

The Outlet

December 2025



Welcome Aboard Dylan!



Dylan Cieminski has joined REC as our Operations Representative! He will work closely with the Line Superintendent and Assistant Line Superintendents daily to

organize work schedules, generate work and maintenance service orders, and dispatch.

Dylan lives in Whitehall with his wife, Tess, and three children. When not at work, Dylan can be found in the woods, on the golf course, or with his family.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

To maximize your fireplace's efficiency, always keep the damper closed when the fireplace is not in use. An open damper is like an open window, allowing warm indoor air to escape and cold air to enter. Consider installing a fireplace insert, which improves heat output by circulating warm air into the room rather than letting it escape up the chimney.

Also, burn only seasoned hardwood to ensure a hotter, cleaner burn. Regularly clean and inspect your chimney to maintain safe and efficient operation.



Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)

Winter Load Control/Peak Alerts

Between December and February, Dairyland Power Cooperative may implement Winter Load Control or Peak Alerts on days when electricity demand is high. These periods reflect increased costs for electricity purchased by the Cooperative. Members participating in the controlled electric heat program should ensure their back-up heating systems and fuel sources are fully operational in preparation for these events.

Peak Alert periods generally occur during the morning hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and the evening hours of 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Current load control status can be verified at any time by visiting our website. Additionally, Peak Alert notices will be communicated through area radio stations and shared on our Facebook page.

Office Closings

Our offices will be closed on **Thursday Dec. 18** for an all-employee meeting.

Our offices will be closed on **December 24, 25, and January 1** in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

OPERATING STATISTICS

	October 2025			
	Monthly		Year-to-date	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
KWHS PURCHASED	21,542,741	22,755,423	241,806,782	253,975,146
KWHS SOLD	20,894,989	21,930,950	234,901,204	246,035,472
REVENUE	\$3,511,385	\$3,605,471	\$37,137,425	\$38,803,921
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	\$1,826,042	\$2,041,759	\$20,672,978	\$22,091,788
OTHER EXPENSES	\$1,513,810	\$1,572,563	\$15,408,916	\$15,921,005
OPERATING MARGINS	\$171,533	\$(8,852)	\$1,055,531	\$791,128
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	\$18,893	\$6,999	\$96,564	\$518,128
CAPITAL CREDITS-ASSOC. ORGANIZATIONS	\$73,602	\$291,266	\$1,122,447	\$1,350,549
TOTAL MARGINS	\$264,028	\$289,413	\$2,274,542	\$2,659,805

Preparing for Storm Season?

DON'T FORGET TO READY YOUR CAR

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit onboard. Kits should be checked twice a year and expired items should be replaced regularly. Emergency supply kits should include:



Snowbrush
Shovel
Windshield washer fluid
Cat litter for traction



Warm clothing
Blankets
Drinking water
Nonperishable foods



Properly inflated spare tire
Wheel wrench & tripod jack
Jumper cables
Fire extinguisher



Reflective triangles
Reflective vest
Brightly colored cloth
(to tie on side mirror)



First-aid kit
Flashlight and batteries
Compass
Car charger for cell phone

Safe
Electricity.org

Source: NSC

Month of
December

Billing Date:

December 1, 2025
(November usage)

Current amount due:
December 31, 2025

Please continue
making payments to
avoid disconnection.

Winter Safety:

Preparedness for Accidents and Downed Power Lines

Winter driving poses unique risks, especially during icy and snowy conditions. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, 24 percent of weather-related vehicle crashes take place on icy or snowy pavement. Beyond typical accident dangers, the presence of electricity adds a critical layer of hazard that requires immediate and informed action.

Staying Safe After an Accident

In the event of an accident, especially in winter conditions, being prepared is essential. If you're stranded in your vehicle, it's important to avoid exposure to extreme cold, which could lead to frostbite or hypothermia. Be mindful of the following precautions: avoid staying in one position for too long, stay awake, and avoid overexertion, as it can place unnecessary strain on your heart. Watch for symptoms such as numbness, shivering, slurred speech, confusion, or changes in skin color.

Navigating the Risk of Downed Power Lines

Winter storms often lead to fallen power lines or damaged electrical equipment. If walking outside becomes necessary during a storm, only venture out with extreme care and remain alert for potential hazards. When driving, proceed slowly and watch vigilantly for icy conditions, debris, or downed lines, which could be energized and highly dangerous. Accidents involving utility poles are especially concerning. While your instinct may be to help individuals involved in the crash, it is critical to prioritize safety. Always maintain a safe distance from the car and any damaged electrical infrastructure. Encourage those inside the vehicle to remain inside until utilities have shut off the power. If the vehicle is on fire and exiting is essential, jump away from the car with your feet together, avoiding contact with both the vehicle and the ground simultaneously. Shuffle or hop away while keeping your feet together to protect yourself from electrical currents. Remember, a power line does not need to be sparking to be energized. Always treat any downed or low-hanging lines as dangerous. Never drive over a downed line, as doing so can pull poles or equipment down further, creating additional risks.

Quick Action Saves Lives

If you encounter a downed line, the safest place is inside your vehicle. Contact 911 immediately to report the hazard to the utility company. For utility crews working to repair damaged lines, storm conditions increase their risks, requiring patience and understanding while power is safely restored.

As winter approaches, it's essential to stay prepared and observe safety measures both on the road and near power infrastructure. Practice defensive driving and take precautions to protect yourself and others from electrical dangers this season. Always prioritize safety and share these tips with friends and loved ones.

