

# CURRENT NEWS



## What's Happening

Thanks for joining us in Hazen at the touch-a-truck event in July!



**SEPT. 7**

Offices are closed in observance of Labor Day

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

During August heat, it's crucial to check your air conditioner's filter. A clogged filter restricts airflow, causing the system to work harder, which reduces efficiency and increases energy use. Inspect the filter monthly and replace it if dirty to ensure efficient operation and improve indoor air quality, keeping your home comfortable in summer.

## Cooperative happenings

### Set up billing alerts

Roughrider Electric members do not need to wait for traditional mail! You can get immediate alerts by email or text when your bill is ready through SmartHub. Register for Smarthub today by visiting our website or downloading the app.

### RDFC grant funds available

The Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) announced it has approved a 2026 grant allotment of \$2,000 to Roughrider Electric to be used to support community-owned entities, nonprofits and community-based projects. Read more at [www.roughriderelectric.com](http://www.roughriderelectric.com) on our RDFC webpage.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Read this month's issue of *North Dakota Living* and more by scanning the QR code or visiting our website.



# UNDERSTANDING

## YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S ENERGY COSTS

### YOUR BILL IS PRIMARILY MADE UP OF 2 COMPONENTS



#### ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION

Your energy usage is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). Think of it as the amount of electricity you use over time. For example, leaving a 1,000-watt appliance running, like a hairdryer, for one hour consumes one kWh. The more appliances and devices you use, the higher your kWh consumption. We encourage energy efficiency to help you lower your usage and save on your bills.



#### BASE CHARGE

You'll notice a base charge on your bill. This charge covers system maintenance, upgrades and maintaining and operating our infrastructure, including power lines, substations and equipment. It ensures reliable service regardless of your energy usage. The charge is crucial to ensure reliable electricity delivery.

### FACTORS THAT IMPACT YOUR ELECTRIC BILL



**Wholesale Electric Provider** | Changes in rates charged by wholesale providers directly impact our costs.



**Market Conditions** | Fluctuations in the market influence wholesale rates and, consequently, member rates.



**Contractual Agreements** | Long-term contracts with providers shape rate stability or volatility.



**Inflation** | Inflation impacts the costs of materials, labor, and equipment needed for infrastructure maintenance and upgrades.



**Weather** | Extreme weather conditions can affect energy demand and supply, impacting rates.