

AUGUST 2025

VOLTS & VIEWS

Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

NORTHSTREAM
FIBER
Powered by Roseau Electric Cooperative

COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

When a strong storm system swept across the Upper Midwest on June 20-21, substantial damage was left in its wake. Roseau Electric answered the call for help and our lineworkers assisted Beltrami Electric Cooperative with restoration efforts. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!



VOLTS & VIEWS

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Secretary-Treasurer Mike Wahl
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Regular Business Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 218-463-1543

OUTAGE CALLS:

Toll-Free: 1-888-847-8840

MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

Northwest Angle, Kittson, Marshall,
Pennington and Roseau counties
and parts of Beltrami County:
Ronald Ditsch – 651-368-2195

Lake of the Woods County:
Curt Collier – 218-966-5070

Inspector list is subject to change at any time.

The State of Minnesota has high wiring standards, which are in the best interest of you and your family or business. Improper wiring can damage your home, your property and equipment, and injure or kill the people you love. Currently, the state does allow homeowners to do their own residential wiring; however, it is critical that the current electrical code is followed. Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm,

Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more information visit dli.mn.gov and go to the electrical page.

Gopher State One Call
1-800-252-1166 or 811
www.gopherstateonecall.org



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electrical lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Roseau Electric Cooperative is committed to providing its member-owners low-cost, high-quality, safe and reliable electricity with friendly, efficient and knowledgeable service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2025

ROSEAU COUNTY FAIR PRIZE WINNERS

ROSEAU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WINNERS

\$50 Gift Card
(Springsteel Resort)

Tara Peterson

\$50 Gift Card
(Lee's Store)

Scott Hetteen

\$50 Gift Card
(Grygla Co-op Store)

Diane Roseen

\$50 Gift Card
(Northern Resources
Cooperative)

Becka Nubson

\$200 Gift Card
(The Woods)

Carina Moberg

***Congratulations
to all the winners
and thanks to
all who stopped
by our booth!***

NORTHSTREAM FIBER WINNERS

Fire Stick

Tammy Johnson

Mystery Bag

Alisa Gustafson

Echo Dot

Sheryl Evans

**Wireless
Charger/Speaker**

Chris Olson



CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

MARY PRETEAU, MEMBER SERVICES COORDINATOR

"Concern for Community" is the seventh cooperative principle and has a far-reaching impact on the communities we serve. Our core mission is to provide low-cost, high-quality, safe and reliable electricity with friendly, efficient and knowledgeable service. As a member-owned cooperative, we strive to do more!

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our fair booth! Your feedback is appreciated! This year's prizes consisted of gift certificates from businesses within our service territory. Thank you for helping us support them and congratulations to the winners! REC will be set up at the Grygla Fall Festival on Aug. 23. Stop by to visit and sign up for prizes.

The Operation Round Up (ORU) application deadline is Aug. 31. Palmetto Electric Cooperative (South Carolina) created Operation Round Up in 1989. Since that time, this program has been adopted by more than 200 electric cooperatives nationwide, 37 of those in Minnesota. Co-op members can voluntarily participate by "rounding up" electric bills each month to the nearest dollar. What is most rewarding about the concept of Operation Round Up is that it is an extension of the concept of *neighbor helping neighbor* that built our electric cooperative over 85 years ago and it embodies

the co-op principle of "Concern for Community." Thank you to the members who contribute to this program and its volunteer board members! Please visit our website for an ORU application and more information.

In addition to having a community presence, REC sponsors many radio broadcasts that highlight youth and education. We actively pursue volunteer opportunities in each of the communities we serve and encourage our employees to do the same. We support our area schools, civic organizations, volunteer fire departments and various community fundraising events.

These are some of the ways REC supports the communities in our service territory. We are dedicated to continually fostering the growth and well-being of our members and the communities we serve.

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1

Open and Voluntary Membership

2

Democratic Member Control

3

Members' Economic Participation

4

Autonomy and Independence

5

Education, Training, and Information

6

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

7

Concern for Community



GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE

AUG. 31, 2025

To be considered at the September 2025 meeting, grant applications must be received by **Aug. 31, 2025**.

Grant applications are available at the REC office or by visiting our website at **roseauelectric.com**.

LOOK UP FOR POWER LINES THIS HARVEST SEASON

Harvest is one of the busiest times of the year in our region, but no one is ever too busy to be reminded about the importance of electrical safety. Don't fall powerless to power lines by not taking the time to look up for potential hazards. Here are some simple things to keep everyone safe this harvest season.

LOCATE AND IDENTIFY	WORK AT A SAFE DISTANCE	LOWER BEFORE YOU GO	STAY AWAY AND STAY CALM
Make sure you, your family and your farm workers know where power lines are located on your property. Everyone should know the height of all your farm equipment and how high nearby power lines are to prevent accidental contact. If you need to work close to an energized line, use a spotter to make sure you and your equipment remain safe. Non-metallic items such as lumber, rubber and hay can conduct electricity depending on the dampness or dust contamination.	It is best to always assume a power line is energized and dangerous. Make sure everyone understands that any contact with these lines creates a path to the ground for electricity and carries the potential for a serious - even fatal - accident. A good rule of thumb is to stay at least 10 feet away from all power lines.	Lowering your equipment to the lowest possible setting is one way to not fall powerless to power lines. Make sure that extensions, portable augers and other equipment are under 14 feet tall before transporting. Wind or uneven ground can cause you to lose control of extended equipment and possibly make contact with a power line.	If your equipment ever comes in contact with an electric pole, do not get out and examine it. Call 9-1-1 and wait until the line has been de-energized before exiting your equipment. If your equipment catches fire or it is no longer safe to remain inside, do not touch any part of it as you attempt to exit. Cross your arms over your chest to protect yourself from creating any electrical pathways and jump clear of the equipment with both feet together. Bunny hop as far as you can away from your equipment keeping your feet together.





ELECTRIC CO-OPS ACTIVE AT MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 2025 Minnesota legislative session concluded on June 9 after a brief special session to finalize the state budget. Throughout the session, Roseau Electric Cooperative advocated alongside other electric cooperatives in the state to ensure policies help retain reliable, affordable and sustainable energy.

Tragically, just days after lawmakers returned home, Minnesota was shaken by the senseless and violent deaths of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark, along with their rescue dog, Gilbert. Sen. John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette, were also injured in the same attack. Speaker Hortman was a respected leader and longtime collaborator with electric cooperatives, while Sen. Hoffman has been a bipartisan partner and steadfast supporter of rural electric co-ops. We mourn this terrible loss and extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and communities.

Even as Minnesota grapples with this tragedy, it's important to reflect on the work accomplished during the legislative session – especially on issues that matter to electric cooperatives and the communities they serve.

★ **PROTECTING RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY** ★

Electric cooperatives worked to advance practical energy policy while defeating several proposals that would have imposed unnecessary costs on co-op member-owners. One of our top priorities was reforming Minnesota's outdated net metering law. Under current policy, electric cooperatives are required to pay above-market retail rates for excess rooftop solar energy, shifting costs to co-op members without solar panels. Although legislation to modernize this inequity didn't make it into the final budget, it gained strong momentum and we'll keep pushing in 2026.

Another key issue was lifting Minnesota's longstanding moratorium on new nuclear energy. Electric cooperatives co-founded the Minnesota Nuclear Energy Alliance, a coalition of nearly 40 stakeholders representing utilities, labor, business and environmental interests. Together, we advocated for access to next-generation nuclear power – a carbon-free, reliable solution to help meet the state's energy needs. While the moratorium remains, support is growing, and the conversation is moving forward.

★ **KEY LEGISLATIVE WINS** ★

- **Data centers:** As lawmakers addressed the rapid growth of large data centers, MREA played a key role in defeating a harmful provision that would have unfairly penalized co-ops and rural communities. The final bipartisan agreement includes reasonable efficiency standards and safeguards for co-op members.
- **Property tax fairness:** A major highlight of the session was the passage of a property tax clarification bill for electric cooperatives. This long-overdue fix ensures fair taxation of electric cooperative infrastructure and will save millions of dollars over time, while protecting rural investments and member-owner wallets.
- **No new mandates:** Electric cooperatives successfully opposed multiple proposals that would have added costly regulatory burdens, preserving the local control that defines our member-governed utilities.

★ **AS A CO-OP MEMBER, MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD** ★

Much of this year's success was made possible through active participation from cooperative members, directors and local leaders. As preparations begin for the 2026 legislative session, electric cooperatives remain committed to advocating for policies that support a reliable, affordable and commonsense energy future for all members.



6 WAYS TO SAVE ON YOUR SUMMER ELECTRICITY BILL

The summer heat can sometimes feel impossible to beat. Your air conditioner (A/C) is working overtime to try and keep your home or business cool and comfortable. The harder your A/C is working, the higher your electricity bill could be. Help out your home and your wallet by trying these six simple ways to save on your summer electricity bill.



CHECK YOUR AIR CONDITIONER

Regularly inspecting your A/C unit can ensure it is functioning as efficiently as possible. Vacuum air vents regularly to remove dirt, dust and pet hair buildup. Replacing a dirty A/C filter every month or two can lower your energy usage. If you suspect your A/C unit is in need of service, be sure to reach out to a certified HVAC technician.



UTILIZE YOUR CEILING FANS

Don't let the savings a fan could offer breeze past you! A ceiling fan works great when paired with your A/C unit. The wind chill effect created by a fan allows you to keep your thermostat four degrees higher without a change in comfort.



AVOID USING YOUR OVEN

You heard us right! A conventional oven can heat a house or apartment and force your A/C to keep up. This summer, bust out the crockpot and fire up the grill to enjoy some delicious summertime meals while also saving on your electricity bill!



CLOSE YOUR BLINDS

The best thing you can do to avoid sunbathing in your living room is to keep the blinds closed on southern- and western-facing windows. Open northern-facing windows to allow natural light into your home without heating it up.



SWITCH TO LED LIGHT BULBS

An LED light gives off significantly less heat and uses 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs. Soak up those cool savings by switching your home or business over to LED bulbs.



UNPLUG

If you aren't using it, unplug it. Computers, toasters, gaming devices and other gadgets all generate a small amount of heat in a room. Unplug to save on your electricity bill all year-round.

Did you know?



\$ FOR A WEEK OF ELECTRICITY = \$ FOR A NEW ZERO-GRAVITY LAWN CHAIR



*comparison based on average household energy usage

member connection

ENERGY TIP

Replace your cooling system's filter regularly to maintain strong airflow and boost energy efficiency. A clean filter means your system doesn't have to work as hard, saving energy and lowering your utility bills. Factors like allergies and pets in the home can impact how often filters should be replaced. Check the filter every month and replace it as needed. Changing filters regularly also reduces wear and tear on your cooling system, helping extend the life of the unit.

Source: energy.gov

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 21
Electric bill due

August 23
Grygla Fall Festival

September 1
Labor Day;
Office is closed

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Phone: 218-463-1543

AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE NUMBER

Toll-Free: 1-888-847-8840
(main outage call center)

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

1-800-252-1166 or 811

PAY BY PHONE

1-877-999-3412

SMARTHUB

<https://roseauelectric.smarthub.coop/>

WEBSITE

roseauelectric.coop

HAPPY LABOR DAY

Our office will be closed **Monday, Sept. 1**, in observance of Labor Day.

In case of an outage,
call **1-888-847-8840**

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	June 2024	June 2025	June 2024	June 2025
Members	6,694	6,733	6,694	6,733
kWh purchased	9,038,988	9,100,731	76,062,603	78,192,762
% change		0.68%		2.80%
Revenue	1,292,094	1,431,852	9,475,956	10,188,070
Cost of power	785,733	845,492	5,717,122	6,008,546
Other expenses	538,532	578,320	3,728,239	3,526,955
Operating margins	(32,171)	8,040	30,595	652,569
Non-operating margins	39,705	22,371	58,390	65,581
Patronage dividends	-	-	133,090	137,033
Total margins	7,534	30,412	222,075	855,183



LIKE US ON **FACEBOOK**
TO STAY UP TO DATE!

@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc



Century-old trees bent, broken
and uprooted in Lakes Country.

Grain silos crumpled and
twisted in the Red River Valley.

Power lines snapped and
thrown 500 yards on the prairie.

When June storms brought
destruction across our region,
our lineworkers grabbed their
boots and got to work, helping
our neighboring co-ops restore
power to their members.

**We are stronger as
a cooperative family.**

**THANK YOU TO OUR
LINEWORKERS FOR
THEIR DEDICATION.**

**THANK YOU TO AREA CO-OP
MEMBERS FOR YOUR
SUPPORT AND PATIENCE.**

**THANK YOU TO OUR
COMMUNITIES FOR
HELPING US POWER ON.**



**THANK
YOU**