



Redwood Electric Cooperative

60 Pine Street • Clements, Minnesota 56224

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 electricity 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.



Energy Assistance Program 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 postmarked 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

- ⇒ 822-842-7279 (Statewide Office)
- ⇒ 888-220-4860 (Redwood & Renville County)
- ⇒ 888-999-1568 (Brown County)
- ⇒ Lyon County Health & Human Services
- ⇒ 507-537-6747

Southwest Health and Human Services

- ⇒ 507-637-4050

MAC-V :Veterans Assistance

- ⇒ 833-222-6228 (Southern Region)
- ⇒ 507-637-4034 (Redwood County Rep.)

Redwood Electric Cooperative 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 either of these programs, please contact Sarah to set up a payment agreement.

Monitor Road Ditches & Field Burning

The area around the pole should be worked up and free of all vegetation at least four feet around the base. The pole should also be watched so the fire doesn't accidentally ignite it. Damage from field fires occur to poles and damage ranges from surface charring to destruction. This damage may cost the individual conducting the fire anywhere from \$2,000 or more, depending on the location of the pole and the severity of the damage. Sometimes the damage can result in unnecessary power outages. Pole fires are usually reported by someone driving by. Quick response is critical to avoiding outages for co-op members.

Please DO NOT leave road ditch or field fires UNATTENDED!



Fall is around the corner and there will be many long hours spent working in the fields.

Redwood Electric would like to remind everyone to **LOOK UP** when moving farm equipment and **STAY A SAFE DISTANCE AWAY** from power lines.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Register Your Account Today!



The advertisement features a green background with a pattern of stacked coins. On the left is the SmartHub logo, which consists of a central circle with the word "smart" and "hub" on either side, surrounded by a ring of small squares. To the right of the logo, the text "SMART PAYMENTS" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, the tagline "SMART MANAGEMENT. SMART LIFE. SMARTHUB." is displayed in smaller white capital letters. On the right side of the ad is a smartphone displaying the SmartHub app interface, which includes a large green dollar sign icon and the SmartHub logo. Below the phone is a QR code. At the bottom right, the website "www.smarthubapp.com" is listed.

Save time. Avoid service interruptions. Eliminate late fees.

With SmartHub, you'll be notified when your bill is due and can pay securely online or in the app, anytime, anywhere.

Sign up for autopayments, set up your secure preferred payment method and let account management go into autopilot.

...All in the palm of your hand and online.

www.smarthubapp.com

Bacon-Cheddar Stuffed Banana Peppers

Ingredients:

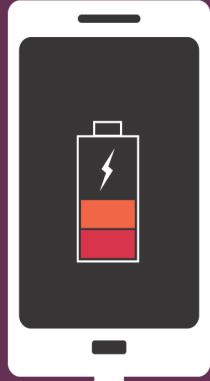
- 6 banana peppers, seeded and sliced in half long way
- 1 banana pepper, seeded and diced
- 1/2 sweet onion, diced
- 3 small shallots, minced
- 2 tablespoons garlic, minced
- 4 oz. mushrooms, diced
- 1/2 pound bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 oz. cream cheese
- 4 oz. cheddar cheese, crumbled or grated
- 2 tablespoons olive oil



Directions:

- 1- Add olive oil to pan over medium heat
- 2-Once pan is hot, add onions, diced banana pepper and shallots and sauté until translucent
- 3-Add mushrooms and garlic and cook until onions start to caramelize
- 4-reduce heat to low and add cream cheese; stir until combined
- 5-Add 3 oz. cheddar cheese and crumbled bacon to the mixture; stir until cheese has melted
- 6-Stuff pepper halves and top each pepper with the remaining 1 oz. cheddar cheese; pressing cheese down into the stuffing
- 7-Grill the peppers over a medium flame until the peppers are browned (about 5-7 minutes)

To keep them intact, I would suggest removing the peppers from the grill with a large spatula.



TIPS TO **SAFELY** CHARGE YOUR ELECTRONICS



Don't buy cheaply made, off-brand charging cubes and cables. They can be **potential fire hazards**, cause electrocution, or damage the device.



Throw away charger blocks and cords that are worn or damaged and **make sure they are not hot** when charging devices.

**NOT
IN BED**

Only charge devices on a **hard, flat, noncombustible surface** to allow for adequate ventilation.



Do not touch any electronic devices that are charging **when you are wet** or standing in water.

Learn more at  **Safe
Electricity.org**

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Installing a smart power strip is an easy way to start saving money while making your home more energy efficient. Smart power strips can actually cut power off to save energy since they are able to detect when a device is in standby mode.



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

General Manager

Ronald Horman

Board of Directors

Dick Nelson

Michael Baune

Dan Tauer

Dean Fultz

Jill Weber VanDerWal

Emily Evans

George W. Turbes

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 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.