

POWER LINE

November 2021



Redwood Electric Cooperative

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

*From Redwood Electric Cooperative
Employees, Managers and Board of
Directors!*



Military Personnel Payment Arrangements

Minnesota law provides that a public utility not disconnect the utility service of a residential member for nonpayment, that has been issued orders into active military duty, for deployment or for a permanent change in duty station, provided that they enter into an agreement with the utility to make payments towards their bill. Please contact our office for more information.



— We Will Be —
CLOSED



The Following Dates:

November: 25th & 26th

December: 24th, 27th & 31st



Cold Weather Rule & Energy Assistance Program Notice

In accordance with Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (216B.096), electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment between Oct. 1 and April 30 if electric is the primary heat source and ALL of the following statements apply:

- Your household income is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. Income may be verified on forms provided by Redwood Electric or by the local energy assistance provider.
- You enter into and make reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- You receive referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce your energy bills from Redwood Electric Cooperative.

Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule does not completely stop winter disconnects

Before disconnecting electric service to residential members between Oct. 1 and April 30, Redwood Electric Cooperative must provide:

- A 30-day notice of disconnection;
- A statement of members' rights and responsibilities;
- A list of local energy assistance providers;
- Forms on which to request Cold Weather Rule protection; and
- A statement explaining available payment plans and other options to continue service.

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which helps low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. Household income must be at or below 60% of the state median income (\$65,964 for a family of four) to qualify for benefits. Applications must be received or post-marked by May 31, 2022.

To learn more about the EAP program or to apply for assistance:

- Visit the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Assistance website, <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>, for more details and to access the application portal.
- Contact your county EAP service provider for additional information and assistance.

United Community Action

Willmar Office: 320-235-0850

Marshall Office: 507-537-1416

Redwood Falls Office: 507-637-2187

Toll Free Number: 800-658-2448

Salvation Army

507-326-5017 or 507-637-2187

Heat Share

Statewide Office: 822-842-7279

Redwood & Renville County: 888-220-4860

Brown County: 888-999-1568

Lyon County: 507-537-6747

Southwest Health and Human Services: 507-637-4050

MAC-V: Veterans Assistance

Southern Region: 833-222-6228

Redwood County Rep: 507-637-4034



Redwood Electric exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and do not qualify for the EAP, please contact our office to set up a payment agreement.



Incredible Recipes
GRINCH PUNCH *Recipe!*

Ingredients:
 1 can of Pineapple juice
 Multiple Scoops of Lime Sherbert
 Sprite or Sierra Mist/ 7-Up

Directions:
 Pour pineapple juice into the punch bowl,
 add the lime sherbert chunks with a icecream scooper.
 Top with Sprite, Mist, or 7 up!
 The Sherbert will foam up & turns it all green!

Its AMAZINGLY DELICIOUS & EASY!!!



affordable ways to
LOWER HEATING COSTS
 and keep you warm



Redwood Electric Cooperative
 A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Cut Heating Costs This Winter

- Cut up to a fifth of your bill by sealing exterior wall air leaks and drafts.
- If there are leaks or holes in your ducts, use sealant or metal tape. Air leaks in ducts can account for about 20 to 30 % of wasted heat.
- Lower the temperature while sleeping or away. A programmable thermostat can save up to 15%.
- Water heaters account for nearly a fifth of heating bills. Set yours to no more than 120°.
- Use a space heater to help warm a room and keep the home setting lower. A 1° reduction can save 3% on the bill.
- Open drapes on sunny days and change the furnace filter monthly.

Learn more at EfficiencyResource.org

Wherever energy is needed, the grid is there

Whenever you flip a switch, plug in your phone or open your refrigerator, you're relying on the grid to bring you reliable electricity. Cooperatives like Redwood Electric put a lot of time and effort into providing electricity when you need it.

At the most basic level, the electric grid is a set of interconnected wires connecting places where energy is produced to where it is used. Over time, the grid has become smarter, more dynamic and more interconnected with advancements in technology along with additional wind and solar energy resources.

Great River Energy, wholesale electric provider to Redwood Electric, uses the grid to move electrons and information to ensure reliable electric service. This fast transmission of energy and information makes for a quick response time.

But how does the grid work?

Electricity from power plants and wind farms travels along high voltage transmission lines to the places where it can be "stepped down" and used. Specialized transformers reduce the electric energy down to a lower voltage making it suitable for high-volume delivery over short distances.

Power lines belonging to Redwood Electric carry electricity to smaller transformers that reduce power to levels appropriate for use at schools, farms, small businesses and homes.

For homeowners and businesses that have installed solar panels, wind turbines or other generators, the grid is always there to supply energy when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing.

Redwood Electric works with Great River Energy to ensure a resilient grid able to meet growing demand and address the complexities of integrating renewable resources.



Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday-Friday 7:00 AM-3:30 PM

Phone: 888-251-5100 or 507-692-2214

Email address: office@redwoodelectric.com

Web: www.redwoodelectric.com

SmartHub: redwoodelectric.smarthub.coop

Pay By Phone: 844-846-2696

OUTAGES
(888) 251-5100
24 HOURS A DAY

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Gopher State One
Call (800) 252-1166

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STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Redwood Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.