

SEPTEMBER 2020

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Our offices
will be closed
Monday,
September 7 in
observance of



OPERATION ROUND-UP Donation





The Operation Round Up program is designed to provide benefits to individuals, organizations and communities in our service area. These funds are generated through a voluntary rounding up of cooperative members' electric bills to the next nearest dollar, to assist worthy causes right in your local county area.

One of the recipients in August was Noah's Ark Day Care Center in Sutherland, IA. Receiving the donation from Kenneth Millier, Member Service Employee, is the children and staff of Noah's Ark Day Care Center.

If you are currently not participating in Operation Round Up and would like to become a part of this worthwhile program, please call our office for more information. To receive an application of assistance, please call the office at 707-4935 or 800-766-2099.



MOVE OVER OR SLOW DOWN

It's that simple, and it's the law in Iowa. By following these two rules of the road, you can help save lives and avoid receiving a traffic ticket – or even losing your driver's license. It's necessary to move over or slow down when approaching stationary emergency, maintenance, and utility vehicles with flashing lights activated.

NORTH WEST REC 2020 Rebates

SMART CHOICE BONUS REBATE - REQUIRES ALL ELECTRIC BACKUP & LIMIT OF TWO REBATES PER BUILDING		
 Additional rebate for any new or replacement AAHP Additional rebate for any new or replacement GSHP Ductless Mini-Split heat pump C&I/AG Projects – new or replacement AAHP C&I/AG Projects – new or replacement GSHP 	\$250 PER UNIT \$500 PER UNIT \$125 PER UNIT \$250 PER 5 TON \$500 PER 5 TON	
GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP - NEW UNITS INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM	NEW LOAD	REPLACEMENT
 Residential Maximum rebate limit of \$6,000/Installation 	\$1,000 PER TON	\$250 PER TON
 Commercial/Industrial/Ag Projects Maximum rebate limit of \$25,000/Installation 	\$1,000 PER TON	\$0 per ton
AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP - NEW UNITS INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM		
 Residential If back up heat is electric If no back up heat or if back up heat is propane or gas Commercial/Industrial/Ag Projects If back up heat is electric If no back up heat or if back up heat is propane or gas Maximum rebate limit of \$25,000/Installation 	\$1,200 PER UNIT \$800 PER UNIT \$1,000 PER TON \$600 PER TON	\$1,200 PER UNIT \$800 PER UNIT \$1,000 PER TON \$600 PER TON
DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT HEATING/COOLING & P-TAC UNIT - NEW UNITS INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM, ENERGY STAR CERTIFIED		
 Residential If back up heat is electric If no back up heat or if back up heat is propane or gas Maximum rebate limit of 50% equipment cost Rebate limited to two units per single family dwelling of commercial/Industrial/Ag Projects If back up heat is electric If no back up heat or if back up heat is propane or gas Maximum rebate limit of 30% equipment cost Limit of one rebate for each leasable hotel room 	\$1,000 PER UNIT \$600 PER UNIT	\$500 PER UNIT \$300 PER UNIT \$400 PER TON \$200 PER TON
CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER - NEW UNITS INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM, ENERGY STAR CERTIFIED		

\$100 PER UNIT New only

- LOAD CONTROL SWITCH REQUIRED

MARATHON WATER HEATERS - SOLD ONLY TO MEMBERS & INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM. LOAD MANAGEMENT SWITCH REQUIRED INSTALLED TO RECEIVE REBATE. REBATE TAKEN OFF COST OF WATER HEATER - YOUR COST:

\$550 50 GALLON MARATHON 85 GALLON MARATHON \$400 \$550 105 GALLON MARATHON Hog Building (50 gallon only) FULL PRICE

New Home with all electric heat 85 GALLON FREE

(PRIMARY HEAT & ELECTRIC BACKUP)

ELECTRIC APPLIANCES - NEW UNITS INSTALLED ON OUR SYSTEM, ENERGY STAR CERTIFIED

EACH MEMBER IS LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF \$250 PER CALENDAR YEAR IN COMBINED APPLIANCE REBATES.



- CLOTHES WASHER
- REFRIGERATOR

\$50 PER UNIT

- Freezer \$25 per unit

- DISHWASHER

\$25 PER UNIT

- DRYER

\$25 PER UNIT

BUILDING INSULATION

- BUILDING MUST BE ALL ELECTRIC AS THE PRIMARY HEATING SOURCE WITH ELECTRIC BACKUP
- Must be professionally installed for blown-in, spray foam, insulating concrete forms, rigid styrofoam panels and/or structural panel type insulation
- Residential (house) rebate limited to 30% of installed insulation cost up to a maximum rebate of \$800 per building per calendar year
- Commercial/Industrial/Ag buildings rebate limited to 10% of installed insulation cost up to a maximum rebate of \$2.000 per building per calendar year

LIGHTING - REPLACEMENT ONLY

• LED - FIXTURE OR BULB, REPLACEMENT OF INCANDESCENT, FLUORESCENT OR CFL

\$300 PER KW

- RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/AG BUILDINGS
- MINIMUM OF 500 WATTS TO QUALIFY FOR A REBATE (0.5 kW)
- MAXIMUM REBATE OF 50% OF THE FIXTURE/BULB COST SUBMITTED

VARIABLE SPEED AND SOFT START MOTORS

- \$30 PER HORSEPOWER NEW OR REPLACEMENT
- COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/AG BUILDINGS (SEASONAL APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE)
- Up to a maximum rebate of \$5,000 per motor

LIGHTING AND MOTOR REBATE PROGRAMS WILL RUN UNTIL AN ALLOTTED AMOUNT OF MONIES RUNS OUT. PLEASE CALL BEFORE SUBMITTING A REBATE TO MAKE SURE THERE IS MONEY AVAILABLE.

"Pull the Plug" Appliance Disposal Program

Member agrees to self-remove and recycle qualifying appliance (refrigerator or freezer in working order) via an approved and certified appliance de-manufacturer or drop-off location.

Member will receive a \$50 rebate, per qualifying recycled appliance, up to three appliances, per calendar year. A dated copy of a receipt by the certified vendor/landfill/recycler must accompany the rebate application form (available from our office or online).

ENERGY ASSESSMENTS - CALL THE OFFICE TO BE PUT ON THE SCHEDULE

RESIDENTIAL

\$45 CHARGE

- μ must be at least 30 degree difference between inside and outside temperatures

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS

- Level 2 Chargers: 2.9kw-17kw, 208-240V
- Must be hardwired and installation must meet local code
- Member required to provide charger make, model, s/n, specifications
- CANNOT BACK-FEED INTO THE SYSTEM
- Residential \$750 per charger, 50% max equipment cost, max 2 chg/house
- Commercial/Industrial/Ag \$1,200 per charger, 50% max equipment cost, max 5 chg/account

Rebate forms for New Electric Appliances, Building Insulation, Lighting, and Pull the Plug are available at our offices and can also be found on our website at nwrec.coop under the member services tab.

No form is needed for other rebates, simply submit copies of the invoice for the rebated equipment to North West REC, and a representative for North West REC will inspect the installation prior to the rebate being paid to verify that it has been installed and is operating.



Lyle D. Korver

MANAGER'S Report

"During the past 4 years our employees have worked **354,000** hours without any lost time injuries or accidents"

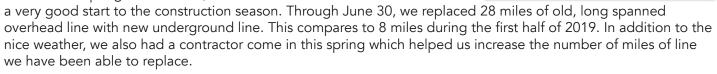
First Half of 2020 Update

It is hard to believe, but we are already past the first half of 2020. We say it all the time – but this year is flying! While this has been a very unusual year so far with the impacts of COVID-19, overall it has been a pretty good year for your Cooperative. I wanted to give a brief update on a few areas of our operation.

Safety: We always begin with safety as that continues to be our number one priority. Our employees have worked safely so far this year, and I'm very pleased to report that we reached a **four-year milestone** on August 15 of no lost time accidents. **During the past four years, our employees have worked 354,000 hours without any lost time injuries or accidents.** That is a great accomplishment and we are hopeful this positive trend with our safety program continues.

We have also had a safe year with no serious public accidents involving our lines. This is great news, and we encourage everyone to stay safe around electric lines. Look up and live!

System upgrades and new services: We have enjoyed great weather this spring and summer, which has enabled our crews to have



Furthermore, our crews have built in 22 new services and upgraded 91 services that required larger transformers or other upgrades.

Construction has been going so well this year that the Board gave approval to lease another underground plow for a couple of months this fall. We have also contracted with another contractor to do a 20 mile stretch of overhead to underground for us this fall. Our goal is to reach 80 miles of line replacement by the end of the year.

The capital outlay budget this year included over \$5 million in system improvement projects and we are making good progress. One of the strategic goals included in our strategic plan is: **Develop and recommend a plan to accelerate the rebuilding of the cooperative's original electric distribution plant.** These improvements should lead to continued enhancements to the service reliability we provide for our members.

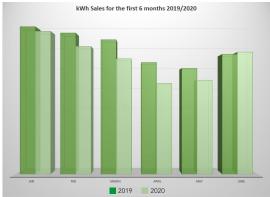


Service reliability: The good weather we have enjoyed this year has also contributed to a good year of service reliability. The average outage minutes through the first six months of 2020 is 39.6 minutes. This is much lower than the 88 minutes we had for the first half of 2019. You might recall that we had to deal with some flooding and ice storm issues in March and April of 2019, which caused our outage minutes last year to be higher than normal.



Along with the good weather, other factors that are improving our service reliability are the improvements NIPCO has made to their transmission network and the distribution plant improvements we have made to our line in recent years.

kWh sales: One area that has been adversely impacted by the nice weather and also from COVID-19 is our kilowatt hour (kWh) sales. KWh sales for the first six months are down 8.9% compared to the first half of 2019. This is partially due to the mild weather we enjoyed this past winter, but some of our commercial, industrial (C&I) and value-added ag load is down this year as well. We had some of our ethanol plants idled for several weeks this spring right after the COVID-19 outbreak, and we have also noticed that some of the other C&I load is down this year. On a positive note, sales were higher in June than they were in June of 2019, and we are anticipating that July sales will also be higher than a year ago.



One of the main reasons that your Cooperative has been able to maintain very competitive electric rates is the strong usage from our members and our ability to spread our fixed costs over a high volume of kWh sales. A recent statistical report from our lender, CFC, indicated that NWREC had the highest level of kWh sales of any of the 31 REC's in Iowa and more than double the median level of sales that the 800 REC's in the U.S. have. We continue to work hard at economic development as growth is not only good for North West REC, but it is good for our local communities, the state, and the region.

Financial update: In spite of COVID-19, I am pleased to report that NWREC is having a good year financially. Total margins through the first six months are \$336,055 and this is \$35,858 higher than budgeted margins. Even though revenue is lower this year due to a decrease in kWh sales, many of our expenses are below budget. I am also pleased to share that NWREC's electric rates have been stable for the past 5 years. The last rate increase was in May 2015. We continue to work hard to provide reliable electric service for our members at the lowest possible cost.



The following is a brief summary of the discussions and decisions from the July board meeting:

- Received monthly safety, operations, and financial reports from staff.
- Heard a detailed report from Manager Korver on steps that have been taken to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Reviewed plans for the upcoming Member Appreciation events.
- Heard an update on the pilot project for automatic standby generators for hog buildings.
- Heard an update on the pilot project for the new load management system.
- Doug Alons and Derrick Haak provided an update on line construction and other operations department projects.
- Manager Korver and Doug Alons updated the Board on the progress of the new Primghar Service Center building.
- Heard reports from Director Tom Wagner on the recent NIPCO and Basin Board meetings.
- Manager Korver reported on several economic development projects that the staff has been working on.
- The Board signed a letter of support for President Jeff Rehder who is a candidate for the District 5 CFC board position.
- Approved Operation Round-Up donations to several charitable organizations and medical emergency situations.
- The next board meeting date is Thursday, August 27.

WE NEED Your Help

North West REC, located at 1505 Albany Place SE, Orange City, IA 51041 is holding unclaimed property (resulting from a refund or patronage dividend) due to the persons listed below. Please call 1-800-766-2099 to claim this property or to update a mailing address.

-A-

Adkins, George Ahlers, Vincent **Ahlers Bros** Air Liquide Industrial U.S. Consolidated Energy American Pallet Leasing Cox, Bill Anderson, Dale Anderson, Russ Anderson, Scott Andrews, Dustin Andrews, Margarita



Arens, Linda

Ashmore, Rob

Babcock, Josh Baerenwald, Mh Barkley, Mrs. Jim Barnes, Mary Baughfman, Bill Beals, Ron Beardsley, Joe Behrens, Anthony Benson, Raymond Bertram, Rudy Jr. Birk, Jared J. Bleil, Robert A. Blenner, Lisa Bobzien, Alicia Bohall, Marcus Bosma, Erwin Brown, Michele L. Brueggeman, Wade Brummel, Duane Bultman, Ben



Carr, Jean Carter, Phyllis Castle, Matt Charlson, Dave L. Chavez, Francisco Christopherson, Larry Church, Dale Collier, Everett Cox, Courtney Cox, Scott Crain, Lloyd D. Cromwell, Laurie

Cullen, K.C.

Culley, Kevin

-1)-Dahl, Betty Damstra, Julius Daniels, Todd Darden, Brian Dau, Lee R. De Kok, Steve De Vries, Mrs. Gerben H. Hainds, Tim De Waay, Richard Derby, Shad Dodds, Zane Dougherty, Paul Dow, Bonnie R. Droegmiller Farms Duarte, Ana Magal Y.



Elbon, Donald Engelkes, William Engelking, David Engelties, Lynn Eppling, Gloria



Feilen, Nick Ferre', Luis B. Fiedler, Stacie Fink, James J. Frank, Angela

-G-

Galvin, Dan Galvin, Jason Getman, Richard Glawe, Rollin Gleiser, Ronald A. Goettsch, Brian Goettsch, Larry A. Goettsch, Mary A. Goodwin, Kenneth D. Graff, Teri Grave, Durvard G. Griffin, Brady J. Groves, Jeremy Gunderson, Rev J.

-44-

Habit 4 Farms LLC Hamar, Darold Hamersma, Jean A. Hancock Town Hall Hansen, Alice Hansen, John M. Hanson, Mrs. Clifford Hantla, John Hardin, Jack Harn, Kathy Hawkins, John Hein, Herbert Helman, Dave Hernandez, Marin Hewitt, Helen Hillman, Charles Hoffman, Daniel Hollowell, James Hoogendoorn, John B. Hopkins, David

-/-

Innis, Joe R.

--/-

J & K Rentals Jacobs, Mike Jacobson Distribution Company Jager, Grant R. Sr. Jaminet, Dave Jester, Bryce Johnson, Keith Johnson, Lonnie R. Johnson, Micah Juelsgaard, Dave Jungjohan, Craig Juza, Jacob

-K-

Kallsen, Margaret Kamies, Beth Kaptein, Marvin Kass, Steve Kellogg, Mike Kempers, Travis Killeas, Helen Klaver, Elmer Klein, Lyle G. Klein, Merlyn Knowles, Brent Koerselman, Benjamin G. Koithan, Kirk Kooiker, Ben Korver, Calvin M. Korver Family Investment Kounkel, Blaine

-/-

Lahn, James A. Landegent, Hubert Lara, Cesar M.

Lemaster, Lonna Lerdal, Jeff Lopez, Eduardo Lorenzen, Jack Love, John

-*M*-

Madsen, Mike Madsen, Stanton Maier, Mary Malone, Megan Mariscal, Jesus P. Martin, Earl W. Jr. Martin, Michael A. Matson, Bruce Mc Intosh, Rockne Mc Roy, Michael L. McCall, Andrew McCline, Curtis McDaniel, Ray McKenna, Jeff McMillan, Michele Meier, Marianna Meinen, Dustin Menendez, Dena L. Meyer, Gerald Meyers, Charles Middendorp, Mike Midwest Land Mgt Midwest Metal Works Inc Pick, Alex Miller, Elizabeth Miller, Lawrence Miller, Rae Lynn Mohni, Mike Mohning, Louie Molitor, Monte Monlux, Marilyn Monroe, Carleton Montange, Leverne Morey, Lorne Morrow, Wendy Mortenson, Michael Mosser, Terry Mouw, Lawrence Muecke, Selma Mullin, Daniel S. Murray, Alice C. Myers, Justin

-//-Nees, Chris Nelson, Melissa Newman, Leland Newsom, Charles Niemeyer, Michael Niewendorp, Byron A. Niichel, Michael

-()-

Nipp, Don

Norton, Linda

Oetken, Mrs. Donald Olson, Matthew E. Onnen, Mrs. Ellis Orris, Robert

-P-

Parker. Richard Pauling, Sharmalee Pelelo-Laroco, Mary C. Pena', Jesus D. Penning, Merlin Perez, Ivan Perrin, Frank Perry, Lisa Peters, Jacy Picarelli, Tom Jr. Pick, Andy Pierce, Anthony Q. Pierce, Tom Poppema, Kenny Port, Richard Prather, Mrs. Dean Presuhn, Shane

-R-

Rasmussen, Rosie Raymond, Sarah Redmon, Caitlin Reed, Amanda Reed, Scott Renken, Rick Reposa, Alex Rice, Tom O. Rider, Bernice

Riedemann Est, Hazel Robinson, Jeremy Roder, Kelly Rogers, Robert D. Rohlfs, Allen Rohlk, William

Sample, Raymond Schau, Violet Scheerhoorn-Keedy, Nedra -1/-Schlenger, Karen Schmidt, Mrs. Evertt J. Schoger, Robert A. Schumacher, Mark Schutt, Mildred Schwartz, Craig Scott, Sarah Pacific Trading & Imports LLC Sears, Matthew Siebenahler, Nathan Siemering, Katie Simoni, Matt Sitzmann, Gary Sivill, Wm Smith, Gordon Snow, John Snow, Shelly Sorensen, Frederick Sparks, Bill State Line Farms Steffans, Brooke Steinbeck, Scott Stephens, Chadwick Stevens, Jason L. Stoterau, Partrick D. Stroud, Anita Struve, Stephanie Suess, Scott Sulzbach, Fred Susie, Hattie Swanson, Michelle Swasand, Mark Swets, Jay E.

-T-

Tabares, Dahlia M. Timber Roots Mtd Tingle, David A.

Topete, Norma Trobaugh, Leo Turner, Chris Tuttle, Gerald

-//-Uhl, Lynne Ulatowski, Mary Umbel, John

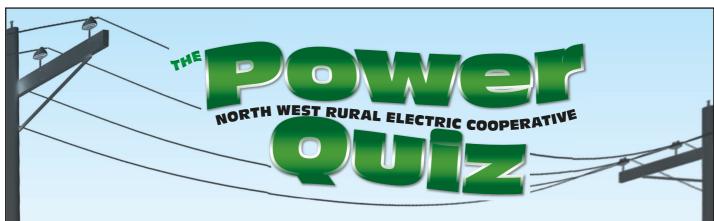
Van Der Brink, Scott Van Lunen Farms Van Noort, Jeromy J. Van Roekel. Dennis Van Sloten, Scott Van Voorst, Brandi Van Zandbergen, Chris Van Zee Furniture Vander Wilt, Ed J. Vanover, Michael D. Villarreal, Jose Voat, Lois Vondrak, Chad Vondrak, Patricia A.

-W-

Wagenaar, Mabel Webster, Jon Wenzel, Erica West, John Westhoff, Amanda White, Harry B. Willis, Clifford Willmot, Sara Wingert, Marilyn Witt, Duane Wittkop Construction Wunschel Estate, Jacquelyn

Yeo, Mary Yingst, David

-Z-Zachow, Amanda Zearing, Leslie J.



- 2. Who was one of the reciepents of an Operation Round Up Check this month? _____
- 3. Fill in the blanks of this important safety tip in the Newsletter: ______ Over or _____ Down

Name _____ Account. # _____

Find the answers within the content of this newsletter, our website or Facebook posts and you could win a prize of \$10 off your electric bill. Send your answers to powerquiz@nwrec.coop or you can send your written answers to North West REC, PO Box 435, Orange City, IA 51041. You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember the deadline is August 10. Each month, ten names will be randomly drawn from all correct entries for a \$10 bill credit. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least three times throughout the year will be eligible for 2 - \$250 bill credits, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

POWER QUIZ Winners

JUNE 2020



Mark Forbes - Ida Grove
James Verrips - Sheldon
Tim Harrison - Le Mars
William Aberson - Orange City
Barry Carlson - Aurelia

Alvin Bleyenberg - Sioux Center
Eileen Wichers - Maurice
Roger Petersen - Merrill
Bill Madsen - Galva
Bert Van Batavia - Boyden



North West Rural Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 435 • 1505 Albany Place SE • Orange City, IA 51041-0435

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Orange City office open during noon hour

Le Mars office closed 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Ida Grove office 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Mon-Fri

PHONE:

ORANGE CITY (712) 707-4935

(800) 766-2099

IDA GROVE (712) 364-3341

LE MARS (712) 546-4149

Outside Depository Box Available For After Hours Payments

Lyle D. Korver

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Curt Ahrenholz

Finance & Office Services Director

Emily Vander Velde Editor

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