

Thank You for Joining Us!



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Meet & Greet event! We appreciate our members taking the time to spend the day with us and learn more about the important role agriculture and energy play in our communities.

A special thank you to Waukon Dairy, Bongards Premium Cheese, Skaurud Grain Farms, and Minnkota Power Cooperative for partnering with us and opening your doors to share your knowledge and hospitality. We hope that those who joined us found the event to be fun, educational and enjoyable.

We're grateful for the opportunity to connect with our members and community partners, and we look forward to seeing you at future Wild Rice Electric Cooperative events!





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

by **Tommy Houdek**

As we move through another busy summer, I want to take a moment to recognize recent events that reflect both the challenges and the strength of our cooperative and the communities we serve.

First, our thoughts and prayers remain with those affected by the EF2 tornado that struck the Floyd Lake area near Detroit Lakes on July 6. While many of our members experienced power outages, others suffered significant damage to their homes, farms, and businesses. Recovery will take time, and we wish everyone impacted the very best as they continue to rebuild.

The July 6 storm also resulted in one of the larger restoration efforts Wild Rice Electric has experienced in recent years. I want to thank every WREC employee for their outstanding work during and after the storm. Our line crews worked long hours under difficult conditions to safely restore service, while employees

across every department supported the restoration effort and assisted our members. Your dedication, teamwork, and commitment to our members did not go unnoticed. Thank you for representing our cooperative so well.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet & Greet at Waukon Dairy in Gary. We appreciated the great turnout and opportunity to visit with members, answer questions, and hear feedback. Many found the event to be very educational. Thank you to Waukon Dairy, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Bongards Premium Cheese and Skaurud Grain Farms for helping make the event a success.

As harvest season approaches, please keep electrical safety top of mind. Large farm equipment and overhead power lines can be a dangerous combination. Take time to identify overhead lines, use caution around grain bins and augers, and

never attempt to move or drive over a downed power line. If equipment contacts a power line, stay inside the cab if safe and call 911 and Wild Rice Electric immediately.

Thank you for your continued support of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative. We appreciate your trust and remain committed to providing safe, reliable electric service every day.



Paula Okeson, WREC Board Secretary, presents Mike Wade with a Resolution of Appreciation during the June Board meeting in recognition of his dedicated service and retirement.

Highlights from the Board Room:

The Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on June 30, 2026. During the meeting, the Board heard presentations on Minnkota's historical reliability metrics and a software program for long-range forecasting.

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

- **Approved** the board minutes and financial reports and statements for May 2026
- **Approved** a ballot for RESCO's 2026 director election
- **Accepted** the Policy Review Committee Report
- **Adopted** a Resolution of Appreciation for Mike Wade upon his retirement
- **Accepted** the management department reports
- **Accepted** the Minnkota Power report
- **Accepted** the Square Butte report
- **Accepted** the MREA report

Look up before you trim your trees

As fall yard work begins, remember to look up before trimming trees or shrubs. Keep yourself and your tools at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines, and never attempt to trim branches that are touching or near electrical lines. If you notice trees growing into power lines, contact Wild Rice Electric, we're here to help keep our communities safe.

**SAFETY
TIP**

The September regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 2026.

WATCH THE WIRES THIS HARVEST SEASON

Harvest season is often ripe with distractions. Even when you're trying to beat the rain or finish just one more acre, you must remember to stay alert to the power lines around you. One wrong move can be dangerous – even deadly. Share this **safety checklist** with your team before heading to the field.

SAFETY CHECKLIST

- ▶ **Know where power lines are located** before moving equipment and **plan your route** to avoid low power lines and narrow road crossings.
- ▶ **Lower equipment and fold augers, booms and other extensions** before moving to another site.
- ▶ **Maintain a safe distance** of at least 10 feet from all overhead power lines.
- ▶ **Look up** before raising equipment.
- ▶ **Use a spotter** when moving oversized or tall equipment.
- ▶ **Stay alert when visibility is reduced** by dust, low light, rain or fog, when power lines can be hard to see.
- ▶ **Inspect equipment height** before moving combines, grain carts, sprayers or other tall machinery.
- ▶ **Avoid parking or storing equipment** directly beneath power lines.

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN.

If equipment contacts a power line or pole, follow these steps:

1 Stay inside the cab

2 Call 9-1-1

3 Wait for responders

IF THERE IS SMOKE/FIRE:



Cross your arms across your chest



Jump out with your feet together
(don't touch the ground and vehicle at the same time)



Shuffle or bunny hop far away
(feet always together)

SAFETY KIT

Take time to train all farm workers on power line hazards before harvest begins. If you would like a free Watch the Wires safety kit for your team, e-mail operations@wildriceelectric.com for details.



WATCHTHEWIRES.COM



Ads

For Sale

Airhead Super Mabel towable tube, up to 3 riders, (218) 596-8307.

4 1/2 hp Johnson out-board motor, good condition, \$500 days, (218) 935-5110.

2003 4 stroke, 15 horse Yamaha boat motor, stored in garage have manual, \$1,400. Cabela's big game prestige 2-person ladder stand. Includes seat cushion & accessory pkg& lock never used, \$300, (218) 849-9829.

1800 Lund Fisherman Boat w/150hp Mercury & a 9.9 four stroke Mercury with electric start, trim & tilt. Boat has a casting platform & captain seat along w/ cushions. Bow mount Minn Kota Autopilot w/ depth finder & X-65 Lowrance along w/ sport package. Includes a Spartan roller trailer, Lund mooring canvas cover & Bimini cover. Low hours of use, \$19,995. Yamaha GP760 Wave runner Jet Ski w/ Shore lander trailer, coverage & aluminum pier pleasure Jet ski lift \$2,995, (218) 849-7495.

Jenkins brand skid steer attachments both new & used; assorted grapples, buckets, stump & tree removers, more Mahnomen (701) 261-3574.

318 engine w/ about 75,000 miles, 904 transmission & steering column out of a 1968 Dodge Charger. \$1,000 or best offer, call (218) 431-0174.

Mixed hardwood firewood \$175 a cord, will load, hauling extra, (218) 204-0496.

2004 Ford Ranger parts only, call (218) 841-1176.

3 Army coats, trench-jacket-parka from 1970's. Pepsi metal sign 5'x3'. Cast iron old sink 4'x1 1/2', call (701) 541-2813.

2- nine ft x 19" diameter red oak saw logs, \$90 ea. Big basswood logs for carving, (218) 849-5607.

Assortment of handicap accessible items too many to list. Children's classic Little Golden Books. 3 decorative floor lamps, each w/ 5 different colored frosted shades, has flexible gooseneck, sharp looking. 2 bronze bakers racks, one that collapses. Assortment of jewelry & Avon matching sets. 6ft Erskine snow blower, 3pt. hitch was on Allis Chalmers WD 45 tractor, all items in good condition, (701) 866-7851.

1996 Sea Doo SP low hours, great condition, 2023 Sea Doo Spark 3 up 13 hours, cover & trailer for both. Stored inside. Hewitt 18' Slide N Go watercraft ramp, (701) 741-1700.

Gas powered trash pump. Has a 15-foot suction hose with screen, and 75 feet of discharge hoses in 25-foot sections. New carburetor in 2025. \$375 Firm. Yuneec 6 blade Hexacopter drone w/i controller, 3 batteries, charger, 6 extra blades, and external blade protector. In original protective case. Photos & video can be taken with this drone! \$550, (218) 401-2574, or (218) 668-2585.

1986 Honda 125 4 track 4-wheeler, good tires, runs great! \$950, (218) 791-7005.

1980 16ft Lund Row boat all brand new seats w/ EZ loader trailer in very good condition, \$1,900. 2004 HP Johnson OB w/ tiller, 2 stroke power lift extra prop & tank, easy star, \$2,100. 1992 15 HP Mariner w/ tiller OB shirt shaft, \$900, (218) 277-0190 or (218) 687 3707.

Murray rider mower 40" cut, extra blades. 6 - 4x4 hay bales put up last yr, (218) 584-4603.

Craftsman Monster Yard Vac, \$700. 3 wheel adult bike, \$150. 2 wheel adult girls bike, \$50. 270 sheets 48"x 90 1/2" cardboard sheets, \$3 ea. 8 sawhorses, \$5 ea, (218) 238-5882.

Massey Ferguson 1100 diesel tractor. Good condition. Has @ 500 hrs since complete engine overhaul & new clutch. Also has Meede cab, \$7,500, (218) 280-7446.

Motorcycle gear; helmets heated jackets, leather jacket, leather chaps, gloves, 1 case full synthetic 20W-50 oil, oil catcher. 6-volt 1956 Chevy Generator. Ford 14" spoke hubcaps. New, 12-volt generator. 4 Firestone tires all season 265/60R18. 1 Kumho tire 245/65R18 tire on Jeep rim, (701) 866-4681.

1995 Chevy cargo van G20, 350 engine, white, almost new grey metal bulkhead, 191,700 mi., good tires, spare, AC, very clean good van, \$3,000 (701)318-7189.

Multi use enterprise sausage stuffer. Large capacity (6 qt?), hand crank, excellent, \$195. Full cord of ash firewood cut & split, ready to burn this winter, \$225. One & 1/3rd cord of poplar firewood cut & split, ready to burn this winter \$125, (701)-367-2815.

2 Solid comfort loveseats w/ matching chair. Text for pictures. 18 windows: 8: 27 1/2 x 33 1/2; 6: 18 1/2 x 30 1/2 . 4: 26 x 36 1/2, all \$50, (612) 597-8112.

Heavy duty deck, over trailer, 18 ft, 10,000# tandem axle w/ ramps & bumper hitch, \$5,000 cash. Sun Dolphin boat w/ trolling motor & oars, used 2 times, \$600 or best offer, (218) 532-7875.

1967 Chevy C-50, 2 ton truck w/ gravel box. Tires, brakes & hoist are all good, \$3,600 bo, (218) 849-0293.

Rotary screen for Allis Chalmers 7040. Used 2x4x12' boards. Green motor cycle helmet. Endgate seeder. Melrow drag on wheels, 25 foot, (218) 596-8383 or (218)227-9034.

2-HD shop table frames. 7- 5 1/2'x 3" round iron tubing, (218) 849-8963.

1990 Alumnicraft 16 ft boat w/ trailer. 30 hp Johnson motor. 45 lb power drive Minnkota trolling motor, live well carpet floor, 3 seats, boat cover, storage areas for rods & lifejackets, asking \$3,200 cash, (218)473-3114 or (218) 401-0705.

Bosch laser in nice case #GRL 160 DHV, \$100 obo. New & used auto radiators. 14.5 tires & wheels, \$30 ea, days (218) 935-5110.

Ruger 380 cal auto pistol. Savage 17 HMR rifles 22 cal. Ruger long rifle pistol, all like new, 2 in box. Ceiling fans, (218) 841-0992.

Wanted

Buying guns, ammo, and other hunting related items. Let me know what you got, call or text (701) 866-7246.

Singer feather weight sewing machine, call (701) 541-2813.

Looking for used composite decking, if you are replacing your decking I would be interested in your used, text (218) 790-0969.

Vintage overstuffed chairs, (701) 318-7189.

Small tractor must have 3 pt. Chevy short box pick up motor not important, (218) 849-8963.

Pumper truck for pumping services, (218) 261-0971.

Wheel cover for 2011 Chev Impala. Steel rim 17 in wheel w/ bolt on cover. Measured 18 1/2 inch across, call (218) 847-8790 lv message.

Free

Unicover pickup topper fits ford ranger step side box. Great condition, (701) 371-4206.

Our Ad Policy

- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

- Email ads to: info@wildriceelectric.com

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

Apply now for Operation Round Up® funding!

Do you know of a local nonprofit organization making a difference in our communities? Operation Round Up (ORU) is now accepting grant applications!

Operation Round Up is funded by cooperative members who voluntarily round up their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar. Those spare cents may seem small, but together they make a big impact by providing grants to local nonprofits and community organizations throughout our service area.

The Wild Rice Electric Trust Board meets twice each year to review applications and award funding to programs and projects that address community needs and improve the quality of life for local residents.

If your nonprofit organization has a need that could benefit from ORU funding, we encourage you to apply.*

Application Deadline: November 16, 2026

*Please review the Policy Bulletin attached to the Application for specific funding guidelines

For more information, please visit
wildriceelectric.com/billing-information/operation-round-up



SCAN
QR
CODE

COLD WEATHER RULE

216B.097 COLD WEATHER RULE: COOPERATIVE OR MUNICIPAL UTILITY

Subdivision 1. Application; notice to residential customer. (a) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a residential customer during the period between October 1 and April 30 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all the following conditions are met:

- (1) The household income of the customer is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. A municipal utility or cooperative electric association utility may (i) verify income on forms it provides or (ii) obtain verification of income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer is deemed to meet the income requirements of this clause if the customer receives any form of public assistance, including energy assistance, that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50 percent of the state median household income.
- (2) A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- (3) A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills.
- (b) A municipal utility or cooperative electric association must, between August 15 and October 1 each year, notify, all residential customers of the provisions of this section.

Subdivision 2. Notice to residential customer facing disconnection.

- (a) Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the period between October 1 and April 30, a municipal utility or cooperative electric association must provide the following information to a customer:
- (1) a notice of proposed disconnection;
- (2) a statement explaining the customer's rights and responsibilities;
- (3) a list of local energy assistance providers;
- (4) forms on which to declare inability to pay; and
- (5) a statement explaining available time payment plans and other opportunities to secure continue utility service.
- (b) At the same time that notice is given under paragraph (a), the utility must also give written or electronic notice of the proposed disconnection to the local energy

assistance provider and the department.

Subdivision 3. Restriction if disconnection necessary

- (a) If a residential customer must be involuntarily disconnected remotely using advanced metering infrastructure or physically at the property being disconnected between October 1 and April 30 for failure to comply with subdivision 1, the disconnection must not occur:
- (1) on a Friday, unless the customer declines to enter into a payment agreement offered that day in person or via personal contact by telephone by a municipal utility or cooperative electric association;
- (2) on a weekend, holiday or day before a holiday;
- (3) when utility offices are closed; or
- (4) after the close of business on a day when disconnection is permitted, unless a field representative of a municipal utility or cooperative electric association who is authorized to enter into a payment agreement, accept payment, and continue service, offers a payment agreement to the customer.

Further, the disconnection must not occur until at least 30 days after the notice required in subdivision 2 has been mailed to the customer or 15 days after the notice has been personally delivered to the customer.

- (b) The customer must not be disconnected until the utility attempts to confirm whether the residential unit is actually occupied, which the utility may accomplish by:
- (1) visiting the residential unit; or
- (2) examining energy usage data obtained through advanced metering infrastructure to determine whether there is energy usage over at least a 24-hour period that indicates occupancy.
- (c) A utility may not disconnect a residential customer who is compliance with section 216B.098 subdivision 5.
- (d) If, prior to disconnection, a customer appeals a notice of involuntary disconnection, as provided by the utility's established appeal procedure, the utility must not disconnect until the appeal is resolved.
- (e) For the purposes of this section, "advanced metering infrastructure" means an integrated system of smart meters, communication networks and data management systems that enables two-way communication between a utility and its customers.

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. These are the income guidelines for the FFY 27 program year, which is October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2027.

Household Size	Annual Income	1 Month Max Guidelines
1	\$38,464	\$3,205
2	\$50,299	\$4,191
3	\$62,134	\$5,177
4	\$73,969	\$6,164
5	\$85,804	\$7,150
6	\$97,639	\$8,136
7	\$99,858	\$8,321
8	\$102,077	\$8,506

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/energy/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance-program>, 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 Mahnomon, MN 56557 (218) 935-5022	West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc. 715 11th St N Suite100 Moorhead, MN 56560 (800) 492-4805/ (218) 685-4486
PO Box 747 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502 (218) 847-1385	Inter County Community Council PO Box 189 Oklee, MN 56742 (218) 796-5144/ (888) 778-4008
White Earth Energy Assistance Program 3303 US Hwy 59/ PO Box 418 White Earth, MN 56591 (218) 473-2711 or (888) 458-1385	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.



PERIODICAL

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provider and employer.*

