Power Plant Tour

**July 16-21**

Roseau County Fair;  
Stop by our booth starting  
the evening of July 18

## 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

[roseauelectric.coop](http://roseauelectric.coop)



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  
TO STAY UP TO DATE!

@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc

# *Congratulations*

to the 2023 Cooperative Knowledge  
\$500 Scholarship Winners



**Tessany Blazek**  
*Greenbush High School*



**Reece Sundberg**  
*Grygla High School*



**Joseph Prelvitz**  
*Warroad High School*



**Brogan Beito**  
*Badger High School*



**Lexi Heppner**  
*Roseau High School*

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