

Gratitude

November is a time to reflect on what truly matters.
At Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, we are deeply thankful for . . .

- Dedicated employees
- Our loyal members
- Health and safety
- Life's simple joys

Thank you for being a part of our community.





STAFF COMMENTS

Director of Operations

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

by Thomas Guenther

Construction Update

It's been a busy fall at Wild Rice as we wrap up the 2025 construction season. While we saw fewer new service applications this year compared to last, that gave our construction crews the opportunity to focus heavily on system improvements. A significant portion of their time was spent in the Richwood/Buffalo Lake area, where they worked on converting aging overhead lines to new underground cable. This upgrade was prioritized due to both the deteriorating condition of the existing infrastructure and the dense vegetation in the area, which made maintenance challenging and impacted reliability.

Crews also completed a major upgrade in the Toad Lake area, converting a single-phase overhead line to a new three-phase underground system. This improvement not only enhances reliability but also prepares the system to handle future load growth in the region.

Vegetation Management

2025 was a highly successful year for our updated veg-

etation management program. We transitioned to a feeder-based, 8-year trimming cycle, starting at substations and clearing brush all the way to the last member served on each line. This change has significantly improved efficiency for both our vegetation manager and our contracted brushing crews.

We also tested the use of multiple contractors with different types of equipment to increase productivity and help us identify the most effective methods going forward. This year's efforts were concentrated in the Detroit Lakes and Audubon areas. In 2026, our focus will shift to the Richwood, Naytahwaush, and Cormorant Lakes regions.

Harvest Season Reminder

We want to wish all of our area farmers a safe and successful harvest season. As a reminder, if you plan



Wild Rice Electric Cooperative crews working on upgrading a feeder.

to add new equipment or increase electrical load at your bin site, please contact our operations department so we can ensure our system is equipped to meet your needs.

With farm equipment continuing to grow in size, we see dozens of utility poles damaged or broken each year due to collisions. Please take a moment to talk with your family and employees about the importance of knowing where poles are located on your property. A little awareness can go a long way in preventing accidents and outages.

Highlights from the Board Room:

The Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on August 26, 2025. During the meeting, the Board recapped the Strategic Planning session and discussed the format of the 2026 budget.

A quorum of directors was present and the following actions were taken:

- **Approved** the board minutes and financial reports and statements for July 2025
- **Authorized** a third-party to facilitate a Board self-assessment in 2026
- **Appointed** directors to the Policy Review Committee
- **Authorized** continued action to purchase vacated alleyway as agreed.
- **Appointed** a delegate for the CFC & Federated Region 5 & 6 Meetings
- **Accepted** the management department reports
- **Accepted** the Minnkota Power report
- **Accepted** the MREA report

The November regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

SAFETY TIP

Fall Safety Checkup

- Test smoke & CO detectors, replace batteries or upgrade to 10-year models.
- Clear HVAC vents & remove debris.
- Replace cracked or missing outlet covers.
- Use space heaters safely—no extension cords, flat surfaces only, never leave unattended.

Thankful

for off-peak programs and equipment rebates!

Save Nearly 50% with Off-Peak Programs

Off-peak helps us all work together to use energy wisely, improve reliability of electric service and save money. The off-peak program is voluntary for consumers who agree to let Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, temporarily interrupt power to certain electric loads – like heating systems, water heaters or vehicle chargers – when

demand for electricity is high. The off-peak program has been a success story since its implementation in 1977.

The cost of electricity is not only based on how much is used, but also when it is used. Your cooperative saves on its wholesale power costs through the off-peak program by reducing its demand for electricity during peak events. These savings are passed back to you through the lower off-peak rate.

Contact our Member Service Department for more information on our off-peak programs

SHORT-TERM 7.71¢ per kwh.

INTERMITTENT
Cycled 6.31¢ per kwh.
Non-Cycled: 7.01¢ per kwh.

LONG-TERM 6.31¢ per kwh.

WATER HEATER \$5 Credit will be applied to the November through April billing statement

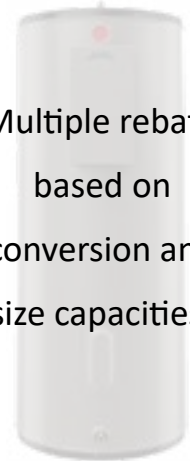
Take Advantage of Lower Electric Rates and Extra Savings!

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative not only offers competitive rates—it also provides a variety of rebates and incentive programs to help reduce the cost of new equipment.

To learn more about available programs and eligible rebates, call us at **1-800-244-5709**.

*WATER HEATERS

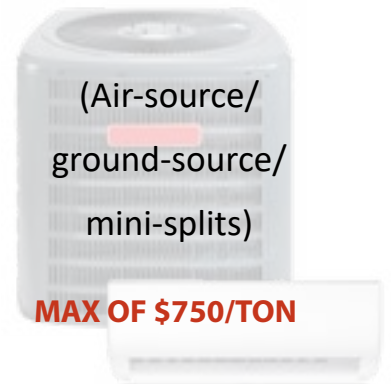
(Multiple rebates based on conversion and size capacities)



MAX OF \$850/UNIT

HEAT PUMPS

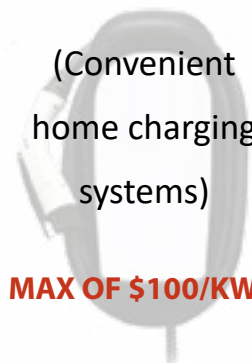
(Air-source/
ground-source/
mini-splits)



MAX OF \$750/TON

*ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER

(Convenient
home charging
systems)



MAX OF \$100/KW

* Equipment must be part of Wild Rice Electric's Off-Peak Load Management Program

**Our office
will be closed:**

**Tuesday,
November 11 –
for Veterans Day**

**Thursday and
Friday, Novem-
ber 27 & 28 –
in observance
of Thanksgiving**

Ads

For Sale

66" Pro Poly Snow Plow blade for ATV side x side, \$300, (218) 234-3139.

Shop clean: 1949 Case SC tractor. Runs. 2 electronic scales 160 oz and 400#. 2 glass lamps, 2 hurricane lamps, 3'x5' shop desk, "quick meal" wood cook stove, Dewalt planer 12", AMT planer 15" 220 volt, leg vise, 2 older cast iron wood stoves,. Old tools; T augers, saws, brass torches. (218) 204-0062; leave message or email; woodlandprairiesllc@arvig.net

Ski steer attachments brush Grapples, snow buckets, stump grinders & splitters, pallet & hay forks, tele booms, back hoes, & more, Mahnomen, (701) 261-3574.

2016 ice castle 6.5 x 14 includes everything for ice fishing \$13,500, (218) 850-7098.

Wood burning stove "Lopi" 10"x20" front door w/ glass insert, 'Liberty'. Brinkmann- Gourmet electric smoker, \$25. 14.5 tires & wheels, \$30 each, (218) 935-5110 days.

Jeep tire & wheel P245/65R18, 4 new Fires-tone tires 265/60R18, 2 41 in. steel wheels 1 is bent, Haier 8000btu window air conditioner, Craftsman 2 1/4 hp. skill saw with plastic case, toughest 1/2-inch plunge router, Chicago electric chainsaw sharpener, call (701) 866-4681.

2003 – S-10 Chevy – 120K miles w/ topper – cleans up like new, \$7,500 firm. Super laminated double coiled predator traps will hold anything from fox to the Alpha themselves, \$12 ea or \$120 dozen, (701) 541-2813.

1979 Camero, six 3 speed manual, 147 K miles, runs & drives. 1993 Ford F150 extended cab, short box, 5 speed manual, 4.9 liter. 1996 Ford F350 extended cab, 4 doors, 7.3 L diesel 5 speed 4x4 manual hubs. Text (701) 893-5584.

Otter XT Pro X Lodge Flipover Thermal Shell Ice Shelter w/ 3 seats molded sled w/ plastic runners, cover & hitch \$600, (701) 371-1902.

Silver Reed SK 840 electronic knitting machine w/Design A Knit 4 in excellent condition, \$800, (218) 238-5882.

2002 Chevy Silverado for parts. 1996 Buick LeSabre for parts or can fix , 125,000 mi on 3800 engine. Engine from 1990's Pontiac Bonneville 3800 engine. No Friday night, Saturday calls. (701) 715-2837.

Assorted duck/ goose decoys field or water . \$1 -\$10 ea dozens available. Metal electrical conduit, 1 @ 10'-1". 5 @ 10'-3/4". 4 @ 8'-3/4". 2 @ 6'-3/4". 7 @ 10'-1/2", \$350, (218) 668-3305.

Wanted

John Deere loader for a 4020 John Deere, must be in working condition with all Mounts, (218) 443-6682.

Our Ad Policy

You can submit your ad by mail, email, or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.

● Email ads to: info@wildriceelectric.com

● Mail ads to:
Wild Rice Electric
Cooperative
PO Box 438
Mahnomen, MN 56557



Wild Rice Electric is active on Facebook

We share about outages, lineworker action, safety events and all things cooperative.

Follow along: Wild Rice Electric Cooperative.

**ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTOR**

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

For more
info about
the program,
please call
(701) 795-4292
or e-mail any
questions to
contractortraining@minnkota.com.

Minnkota Power Cooperative, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative and their partners will again offer six continuing-education classes for area electricians. The seminars are approved for 8 hours of credit toward electrical license renewal in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

The classes will be held at the following locations:

REGISTER ONLINE AT: MINNKOTA.COM

**Tuesday,
January 6, 2026**

Fargo Holiday Inn
3803 13th Avenue South
Fargo, ND

**Wednesday,
January 7, 2026**

Fargo Holiday Inn
3803 13th Avenue South
Fargo, ND

**Thursday,
January 15, 2026**

Bemidji Eagles Club
1270 Neilson Avenue SE
Bemidji, MN

**Thursday,
January 22, 2026**

Bigwood Event Center
921 Western Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN

**Tuesday,
February 3, 2026**

Minnkota Power Cooperative
5301 32nd Avenue South
Grand Forks, ND

**Wednesday,
February 4, 2026**

Minnkota Power Cooperative
5301 32nd Avenue South
Grand Forks, ND

CLASS SCHEDULE:

7:15 - 8 a.m.
Registration

8 a.m. - noon
Classroom instruction

Noon - 1 p.m.
Lunch served

1 - 5 p.m.
Classroom instruction

**\$85 TO REGISTER
FOR EIGHT CREDITS**

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 the state median income (\$68,845 for a family of four) to qualify for benefits. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2026.

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

- Visit the Minnesota Department of CommerceEnergy 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.

Mahube Community Council PO Box 76 Mahnomen, MN 56557 (218) 935-5022	Energy AssistanceProgram 3303 US Hwy 59/ PO Box 418 White Earth, MN 56591 (218) 473-2711 or (888) 458-1385	Inter County Community Council PO Box 189 Oklee, MN 56742 (218) 796-5144/ 888-778-4008
Mahube Community Council PO Box 747 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502 (218) 847-1385	West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc. 715 11th St N Suite100 Moorhead, MN 56560 (800) 492-4805/ (218) 685-4486	Tri-Valley Opportunity Council 102 N Broadway/ PO Box 607 Crookston, MN 56716 218-281-5832/ 800-584-7020

Wild Rice 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 us immediately to work out a mutually agreeable payment plan.

Don't be caught in the dark

With daylight saving time ending on **November 2** and sunsets arriving earlier, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative reminds members that we're here to help brighten things up.

For **\$12** a month, Wild Rice Electric will install a yard light on one of our existing poles at your location.

If interested, visit our website **wildriceelectric.com** and click on the Yard Light Agreement Form link on the home page or call our office at **1-800-244-5709**.

Celebrate WITH SAVINGS LED Lighting Rebate

Buy energy-efficient holiday lights and decorations

Purchase LED Christmas plug-in (not battery operated) lights and decorations in 2025. Complete this rebate form and submit it to Wild Rice Electric by December 31, 2025 with a copy of your sales receipt and the packaging showing the number of lights per string. ENERGY STAR LEDs are recommended. Rebate cannot exceed 50% of the cost. Maximum of five strings per member.

Lights per string	# of strings	Rebate per string	Total rebate
Fewer than 99		\$3	
100-199		\$6	
200-299		\$9	
Greater than 300		\$12	

NAMEACCOUNT

INSTALLATION ADDRESS

CITY/ ZIPPHONE #



Mail to:
Wild Rice Electric
PO BOX 438
Mahnomen MN 56557



PERIODICAL

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Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Monday- Friday

Telephone: (800) 244-5709 or to
make a payment (855) 949-5868

Website: wildriceelectric.com

Email: info@wildriceelectric.com

App: SmartHub



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Treasurer Dave Hamre, District 1

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District 2: Greg LaVoy & Roger Winter

District 3: Randy Bjornson &
Paula Okeson

President & CEO Mike Wade

*This Institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

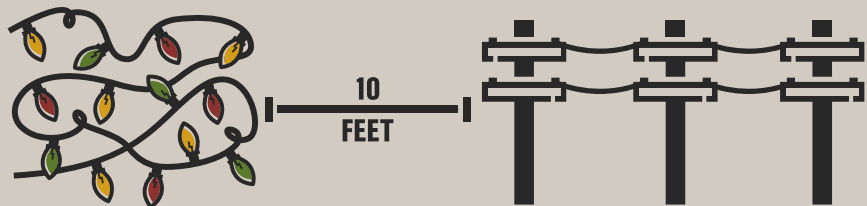


THIS HOLIDAY
SEASON

NEVER ATTACH DECORATIONS TO
POWER POLES OR UTILITY EQUIPMENT.



STAY 10 FEET AWAY FROM OVERHEAD POWER LINES.



IF ANY DÉCOR IS GOING
IN THE GROUND, CALL 811.



For more power line safety tips, visit watchthewires.com