

Southwest lines

Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

September 2020

Southwest Iowa REC Responds to Storm



Linemen left to right: Paul Vanderholm, Lucas Dalton, Scott Geer & Dustin Smith.

On August 10th, Iowa was hit by a devastating derecho storm that left thousands of Iowans with damage, devastation and downed power lines. Southwest Iowa REC responded by sending four of our linemen to Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative in Wilton, Iowa, to assist with the storm damage and to help restore power. They left on Tuesday, August 11th and didn't return home until Sunday, August 16th. The Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) coordinated a mutual aid assistance program for Iowa's electric cooperative network. Southwest Iowa REC is fortunate that the storms in our area only produced minor damage. We were pleased to be able to send help so others could get power restored to their members as soon as possible, while working safely. Thank you to our linemen Paul Vanderholm, Lucas Dalton, Scott Geer, and Dustin Smith for volunteering to represent Southwest Iowa REC in this effort.



Lucas Dalton
Scott Geer
Storm Relief
2020

★ NATIONAL
★ VOTER
★ REGISTRATION
★ DAY

September 22, 2020

CEO's COMMENTS:

Make Your Voice Heard

There's an old political saying, "if you're not at the table, you're on the menu." This adage is the perfect answer to the question, "why vote?" It's a blunt description of what happens when you don't engage in the political process.

If you don't vote, you're not only missing the opportunity to support a candidate that shares your views and concerns, you're allowing others to chart a course that impacts your future. That's why we're encouraging all Southwest Iowa REC members to recognize National Voter Registration Day on September 22, 2020. Whether you're registering yourself or others to vote, or helping members of our community get organized, there are many ways to get involved.

Your vision, your vote

While local elections may not be as exciting as the high-profile presidential election, they are just as critical. Local elections have a direct impact on your community and on your quality of life.

Like the national level, local elections represent who we are as a community, and more importantly, where we want to go. Whether it's an election for a mayor, sheriff, state representative, school board, or an electric co-op board member, your vision for the community is tied to your vote.

Voting keeps elected officials accountable. Elections are a direct and tangible source of feedback. For example, Southwest Iowa REC board members provide strategic guidance on the direction of the co-op and how it serves the community. Local board members embody the voice and identity of the community. The 2020 director election for Southwest Iowa REC concluded on September 10th and the results can be found on our website www.swiarec.coop and will be included in the next newsletter also. Thank you to all of the members that voted for the candidate of their choice.

Staying in sync with the community

Ultimately, the role of the co-op board is governance. While day-to-day decisions are made by our employees, bigger decisions are made by the board, whose mission is to look out for the vitality of the co-op and the members we serve. Southwest Iowa REC board members provide their perspective on community priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments.

However, boards are not perfect, and we need you, the members of the co-op, to help keep the system in check. We depend on you and your neighbors to vote so that we can stay on course and ensure that we are in sync

with the community that we serve.

A strong voter turnout shows investment in the community and ensures that a diverse number of views are represented.

The whole community benefits when more people participate in the process, because greater numbers reflect a consensus on the direction of the future and the will of the people.

By voting in national, state and local elections, you are serving as a role model for your family, friends and colleagues. The act of voting demonstrates your support for the community and helps officials chart a course for the future. Democracy is not a spectator sport. Research candidates, learn about issues that are on the ballot and get out and vote!

To learn more about National Voter Registration Day or to get involved, visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org. Also check out www.vote.coop for additional voter information and resources.



Phil Kinser



2020-2021 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2020-2021 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, Dial 2-1-1, or visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

INCOME MAXIMUMS	
Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$22,330
2	\$30,170
3	\$38,010
4	\$45,850
5	\$53,690
6	\$61,530
7	\$69,370
8	\$77,210

For households with more than eight members, add \$7,840 for each additional member.

WHEN TO APPLY:

- Elderly (60 & over) and/or October 1, 2020 to April 30,
- All other households: November 1, 2020 to April 30

WHAT TO TAKE:

- Proof of Income (for all household members) Depending upon your household size, documentation from the past 12 months, or the last calendar year, whichever is most recent.
- Proof of Social Security Numbers (documentation required for all household members)
- Most recent heat bill
- Most recent electric bill

If you receive alimony or

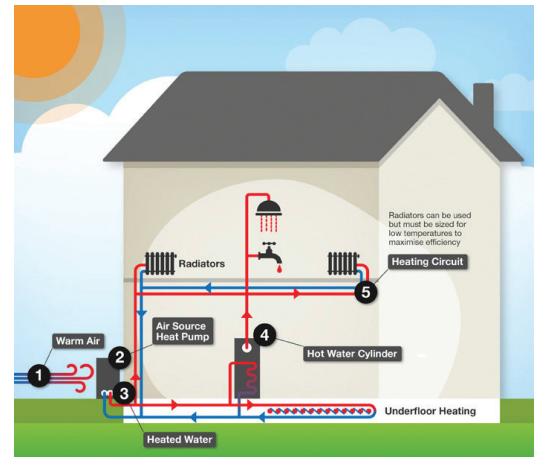
Air-Source Heat Pumps

As summer comes to an end and fall approaches, this may be a good time to consider replacing an aging heating and cooling system. It is always better to plan for equipment replacement rather than have an unexpected emergency repair/replacement. This allows you to make an informed decision and schedule the work to be done during mild weather conditions.

I recommend considering an Air-Source Heat pump. They have become increasingly efficient at lower temperatures and the newer cold climate models work very well in Iowa. They can be paired with a gas/propane furnace for auxiliary heat and air handling.

Check our website www.swiarc.coop or call 800-220-4869 for information about rebates and special electric heating rates. Below you will find some great information on Air-Source Heat Pumps.

Tim Pfeiffer – Director of Member Services



THE VERSATILE AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP

TWO UNITS IN ONE

An air-source heat pump is versatile. It's actually two units in one: an efficient home heating system and an economical air conditioner. Advancements in efficiency and technology have greatly improved air-source heat pump reliability and home comfort. The air-source heat pump transfers heat between your house and the outside air. Some models even provide supplemental water heating for your home.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT SAVINGS

The process of moving heat that already exists in the air is extremely efficient. As a result, heat pumps produce two to three times more heat than the energy they use, translating to more efficiency and lower operating costs. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, if you heat with electricity, a properly installed heat pump can reduce the amount of electricity you use for heating by as much as 30 to 40 percent.

SELECTING AN AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP

Consider the heating efficiency, indicated by the heating season performance factor (HSPF) and cooling efficiency, indicated by the seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER). The higher these factors, the more efficient the system. Although the cost of the more efficient system is higher, the energy savings can pay for the initial investment in a short time.

For greater efficiency and reliability, look for a system that qualifies as ENERGY STAR®. For superior energy savings, choose a system with a variable speed inverter drive. These systems adjust the speed of the compressor to optimize comfort while keeping sound levels to a minimum. Consider a quality thermostat that will help control the entire system, ensuring you take full advantage of the comfort and efficiency your unit has to offer.

Select a qualified contractor who will properly install your heat pump and thermostat. Check with your cooperative to make certain the equipment you choose qualifies for their incentive programs.

HOW AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS WORK

An air-source heat pump moves heat, using refrigerant and coils in much the same way as a refrigerator. Heat pumps do not rely on the combustion of fuels like oil, propane or natural gas. In winter, the heat pump's outside unit captures heat that exists naturally in the atmosphere and transfers it to the inside unit where it is amplified to warm your home. In summer, the process is reversed to remove heat and excess humidity, leaving your home cool and comfortable.

WINTER HEATING MODE

In heating mode, an air-source heat pump evaporates a refrigerant in the outdoor coil; as the liquid evaporates it pulls heat from the outside air. After the gas is compressed, it passes into the indoor coil and condenses, releasing heat to the inside of the house. The pressure changes caused by the compressor and the expansion valve allow the gas to evaporate at a low temperature outside and condense at a higher temperature indoors.

SUMMER COOLING MODE

In cooling mode, an air-source heat pump evaporates a refrigerant in the indoor coil; as the liquid evaporates it pulls heat from the air in the house. After the gas is compressed, it passes into the outdoor coil and condenses, releasing heat to the outside air. The pressure changes caused by the compressor and the expansion valve allow the gas to condense at a high temperature outside and evaporate at a lower temperature indoors.

E PROGRAM

disabled:
2021

0, 2021

household members age 19 and
household income type, income
30 days, the last 12 months, or

r is easier or more beneficial for
members for all household
(required)

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIP RECIPIENTS:

Please bring your current DHS Notice of Decision or contact your local office for acceptable document information.

r child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

Bravo!

Dear Southwest Iowa REC,
Thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of one of your scholarships. It will help me cover the expense of attending the University of Iowa.

Sincerely,
Bradley Johnson

Vegetation Spraying and Pole Inspection to Begin in September

[Midwest Spray Team](#) will be spraying vegetation under our power lines in the Lamoni substation area in Decatur county and in Riley and Athens townships in Ringgold county.

[SBS Inspections, Inc.](#) will be inspecting and treating poles in the following areas:

- Taylor county - Grove, Marshall and Platt townships
- Ringgold county - Lincoln and Jefferson townships
- Union county - Platte and Douglas townships
- Mills county - Deer Creek township
- Fremont county - Monroe township

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Clothes dryers make up a large portion of your appliance energy consumption. Clean the lint filter after each cycle, and scrub the filter with a toothbrush once a month to remove film and increase air circulation.

Source: [energy.gov](#)

Pumpkin Pecan Crescent Rolls

Crescent rolls filled with pumpkin puree, chopped pecans, and brown sugar.
Delicious breakfast, snack, or holiday treat!

- 8 ounce tube refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1/3 cup pumpkin puree
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 cup finely chopped pecans
- 1 tablespoon butter (melted)

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
2. Coat a baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray.
3. Unroll and carefully separate the crescent rolls.
4. Spread some pumpkin puree on one side of each triangle. Then sprinkle each one with brown sugar, granulated sugar, cinnamon, and pecans.
5. Roll from the bottom of the triangle to the point.
6. Place on the baking sheet and cook for 12-13 minutes or until golden brown.
7. Remove from the oven and brush with melted butter, if desired.
8. Serve and enjoy!



Complaints Resolution Process

Southwest Iowa REC makes every effort to resolve all complaints brought to its attention. You can contact us at 1801 Grove Avenue Corning, Iowa; 1502 W South Street, Mount Ayr, Iowa or 415 Broad Avenue, Stanton, Iowa. Or you can call (888) 220-4869.

If your complaint is related to the Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative's service rather than its rates, and Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling (515) 725-7321, or toll free 1-877-565-4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines IA 50319-0069, or by email to customer@iub.iowa.gov.

2020 Energy Efficiency & Beneficial Electrification Program Delivery Costs = \$.0028/kwh



Corning
1801 Grove Ave., Corning, IA 50841
Mount Ayr
1502 W. South St., Mount Ayr, IA 50854
Stanton
415 Broad Ave., Stanton, IA 51573
Phone Number: (888) 220-4869

Board of Directors
Marilyn Werner, President Phil Kinser, CEO
Mark Herzberg, Vice President
Ken Peppmeier, Secretary
Kay Fast, Treasurer
Fred Hossle Deena Moore
Dana Morgan Terry Barnes
Jason Smith Dale Walkup

Southwest Iowa REC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.