



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

December 2016

Attention High School Juniors: Win a Trip to Washington, D.C.!

AS PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY, SOUTHWEST IOWA REC is excited to announce its participation in the national Washington, D.C. Youth Tour program. Youth Tour has been bringing high school students to Washington D.C. every June for over 50 years. On the tour, students learn about electric cooperatives, American history and U.S. government, and walk away with a greater understanding of their role as American citizens. They participate in National Youth Day, network with their peers, representatives and senators, and explore the sights around the nation's capital. High school students with a passion for government and public service are encouraged to apply. The 2017 Youth Tour will take place June 9-15, 2017.

Interested students will compete for this opportunity of a lifetime. Southwest Iowa REC will choose a high school junior from the qualified applicants. Among other criteria, this high school student must reside in our service territory and have parents or guardians who are members of the cooperative. The contest is for an expense-paid trip to our nation's capital.

To begin the application process and to learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime experience, please visit our website at www.swiarec.coop or contact your local Southwest Iowa REC for a Youth Tour application.

COURTESY OF YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

WIN A WEEK-LONG TRIP TO

WASHINGTON D.C.

2017 IOWA YOUTH TOUR

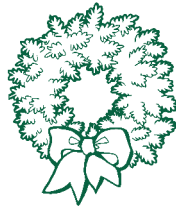
- Join 1,600 other students from across the country
- Meet Iowa's members of Congress
- Tour historic sights
- Take a boat cruise on the Potomac River
- Visit Smithsonian museums
- Make new friends
- Learn more about electric cooperatives
- Sharpen your leadership skills

NEXT YOUTH TOUR • JUNE 9-15, 2017



Offices Closed for Holidays

Southwest Iowa REC offices will be **CLOSED** on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 for Christmas and Monday, January 2 for New Year's.



Have a safe and happy holiday!



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

According to the Consumer Electronics Association, the average household owns 24 electronics products, which are responsible for 12 percent of household electricity use. ENERGY STAR-certified audio/video equipment is up to 50 percent more efficient than conventional models.

CEO's COMMENTS:

Board Approves Change in Estate Patronage Retirement Policy



Phil Kinser

HISTORICALLY, SOUTHWEST IOWA REC has paid deferred patronage dividends to the estate of a deceased member at 100 percent face value when applied for. Other members have had to wait for a general patronage retirement to be approved by the Board of Directors before receiving payment. The normal general patronage retirement cycle is around 20 years but we have been on a 16-year cycle in recent history. In the electric cooperative industry, if an electric cooperative chooses to make special retirements such as retirements to estates, best practice states the amount of the retirement should be discounted

to reflect the time value of money.

The Southwest Iowa REC Board of Directors has reviewed its current policy and approved a change. **Effective January 1, 2017**, the following options will be available for payment of deferred patronage dividends to the estate of a deceased member:

1. The estate may apply for all deferred patronage dividends allocated to the deceased member. This allocation will be paid in one lump sum according to present value calculations using a discount rate approved by the Board of Directors. The discount rate

currently in effect is five percent.

-or-

2. The deferred patronage dividends of the deceased member may remain on the books of the cooperative, either in the name of the estate or assigned to an heir, and paid at 100 percent value when approved by the Board of Directors as part of a general patronage retirement. This general patronage retirement cycle is usually no greater than 20 years.

State Law Requires Notification of Alternate Energy Production

IN 2012, THE IOWA LEGISLATURE approved a bill that requires notification to electric utilities prior to installing an alternate energy generator. The notification requirement applies to any type of electric generating technology including:

- solar
- wind turbine
- waste management
- resource recovery
- refuse-derived fuel
- agricultural crops or residue
- wood-burning facility that will be connected to an electric transmission or distribution line

Under this legislation, the owner of an alternate energy production facility must provide written notification to their electric utility at least 30 days before construction or installation of the generator.

If you are considering installing an alternate energy system – please contact Southwest Iowa REC at (888) 220-4869. Let us provide information and assistance BEFORE making the decision to purchase any type of alternate energy system that requires interconnection with the electric grid.

2017 Miscellaneous Labor / Truck Charges

LABOR – Regular Working Hours

Members: \$57.00/hour, 1 hour minimum

LABOR – After Regular Working Hours

(Member Emergencies Only)

Members: \$85.50/hour, 2 hour minimum per person

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

There is a \$28.50 minimum labor charge for repair of member-owned security light or yard light + materials (when in the area).

NOTE: If a special trip is made to repair the light, then the regular hourly rate and

minimums for labor and trucks will apply.

Call Southwest Iowa REC at (888) 220-4869 with any questions.

**One hour minimum on all truck charges. Labor will be charged in addition to the truck charge unless otherwise noted.*

Truck* / Equipment	
Trip Charge	\$25 per mileage vehicle required per job per day
Portable Trencher	\$.75 / foot plus labor
Trencher	\$1.75 / foot and \$225 minimum (includes 1 hour labor)
Backhoe	\$55 / hr with a \$225 minimum (includes 1 hour labor)
Basket / Digger	\$75 / hour for members
Boring Machine	\$55 / hour for members

Did you know?

Space heaters are responsible for 32 percent of house fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

- Place your space heater on a level, non-flammable surface.
- Make sure your space heater has an auto shutoff function.
- Never pair your space heater with an extension cord.
- Never leave a space heater unattended when in use.
- Purchase space heaters that are cool to the touch.



2017 RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES

SOUTHWEST IOWA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE PROVIDES our members with ways to save on your energy budget. We offer rebates on the following products that will offer substantial savings for your home.

Appliances: When replacing appliances always look for ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances. Appliances can account for 13 percent of your energy bill. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10-50 percent less energy and water than standard models.

ENERGY STAR Clothes Washer

If both water heater & dryer are electric \$60/unit

With only electric water heater \$30/unit

Pull the Plug Appliance Recycling: Contact your Cooperative to request collection and recycling of your old, working refrigerator, freezer or window air conditioner and receive an incentive for up to three operable units per address. Curbside pick up and recycling is done by the cooperative's contractor.

Refrigerator \$35/unit

Freezer \$25/unit

Window Air Conditioner \$25/unit

Indoor Air Quality: Equipment must serve the entire conditioned space of the home. Limit of one air quality system per home.

Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV) \$250/unit

Heating and Cooling: As much as half of the energy used in your home goes to **heating and cooling**. So making smart decisions about your home's heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system can have a big effect on your utility bills - and your comfort.

Geothermal Heat Pump

Closed loop system \$350/ton
(AHRI listing)

Open loop system \$250/ton
(AHRI listing; no "pump & dump" systems)

Hybrid System \$450/ton

G.S.H.P. Replacement \$250/ton

Air Source Heat Pump \$150/ton (ASHP units over ¾ ton, including mini-split systems)

Hybrid System \$250/ton

ENERGY STAR Bonus \$350/unit (Min. SEER 15.0, EER 12.5, HSPF 8.5)

ENERGY STAR Central AC \$75/unit (Min. SEER 15.0 & EER 12.5)

ECM Fan Motor Replacement \$50/unit

(with qualifying AC replacement)

Lighting: Lighting is one of the easiest places to start saving energy. Up to 12 percent of your energy usage in a home. Replacing your five most frequently used light fixtures or the bulbs in them with ENERGY STAR qualified lights can save \$70 a year in energy costs.

Interior Lighting

Residential ENERGY STAR Hardwired Fixtures 50% of price paid for qualified products: ENERGY STAR CFL and LED fixtures, ENERGY STAR ceiling fans with light kits, T8 and T5 fixtures (not ENERGY STAR rated)

Lighting, continued...

Fixtures with screw-in adapters do not qualify. Maximum incentive of \$15 per fixture and \$600 per home. Household limit applies to a 5-year period. (Installs prior to 1/1/13 are exempt). Minimum 4 watts per unit.

Outdoor Security Lighting

High Pressure Sodium Fixtures (replacement only) \$10/fixture (≥100 watt)

ENERGY STAR LED or DLC Qualified Fixtures \$15/fixture (20-34 watt)

\$20/fixture (35-49 watt)

\$40/fixture (50-74 watt)

\$50/fixture (75-124 watt)

\$60/fixture (125 watts+)

*New lighting fixtures must be more energy efficient (lower wattage) than original installed fixtures.

Water Heaters: From warm showers to clean dishes, we count on hot water. In fact, the average household spends \$400-\$600 per year on water heating - making it the second largest energy expenditure behind heating and cooling. Depending on the technology you choose, you can cut your water heating costs in half!

ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Water Heater \$650/unit

Add-on to Electric Storage Tank \$300/unit (> 2.00 EF)

Solar Water Heater with Electric Auxiliary Tank \$350/unit

(must be ENERGY STAR Qualified)

Electric Resistance Storage Tank Water Heater \$50/unit

(50-55 gal. tank-min. EF 0.95)

Drain Water Heat Recovery Systems \$450/unit

(Not to exceed cost of system. Must have electric water heater. Homemade systems are not eligible for the incentive.)

Weatherization: Weatherizing your home will put money back in your pocket every month. It's that simple. On average, weatherization helps homeowners reduce their energy consumption by 25-30 percent - a savings of \$600 per year, every year. Older homes save even more - around 35 percent or more! Requirements are you must have electric heat and/or central air conditioning (homes with natural gas heat do not qualify).

- Home must be built prior to 1996.

- Must be upgrade to existing home (new additions do not qualify)

- Project cost must be \$150 or more (labor costs for self-installed projects cannot be included).

- Maximum incentive per home \$2,200 (with electric heat with or without AC)

\$300 (with central AC only and non-electric heating)

New Home Construction: Building an All-Star home is the maximum goal you can obtain toward energy efficiency and will result in putting the most money back in your pocket.

All-Star Home \$500/home

(new construction, all electric heating, water heating and appliances)

*For terms and conditions to receive an additional \$500, call Southwest Iowa REC for details.

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Name: Mark Herzberg
Family: Wife – Dawnette, Daughters – Chelsea (Abe) Fernandez; Jackie Herzberg; and Emily (Dustin) Thompson
Elected to Board: 2010

Current Position: Treasurer, Director – Region 2 At-large

Favorite Recipe: Calico Beans

- Calico Beans**
- Ingredients:
- 1 lb. ground beef (browned)
 - 1/2 lb. bacon – cut into 1" pieces
 - 1/2 onion (chopped)
 - 1 can butter beans
 - 1 can kidney beans
 - 1 (31 oz.) can pork & beans
 - 1 T. vinegar
 - 3/4 c. brown sugar
 - 1/2 c. ketchup
 - 1 tsp. salt



The RECipe

Place all ingredients in crockpot. Set on low. Heat till warm all the way through. The longer it cooks the better! Serve.

Electrical Inspections and Idle Service Notice to Members

1) Any service that has been disconnected for twelve (12) months or longer will not be reconnected or energized until inspected for safety by an Iowa licensed electrical inspector. A recertification of such inspection must be provided to Southwest Iowa REC.

2) Any service that has been disconnected for twelve (12) months or longer is considered an idle service. Rules and regulations require that Southwest Iowa REC maintain the entire electric distribution system installed within our service territory, even if that portion of the system is energized. In 2008, the board of directors and management of the Cooperative implemented an Idle Service fee and policy. If you desire the disconnected service to remain in place and annual idle service fee will be applied.

Please contact our office, (888) 220-4869, for further information.



THE EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS OF SOUTHWEST IOWA REC WOULD LIKE TO WISH you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for your continued patronage and may you and your loved ones have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

EMPLOYEES

- Ginny Eighmy
- Sam Elsberry
- Scott Geer
- Gary Goldsmith
- Chance Greenman
- Denise Hallquist
- David Head
- Les Helvie
- Phil Kinser

Ben Knapp

- Shayne Larson
- Jamie McManis
- Sarah Newton
- Tim Pfeiffer
- Tanner Rinehart
- Marilyn Rubel
- Duane Schafer
- Zach Schafer
- Bill Scharfenkamp

Tysen Sederburg

- Cody Stackhouse
- Danny Stamps
- Mike Stargell
- Ken Van Wyhe
- Paul Vanderholm
- Nathan Weeda
- Wendy Wimer

DIRECTORS

- Dick Ballantyne
- Rich Fast
- Mark Herzberg
- Dennis Meier
- Deena Moore
- Dana Morgan
- Kenn Peppmeier
- Jason Smith
- Dale Walkup
- Marilyn Werner



Corning
1801 Grove Ave., Corning, IA 50841

Mount Ayr
1502 W. South St., Mount Ayr, IA 50854

Stanton
415 Broad Ave., Stanton, IA 51573

NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR ALL LOCATIONS:
(888) 220-4869

Board of Directors

- Marilyn Werner, President
- Dennis Meier, Vice President
- Richard "Dick" Ballantyne, Secretary
- Mark Herzberg, Treasurer
- Richard Fast
- Deena Moore
- Jason Smith

Phil Kinser, CEO

- Dana Morgan
- Ken Peppmeier
- Dale Walkup