

The Outlet

A monthly publication for members of Riverland Energy Cooperative.

NOVEMBER
2020

C-FC School District Receives Rebate Check



Riverland Energy Manager of Member Services, Aaron Torud (photo, left) delivers a check to C-FC Superintendent Jo-Ellen Fairbanks (photo, right) in the amount of \$29,937.19 for energy efficiency upgrades and replacements of their HVAC system. They received a total of nearly \$60,000 in rebates since 2019.

Interruptible Heat Test Nov. 18

If you participate in Riverland Energy's interruptible heating (also known as dual fuel or load management), your system will be tested on Wednesday, Nov. 18 beginning at 5 pm. At that time, the electricity powering your electric heating system will be interrupted and cause your backup heating system to operate. All power will be restored by 11 pm.

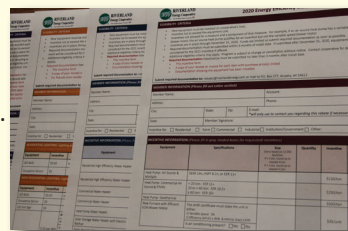
This annual test is conducted to ensure that your backup heating system is working and will adequately keep your home at a comfortable temperature during control periods this winter. The test also ensures the control equipment is functioning properly.

Rebate Paperwork Due Soon

Riverland Energy Cooperative has rebates available for members who purchase items that promote energy efficiency and conservation. ENERGY STAR rated appliances, appliance recycling, central air conditioners, heat pumps and various types of lighting are included on the 2020 rebates forms. Agricultural and commercial rebates are also available.

Important details:

- Only items that were purchased and installed between Jan. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020 are eligible.
- Required documentation (listed on rebate form) needs to be submitted to the office within THREE months of purchase/installation.
- Rebates are only available while funds last. Once the funds allocated for 2020 rebates are depleted, rebates will not be issued.
- Review the rebate form to make sure all items and certifications are submitted in order for the form to be reviewed.
- Appliances must have the ENERGY STAR logo on the appliance. Send the logo in along with your form.



Rebate forms are available at riverlandenergy.com or at any of our offices. Please review the rebate form prior to making purchases to ensure your item meets the rebate requirements for energy efficiency.



General Manager's Message

The last several months have been filled with challenges that have helped each of us realize, now more than ever before, that we're in this together. Virtually every corner of the world has been impacted by the Coronavirus, and not even our small, rural area has been immune to the virus that has disrupted millions of lives around the globe.

We're in the middle of the battle against this pandemic now, but when the crisis has passed, I hope we can look back at this disaster and recognize its irony. I hope we can say what a virus that forces us to stay away from each other also brought us together.

It's something that your electric cooperative knows well, that when our communities are facing the greatest challenges are the times we also see the best of our neighbors and friends, a sense of civic duty and a resolve to do what it takes to not only overcome an obstacle but move forward as well.

Our electric cooperative began as America was clawing its way out of the Great Depression. Since then, we've weathered many storms and tragedies, natural disasters, farming downturns, and a changing economy that left many of our communities behind.

During these last few months, I have seen communities rally. People and businesses have stepped up to help one another, and the spirit has shown brighter. This year, and always, I encourage you to shop local! Local business owners support local events, sponsor teams/organizations, and provide quality products and services that are authentic. Let's keep our money in our community and support our local businesses the way they support our community!

Thank you to our community's frontline workers in the critical sectors of health care, education, public service, food service, farming, public safety, transport, utilities, and financial services for continuing to work hard to benefit others in the community. We see you, and we thank you for helping to keep our communities going.

Though every individual, industry, and business is affected by the economic stranglehold of this pandemic, our hope for the future is bolstered by acts of kindness and the promise of better days ahead.

As always, if you have any questions about the cooperative or how we can help you get back to somewhat normal, please do not hesitate to call, email, or stop by the office.

Best regards,

Jerry Sorenson

OPERATING STATISTICS



Kristina Marsolek,
Accounting
Supervisor

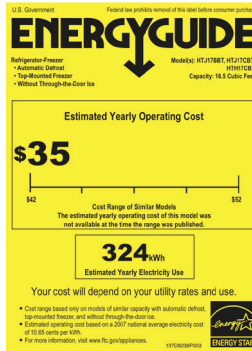
	Monthly		Year-to-date	
	Sept. 2019	Sept. 2020	2019	2020
KWHS PURCHASED	21,612,901	20,069,658	218,400,595	220,233,997
KWHS SOLD	20,277,483	19,346,504	210,190,691	211,600,451
REVENUE	2,900,739	2,894,030	28,346,244	29,875,824
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	1,694,267	1,608,730	17,671,048	17,653,755
OTHER EXPENSES	1,135,211	1,143,257	10,387,450	11,421,187
OPERATING MARGINS	71,261	142,043	287,746	800,882
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	9,426	7,217	112,564	129,969
CAPITAL CREDITS-ASSOC. ORGANIZATIONS	239,473	265,591	668,321	858,692
TOTAL MARGINS	320,160	414,850	1,068,631	1,789,543

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: "Life is difficult." ~ M. Scott Peck

Replace old, inefficient appliances with energy efficient models

EnergyGuide labels

If you live in a typical U.S. home, the appliances are responsible for about one-fifth of your energy bill. Electric appliances like refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, dryers, dishwashers, ranges and ovens are the primary energy-using appliances in most households. Taking steps to save energy while using these appliances, and replacing old, inefficient appliances with modern ones, can save you money. In the U.S., all refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers and dishwashers are sold with yellow EnergyGuide labels to indicate their energy usage. These labels provide an estimated annual operating cost for the appliance and also indicate the cost of operating the models with the highest annual operating cost and the lowest annual operating cost. By comparing a model's annual operating cost with the operating cost of the most efficient model, you can compare their efficiencies.



ENERGY STAR labels

Another label to help you identify energy-efficient appliances is the ENERGY STAR® label. Promoted by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the ENERGY STAR is only awarded to appliances and lighting products that significantly exceed the minimum national efficiency standards. The ENERGY STAR label can help make purchasing decisions easier. These products not only save energy, they can also save money, frequently with better performance.

Snowbirds

If you are planning to leave your home for an extended period of time this winter, remember to make billing arrangements while you are away. Riverland Energy has a couple of options to offer:

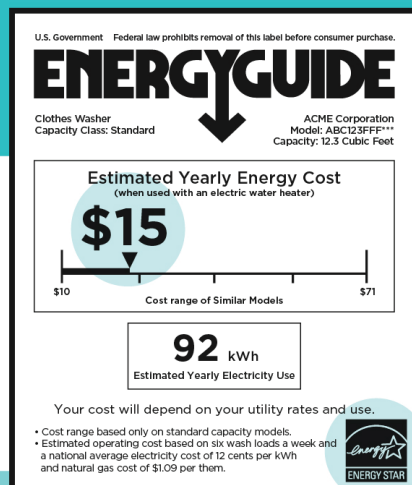
- Automatic checking/savings withdrawals or credit/debit card payments.
- Online Payments, readings, account management and daily/monthly power use available through SmartHub at riverlandenergy.smarthub.coop or download the SmartHub App for android and iOS users.



TIPS FOR PURCHASING NEW APPLIANCES

When buying a new appliance:

- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label.
- Carefully review the EnergyGuide label on the appliance.
- After you choose your make and model, compare prices.
- Recycle or sell your old appliance if possible.





FALL INTO ENERGY SAVINGS

As fall moves to winter, use these energy savers to cut the chill out of your energy bill:

- Check to see if your home insulation levels are up to par.
- Seal air leaks around doors, windows, and electrical outlets.
- When heating your home, set the thermostat to 68 degrees.
- Lower the thermostat when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Open shades and curtains during the day to let sunlight and solar heat in. Close shades and curtains at night to keep the day's heat inside.
- Check your home's weather stripping for air leaks around doors, windows, baseboard and wherever pipes, wires and vents enter the house. Make sure the warm air you pay for doesn't escape.
- Clean furnace filters monthly and replace every three months to keep heating system at peak performance.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Keep cold air out to save energy. Seal air leaks around pipes and any gaps around chimneys and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.

Source: www.energy.gov



MEMBER CONNECTION

Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closures

Our offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Call 800-927-6206 to report outages anytime 24/7. You can also report outages or pay your bill through SmartHub.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Notice to livestock owners

If you have questions or concerns regarding stray voltage in your livestock confinement building(s) or are planning an addition or new structure, please call our office. We will work with you and your electrician to address potential stray voltage concerns.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Headquarters:

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P.O. Box 277
Arcadia, WI 54612

Branch Office:

1800 Granary St., Holmen

Phone:

800-411-9115
608-323-3381

Outages & Emergencies

Call 800-927-6206,
24 hours a day

www.riverlandenergy.com



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