

THE ENERGIZER



Quarterly Newsletter

www.steubenrec.coop

Efficiency Upgrades to Help You Save This Summer

By: NRECA's Straight Talk

Spring and summer are opportune times for home upgrades and DIY projects. If you're planning to make improvements to your home, consider upgrades that promote better efficiency. Here are a few projects that can help you save energy and money - and increase the comfort of your home. Installing a smart thermostat is one of the simplest ways to manage home energy use and keep summer bills in check. Smart thermostats are easy to install and allow you to control your heating and cooling system from your phone. You can purchase an ENERGY STAR certified smart thermostat for as low as \$100, which can save you 8% on annual heating and cooling costs, about \$50 per year. This upgrade will quickly pay for itself, and you'll gain insight into better ways to heat and cool your home. Speaking on *smart*, additional devices like smart LED bulbs also offer convenient control and help boost energy savings at home. With smart lighting, you can set a schedule for when and how your light should be turned on or

off. And the next time you head out to run errands and realize you left the lights on, all you have to do is turn them off through your phone. Smart lights come in a variety of shapes, colors and brightness levels and you can purchase bulbs for indoor or outdoor use. Schedule outdoor smart lights to illuminate your home at night and when you're out of town for better security. While it's not as trendy as incorporating smart technologies, sealing air leaks around your home is a simple, effective way to save energy and lower your bills. Applying new (or replacing old) weather stripping around doors and windows can instantly make your home more comfortable and reduce energy waste. Applying caulk to fill gaps can also improve the seal of your home. Caulk can be applied to a variety of areas, including windows, doors, bathtubs and sinks. If your home feels too warm during summer (and too chilly during winter) even after you've sealed with weather stripping and caulk, your home may need additional

insulation. Insulation is considered a more expensive efficiency upgrade; however, if your home is under insulated, additional insulation can make a big impact on reducing energy use and costs. The cost of new insulation depends on a variety of factors like materials, size of the home and whether you use a contractor. Of course, there are additional efficiency upgrades that can make a big impact on energy use, like replacing old appliances with ENERGY STAR models or replacing old, leaky windows with new, energy efficient windows. If you're wanting to make your home more energy efficient but you're not sure where to start, your best bet is to enlist the help of an expert to conduct an energy audit of your home. An energy audit can easily identify areas to boost efficiency, and then you can determine the projects you want to tackle first based on your budget and needs. At SREC, we are committed to helping our members save energy and money through our rebate programs. For more information about our rebate programs visit www.steubenrec.coop/rebate-programs.

Lineworker Appreciation Day - April 18th 2023

Not all heroes wear capes. Ours wear hard hats!
Lineworkers' top priority is ensuring we have reliable electricity for everyday life!

Most celebrated it on April 10th. Many waited until April 18th. For some, it's still going on. No matter the date, families, friends, co-workers and members expressed their gratitude to the nation's 117,000 power line workers as part of National Lineworker Appreciation Day. Lineworkers leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on. Lineworkers work 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain and repair the electric infrastructure. Lineworkers are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe for all after storms and accidents.



There would be no electric cooperatives without the brave men and women who comprise our corps of lineworkers. National Lineworker Appreciation Day is a time to express our utmost appreciation to the great men and women that work so hard for us every day. It's our honor to celebrate the hard work, and dedication of the Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative Lineworkers.

Notice of Rate Change to take effect June 1, 2023

The Cooperative will be implementing a rate increase that will be effective on the July 2023 billing statements, after the traditional heating season. This increase is being implemented in accordance with Policy 218 of the Cooperative. As such, this increase will be less than 2.00% of the average 1,000 kWh residential bill. The overall impact of the rate increase on an average 1,000 kWh residential monthly bill will result in a \$2.75 increase.

The rate increase will be assessed on both the customer and distribution charge. The distribution charge is to recover the variable costs associated with maintaining and operating the Cooperative's distribution system to ensure reliable electricity is delivered to your home or business. The customer charge is designed to recover some of the fixed costs associated with the same. Since all members need the distribution system available, even if they have little or no usage, we charge a base customer charge to help cover the costs of maintaining the Cooperative's system, so it is there when you need it. If a member has little to no usage, there are still costs associated with operating and maintaining their line (i.e., property taxes, interest,

customer service, billing, etc.). A customer charge ensures that these costs are shared as equitably as possible.

The Cooperative would like to avoid large rate increases, especially for those that are living on a fixed income. Due to the substantial impact inflation has had on the cost of materials, electric distribution equipment and overhead costs, the Cooperative's costs have increased significantly, of which is out of our control. Several steps have been taken to address the current inflation, which has also mitigated the need for a substantial rate increase. Our Board of Directors is continuously evaluating costs and rate adjustments to ensure that each member is receiving the best possible service at the least cost. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments please feel free to contact us anytime. We will continue to work hard to improve the quality of rural life by

providing our members with low cost, reliable electricity and related services in a safe manner. 430302

<u>Rate Schedule</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Before</u>	<u>After</u>
Rate Schedule 1	Customer Charge	Fixed Charge	\$ 27.95	\$ 28.95
Rate Schedule 1	Distribution Charge	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.070892	\$ 0.072641
Rate Schedule 1A	Customer Charge	Fixed Charge	\$ 21.08	\$ 21.83
Rate Schedule 1A	Distribution Charge - Peak	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.102818	\$ 0.105355
Rate Schedule 1A	Distribution Charge - Off Peak	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.026881	\$ 0.027544
Rate Schedule 1B	Customer Charge	Fixed Charge	\$ 27.95	\$ 28.95
Rate Schedule 1B	Distribution Charge	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.070892	\$ 0.072641
Rate Schedule 2	Customer Charge	Fixed Charge	\$ 52.44	\$ 54.32
Rate Schedule 2	Distribution Charge	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.048434	\$ 0.049629
Rate Schedule 3	Customer Charge	Fixed Charge	\$ 151.16	\$ 156.57
Rate Schedule 3	Distribution Charge	Per kWh Charge	\$ 0.005431	\$ 0.005565



Before You Start Digging, CALL 811

811 is a free, easy-to-use service. Take advantage to keep you and your neighbors (and furry friends!) safe. Don't forget to call 811 at least two business days before you start to dig!



811 is the number to call before you begin any digging project. 811 was created to help protect you from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on projects. Make the call and you'll be notified of any dangers lurking underground. Once you provide your name, phone number, proposed digging time and location, utility companies will mark the location of their underground services for free.

811 is available by calling 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also fill out an online locate request at www.udign.org. The depth and placement of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, including erosion, previous digging projects, and uneven surfaces, etc. Making assumptions about where the utility lines are under your property can be extremely dangerous.



Annual Director Election

Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative (SREC) is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors, who are elected by the membership at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting in October each year. Three positions on the nine-member board are up for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting on October 14, 2023. Districts 3, 4 & 6 will be up for a three-year term. To be eligible to become or remain a director, a person must be a SREC member and receive electric at the member's primary residence in the district he or she represents. SREC's bylaws (available at www.steubenrec.coop) provide in-depth information on director districts, qualifications, terms, elections, meetings and officers.

Nominating Committee

It is the duty of the board of directors to appoint a committee on nominations consisting of nine cooperative members. The nominating committee is tasked to find candidates who would make qualified directors. This is done through a meeting of the committee in which members of the committee discuss potential candidates that will accept the responsibilities of a board director, represent the interest of the cooperative's membership and meet the requirements outlined by Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative and its bylaws. Members interested in being nominated for one the districts below should contact the Bath office at (607) 776-4161 for more information regarding the committee, nominations, and qualifications of directors.



District 3
 Urbana, Wayne, Bradford, Hornby, Orange
 Incumbent Director: Edward Borkowski
 Committee Member: Brian Elliott

District 4
 Bath
 Incumbent Director: Walter Longwell
 Committee Member: Carl W. Albers

District 6
 Thurston, Campbell, Rathbone
 Incumbent Director: Gordon Foster
 Committee Member: Willard A. Caudill

Board of Directors

District 1	: James McCormick
District 2	: Janice Hoad
District 3	: Edward Borkowski
District 4	: Walter Longwell
District 5	: Gerald Chase Jr.
District 6	: Gordon Foster
District 7	: Robert Nichols
District 8	: Randy Stankey
District 9	: William Moss III.

Holiday Closings

May 29	: Memorial Day
July 4	: Independence Day
September 4	: Labor Day
October 9	: Columbus Day
November 10	: Veterans Day

Steuben Rural Electric

MAIN OFFICE
9 Wilson Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
(607) 776-4161
(800) 843-3414
Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

BRANCH OFFICE
5966 South Rd
Cherry Creek, NY 14723
(716) 296-5651
(800) 883-8236
Monday - Friday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm



Please read your newsletter carefully. If you spot your account number hidden in this newsletter, please contact Steuben Rural Electric immediately to claim a \$10 credit on your bill!

Third Party Notification - In accordance with the provisions of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative is required to permit a residential member to designate, in writing a third party to receive a copy of every notice of discontinuance of service to the member, provided that such third party indicated in writing a willingness to receive these notices, please contact the main office at 607-776-4161 for the paperwork.

The Trading Post

For Sale:

John Deere 348 Baler, small square bales, very good condition. Call 585-526-6705.

Heavy duty bass boat chair (seat) - \$40; 1/2" breaker bar - \$20; P.T. deck spindles 31" long - \$1 each; 2014 Honda Ridgeline weather tech custom floor mats (3pc.) - \$100; Kohler & Campbell piano vgc - \$150; Mad River canoe w/2 paddles, 14' long, 3 seater - \$500; snow blower, runs great - \$275. Call 607-661-6348.

"No Nuthin Hamburg", no grains, no hormones, no shots, no added fat, "no nuthin"! Grass fed, non certified organic angus bred beef. Stock up for the Summer. Call 585-728-5243 or 585-991-9173.

1986 Yamaha Moped - \$550; Kirby vacumm w/ attachments - \$75 or best offer; Ford 300 6-cylinder motor; sliding glass doors - \$50; air compressor; 97 Dodge truck parts. Call 607-527-8891.

Wanted:

Rear gate (ramp) for small utility trailer, 5ft. wide. Call 607-661-6348.

Farm Equipment, 10 ft. transport disc. Call Doug at 732-620-5712 or 732-446-9594.

Trading Post Rules: Only members of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative (SREC) may submit ads. Ads must be submitted by the 26th of July in order to be published in the August newsletter. You can submit ads by mailing them to SREC, 9 Wilson Avenue, Bath NY 14810 or by email to kcleland@steubenrec.com. All ads must be typed or printed clearly. Include your name and account number on all submissions. Ads are not allowed to be automatically repeated. They must be resubmitted for each issue. The Cooperative reserves the right to edit material for content and/or space as necessary. Ads are published on a first-received basis with no guarantee your ad will appear. SREC does not endorse, recommend or assume any responsibility for the products advertised.

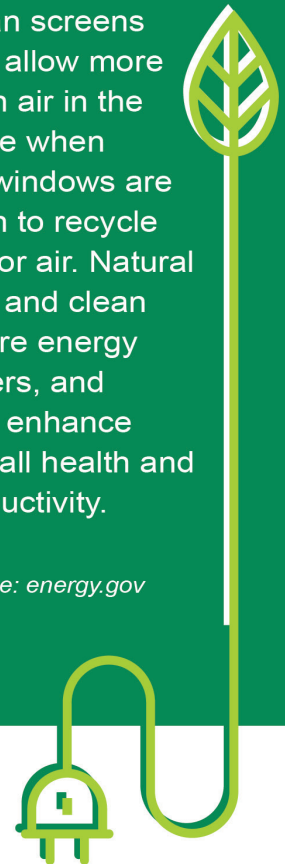
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Washing windows and screens is a great way to practice energy efficiency during spring cleaning. Clean windows and screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures.

Clean screens also allow more fresh air in the home when the windows are open to recycle indoor air. Natural light and clean air are energy savers, and they enhance overall health and productivity.

Source: energy.gov

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Improving the Quality of Rural Life
Low Cost Reliable Safe Service