



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

# Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

September 2021

## We're looking for high school students who are interested in public service and leadership

*Students who attend our Zoom sessions in October will have a chance to win AirPods and a \$1,000 college scholarship!*

**G**uided by our cooperative commitment to community, Southwest Iowa REC has a long history of supporting students in the communities we serve through scholarships and leadership opportunities. We've also been sending deserving high school students to our nation's capital every summer for years as part of the national Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program.

Iowa's electric cooperatives are pleased to offer a new opportunity for rural students to learn more about advocacy, electric cooperative career opportunities and the cooperative business model with a three-part webinar series in October. The Iowa Youth Leadership Academy is open to any high school student in our service area and they are invited to register at [www.IowaYouthTour.com](http://www.IowaYouthTour.com).

"This new program is really designed for rural Iowa students who have a passion for public service, leadership or government," remarked Phil Kinser, Southwest Iowa REC Manager and CEO. "We want to raise students' awareness of how local electric co-ops power people's lives and empower communities. We also want to talk about cooperative career paths that are available in smaller communities."



Once students register online for the Iowa Youth Leadership Academy, they can attend the webinars from their own computer or mobile device. Each Zoom session will last around 45-60 minutes and focus on a specific topic:

- Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7:00 p.m. – Cooperative Business Model
- Thursday, Oct. 14, 7:00 p.m. – Rural Iowa Advocacy
- Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7:00 p.m. – Civic Involvement and Leadership

At the end of each live session, one lucky attendee will be selected at random to win a pair of Apple AirPods. Students who attend all three sessions will be entered into a random drawing for a \$1,000 college scholarship.

During the Zoom sessions, students will be inspired by our line-up of speakers and presenters. Students will learn how to advocate for issues that are important to them and learn about leadership development from a motivational speaker. Attendees will also hear from former Iowa Youth Tour students who pursued their passion for government service and leadership after attending the weeklong trip to Washington, D.C. The 2022 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is slated for June 18-24 next summer.

Learn more at [www.IowaYouthTour.com](http://www.IowaYouthTour.com) or contact at Suzy Olson at 888-220-4869 for more information.



### For Sale by Sealed Bid



2008 GMC 5500 6.6L Duramax  
192,023 miles  
4x4, Allison Transmission  
Engine and Turbo replaced at 128,600 miles (March 2018) by Karl Chevrolet  
Terex Boom – HR40M Hi Ranger  
Sold as-is, where is, with no warranty  
May be seen at our Mount Ayr office located at 1502 W. South Street, Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call 641-464-2244 to make an appointment to inspect the truck.

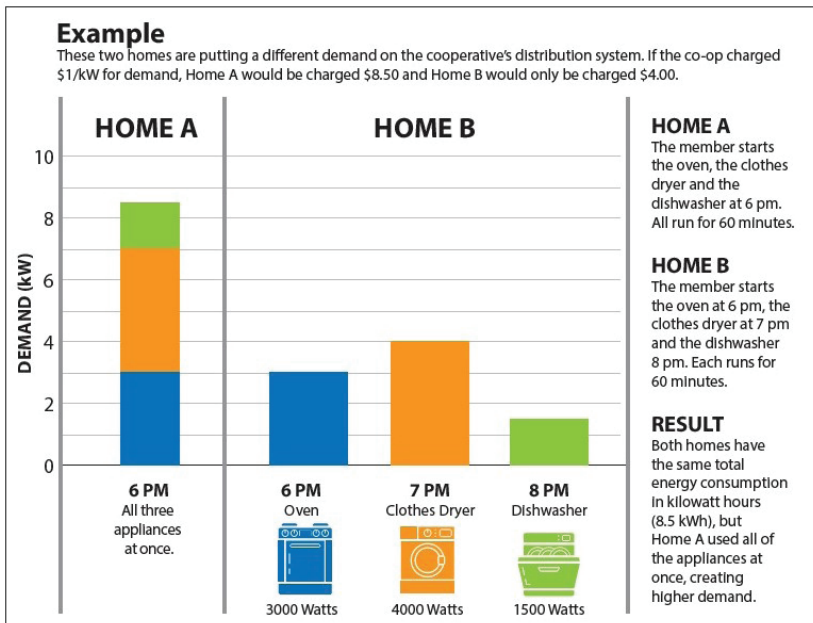
Sealed bids are due by September 29, 2021 and the minimum acceptable bid will be \$10,000.00. Please mark your envelope "Basket Truck Bid" and mail it to the following address:

Southwest Iowa REC  
1801 Grove Avenue  
Box 367  
Corning, Iowa 50841  
Attn: Phil Kinser

Southwest Iowa REC reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

CEO's COMMENTS:

# Why Does Energy Demand Matter?



they use each month, or energy “consumption”. But did you realize that the way you and your neighbors use electricity is just as important as how much electricity you use each month? The higher the “demand” for energy placed on Southwest Iowa REC and its power supplier during peak times of the month, the higher the expenses are for your cooperative. This in turn drives up the cost for all members.



Phil Kinser

A lightbulb “consumption” certain number of hours. If you say 100 watts per hour, that lightbulb consumes 100 x 10 = 1000 watt-hours. If you run it 10 hours, it “demands” 1000 watts (in this case, 1000 watts) from the generating station producing electricity. If you turn on ten, 100-watt lightbulbs in your home for one hour, you are still consuming the same number of kW. However, you are placing a demand on the cooperative to have 1000 watts available to you over the course of one hour instead of ten. This requires the generating station to produce more electricity in less time in order to meet your demand.

Southwest Iowa REC purchases electricity in kilowatt hours from our generation and transmission cooperative (power supplier) based on demand.

Today, in addition to a fixed charge known as the Availability Charge, most Southwest Iowa REC members are simply billed for the amount of energy

## Energy Consumption vs. Demand

Consumption is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh). Demand is measured in kilowatts (kW).

## Employee Updates:



Welcome back Cody Stackhouse. Cody previously worked for Southwest Iowa REC from March 2016 to December 2017, and has recently been employed by Duke Energy in Florida. He and his family have moved back to Mt Ayr, and Cody is now an Apprentice Lineman working out of the Mt Ayr office.



Ken Van Wyhe retirement. On July 30th 2021, Ken Van Wyhe retired after 33 years of service at the Stanton office. Happy Retirement Ken!

Steven Grace, formerly our Member Service Technician, has changed departments and is now an Apprentice Lineman in the Mt Ayr office.



Scott Geer Scott has been promoted to Line Foreman in the Stanton location. Congratulations Scott!

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average demand of our members. Peak demand refers to the time of day when the demand for electricity is highest. This is typically during the evening, from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., when families return home from work or school, cook dinner and use appliances the most. Using electricity during this peak demand period often costs more to both Southwest Iowa REC and our members.

### How could this impact a member in the future?

In the past you have been able to save money by turning off the lights or taking advantage of our energy efficiency programs. In the future, you may be able to lower your bill by coordinating the number of appliances you operate at the same time. Staggering the use of major appliances throughout the day reduces the demand on the cooperative’s system.

## SBS Inspections, Inc. Testing and Treating Poles This Fall

Southwest Iowa REC has contracted with SBS Inspections, Inc. from Olathe, Colorado, to perform pole testing and treatment this fall on one-tenth of our system; approximately 5,000 poles or 250 miles of line. SBS Inspections Inc. will be testing and treating poles in the following areas:

Adams County - Mercer and Grant townships

Decatur County - Grand River township

Page County - Grant and Valley townships

Ringgold County - Monroe, Liberty, Washington, Tingley, and Union townships

Taylor County - Platte township

**SBS Inspections, Inc.** inspectors will dig a hole at least 18 inches deep and wide enough to ensure a proper inspection and treatment of the pole. After exposing the wood, the poles are inspected and treated with a wood preservative, and then the hole is backfilled and the dirt tamped into place. The ground line treatment with wood preservative should extend the pole’s life at least another 10 to 20 years. Poles that fail inspection are scheduled for replacement by our crews which provides you with even more reliable electric service in the future.

WHAT’S  
 SO SMART  
 ABOUT A

## SMART METER?

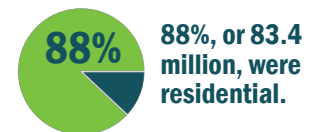
Unlike the older-style electricity meters that are read manually, smart meters use sensors to measure the amount of electricity flowing in and out of your home.



## Good to Know!

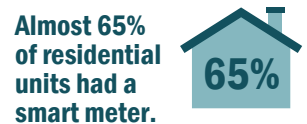
Southwest Iowa REC has utilized smart meters since 2008 when Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) replaced the older electro-mechanical meters in use at that time.

AS OF 2019



SMART METERS\* had been installed across the country.

\*Includes hourly interval meters and real-time meters that are capable of recording and transmitting instantaneous data.



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

Safe Electricity.org®

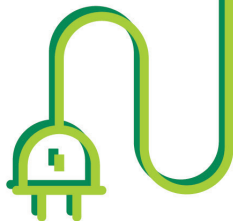


## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Energy used for cooling and heating your home makes up the largest portion of your monthly energy bills.

By combining regular equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30% on your energy bills while helping our environment.

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



### Apple Crumble

Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 40 minutes

#### Ingredients

- 6 cups Apples (Peeled and chopped 1" pieces)
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon or apple pie spice

#### Crumble topping:

- 1 cup flour
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup unsalted butter cold, cut into cubes

#### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Place all topping ingredients in a medium bowl. Use a pastry cutter to cut in butter until the mixture starts to stick together, about 3 minutes. Place in the fridge while preparing the apples.
3. Place apples in a 2qt baking dish and toss with sugar, flour, and cinnamon.
4. Sprinkle topping over top and bake 35-40 minutes or until golden and apples are soft.
5. Serve warm with ice cream.



## Employee Updates: (continued)

**B**ill Scharfenkamp  
Bill retired from Southwest Iowa REC Mt Ayr on May 28th after 23 years of service. Congratulations and best wishes Bill!



**T**anner Rhinehart Tanner has been promoted to Line Foreman in the Mt Ayr location. Congratulations Tanner!



2021 Energy Efficiency & Beneficial Electrification Program Delivery Costs = \$.0030/kwh



Find us on Facebook

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**Stanton**  
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**Phone Number: (888) 220-4869**

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