ROUGHRIDER NIEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE





Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Roughrider annual meeting June 7

Roughrider Electric Cooperative can't wait to see members at the 2023 annual meeting, which will be held June 7 in Dickinson.

The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership, enjoy a hearty meal with friends and family, and, perhaps most importantly, vote to elect your board members.

Your electric cooperative is not owned by faraway investors, and it is not overseen by an appointed board of directors. Your electric cooperative is operated by a democratically elected board given the privilege to serve because of your vote.

Members should have received their annual report in the mail in late May.

Check out a bucket truck!

Roughrider Electric will have a bucket truck onsite for members to explore, as well as a display of what lineworkers are required to wear while working.

Luck-of-the-draw scholarships

Roughrider Electric will award three \$500 luck-of-the-draw scholarship to be drawn at our annual meeting June 7 in Dickinson. All high school seniors whose parents/guardians are members of Roughrider Electric are eligible for this scholarship. Students must attend our annual meeting with at least one parent/guardian and are required to RSVP for the meeting. To RSVP, go to www.roughriderelectric.com and click "Your Community" and "Scholarships," then scroll down.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 🔨 🕟

Manager's message:

Spotting potential electrical hazards



Jason Bentz

Electricity plays many roles in our lives, from powering baby monitors, cellphones and lighting, to operating HVAC systems and appliances. We get so comfortable with electricity's instant availability, we expect most systems or devices to do the job when we flip a switch.

Now is a great time to look for electrical hazards around

your home.

Remember, every electrical device has a purpose and a service lifespan. While we can extend their operations with maintenance and care, none of them are designed to last or work forever. When electricity is involved, failures can present electrical hazards that might be avoided with periodic inspections.

Ground-fault circuit interrupters

Outdoor outlets or those in potentially damp locations in a kitchen, bathroom or laundry room often include ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) features. They are designed to sense abnormal current flows, then break the circuit to prevent potential electric shocks from devices plugged into the outlets.

The average GFCI outlet is designed to last about 10 years, but they can wear out in five years or less in areas prone to electrical storms or power surges. Check them frequently and be sure to contact a licensed electrician to replace any failing GFCI outlets.

Loose or damaged outlets or switches

Unstable electrical outlets or wall switches with signs of heat damage or discoloration can offer early warnings of potential shock or electrical fire hazards. Loose connections can allow electrical current arcing. If you see these warning signs, it may be time to contact an electrician.

Surge protectors

Power strips with surge protectors can help safeguard expensive equipment, like televisions, home entertainment systems and computer components,

from power spikes. Voltage spikes are measured in joules, and surge protectors are rated for the number of joules they can effectively absorb. If your surge protector is rated at 1,000 joules, it should be replaced when it hits or passes that limit. When the limit is reached, protection stops, and you're left with a basic power strip.

Some surge protectors include indicator lights that flicker to warn you when they've stopped working as designed, but many do not. If your electrical system takes a major hit, or if you don't remember when you bought your surge protector, replacement may be the best option.

Extension cords

If you use extension cords regularly to connect devices and equipment to your wall outlets, you may live in an underwired home. With a growing number of electrical devices connecting your family to the services you get from Roughrider Electric Cooperative, having enough outlets in just the right spots can be challenging. Remember, extension cords are designed for temporary, occasional or periodic use.

If an extension cord gets noticeably warm when in use, it could be undersized for the intended use. If it shows any signs of frayed, cracked or heat-damaged insulation, it should be replaced. If the grounding prong is missing, crimped or loose, a grounded cord will not provide the protection designed into its performance. And always make sure extension cords used in outdoor or potentially damp locations are rated for exterior use.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, approximately 51,000 electrical fires are reported each year in the United States, causing more than \$1.3 billion in annual property damage.

Electricity is an essential necessity for modern living, and Roughrider Electric is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to all of our members. We hope you'll keep these electrical safety tips in mind so you can note any potential hazards before damage occurs.

Juson & Bort



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Capital credits to be claimed

The following list contains the names of current or former Roughrider Electric Cooperative members who have unclaimed capital credit checks that were mailed in December 2021.

These checks have either been received, but not cashed, or returned to Roughrider Electric by the postal service, because it could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by Roughrider Electric personnel has

not turned up their whereabouts. If you know of the whereabouts of members on this list, please have them contact Roughrider Electric at 800-748-5533. Please keep in mind that not all of the capital credit amounts are large, but we would like to get these checks to the proper parties. Persons who wish to claim checks from the following list should be prepared to provide proper personal identification.

HOFER, DALE A HOFF, BRITTNEY J. HOFF, CAROL HOFFER, GREG HOFFMAN, ELIZABETH HOFFMEISTER, KARRIE HOFMAN, JIM HOGAN, JAMES HOLMSTROM, NINA HOLZER, KATIE HOME TOWN INC. HOPFAUF, DUANE HOWE, MARGARET HUBER, DIRK HUETHER, JAMES C. HULM, FRANK HUNTSMAN, CAREY R. HUSCHKA, MELISSA HUSHKA, JEREMY HUTSON, KATHLEEN ILLICH, JOHN INGMAN, MARVIN S. INGOLD, JUSTIN W. INTEGRATED ASSET SERVICES INC. ISAAK, MICHAEL J. ITRICH, W.D. IVERSON, CHRIS IVERSON, JOLYNN IVERSON, VONDRA IWEN, GRANT JACKSON, STEPHANIE JANSON, GEORGE T. JR. JENSEN, BECKI JEPSON, APRIL JEPSON, KYLE JILEK, MAYNARD JILEK, WAYNE JIMENEZ, BOBBIE JOHNSON, BRETT A. JOHNSON, JACK JOHNSON, JODI JOHNSON, MARK B. JOHNSON, RAYMOND H. JOHNSON, RENAE R JOHNSON, SHERRY L. JOHNSTON, ANGIE JONES, CHERIE A. JONES, JENNIFER L. JONES, RYAN P. JONES, TIMOTHY JUAREZ, KRISTEN JUDAH ,GRANT JUELFS, JENNIFER

STEIER OILFIELD SERVICE KADRMAS, BERNADETTE KAFFAR, TIMOTHY J. KEADLÉ, DANETTE KEATOR, MARY KELLER, AMBER KELLER, ESTHER KELLER JESSICA KELLY INVESTMENTS KELNER, ERIC KEMP, RUTH KENNEDY, DONNA KENT, ALLEN KESSEL, WILLIAM J. KETTERLING, LARRY KILBER, SHILO KINNEMAN, TANYA KINNEY, TOM KINVIG, ED KITTELSON, TRACI KLEE, PATRICK N. KLEWIN, CODY KLINE, HEATHER KNUTSON, BRYON KNUTSON, DEAN KOBS, TAWNYA KOENIG, JOAN KOENIG, KODI KOLTSOV SERGEY KORBYN, JUSTIN KOSKOVICH, BRIAN M. KOSTELECKY, DANIEL KOSTELECKY, DANIELLE M. KOSTELECKY, GORDON KOVASH, ASHLEY KOWALÉSKI. LEILA KRAFT, CHAD KRALICEK, MICHAEL KRAMER, DON KROMAREK, LEANDRA KUBAL, JESSICA KUBAS, CRAIG KUBISCHTA, CONNIE KUCH, ALMA KUDRNA, WESLEY KUEHN, DAVID D. KUKLA, DUSTIN KULAS, CLARE KUNTZ, JENNA K. KUNTZ, JON KUZEL, WENDY LAKODUK, DAVE LANG, HELEN D. LEE, CINDY LEE, HEIDI

LEE, JESSICA LEIER, KATIE LEINGANG, SARAH M. LETZ, BRENDA LEWIS, MARLON LEWIS, SUZANNE LI. CHAN LINCOLN, OPAL LINDBO, LEN LINDERMAN, JAMES LINDVIG, STEVEN LINK, GREG LITTLE, LEE LITTLE OWL, LOIS LITTLE SOLDIER, COBY LONE BEAR, BEVERLY LOOKIN' GOOD HAIR **DESIGN INC** LOTHSPEICH, ROGER LOUIS, DEAN LOWRY, TIMOTHY LUBKEN, SARAH LUCKY, DALE M. LUFF, KAYLA LUITHLE, LENARD LUTZ, BRADLEY J. LUZ TRAXLER, MARIA MAAS, CLIFTON MAAS, DALLAS J MAGANA, ARTURO MAGER, JAY MAHTO, WAYNE MAIER, JESSE MAIXNER, BEN MANER, ALFORD MANHATTAN OIL INC. MARKEL, SHIELA MARQUETTE, GRETCHEN MARSCHNER, TODD MARSHALL, MANDY MARTIN, KAYLENE MARTINA, JAN MARTWICK, TIMOTHY MASSIE, NANCY H. MATTHEWS, RICHARD MCALLISTER, G.R. MCCONNELL, ERVIN W. MCCULLEY, BRIAN MCGILL CONTRACTING MCGINNIS, PATRICK MCGLYNN, JAMES J. MCGOWAN, MATT MCGOWAN, REBECCA MCILVAIN, COREY MCKEOWN, LONNY MCKINNEY, ART

MCMILLIAN, WAYNE MEDLAR, NOAH MEIDINGER, TRENT MEIER, TODD G. MELGOZA, MIGUEL MERKEL, TERRI MESSER, ALBERT J. MESSER, BLAKE MESSER, JEREMY J. MESSER, RAY MESSER, SHERI METTLER, SAMUEL MEYER, PATRICK MEYER, TOM MICHELS, SHIRLEY MICKELSON, AMY MILES, ANGÉLA MILLER, CASEY MILLER, DON E. MILLER, JOSHUA MILLER, KERRY W. MILLER, ROGER MITCHELL, ERIN MITCHELL, MADELYN MITCHELL, RORY MOBERG, RANDY G. MOE, TAMMY J. MOE, TOM MONROE, CHASITY MONSTAKAKIS, BILL MOON, COURTNEY MORTÉNSON, GORLYN D. MOSBRUCKER, JAN MOSIER, TOM H MOUNTAIN VIEW FARMS MUELLER, DANIEL MUELLER, SHERRY MULUMUDI, MAHESH MURPHY, MITCHELL F. MYERS, RICK J. MYRAN, KENNETH NALCO, CHAMPION NALCO COMPANY LLC NANNENGA, KELLY NARVESON, SHELDON NATIONAL OILWELL VARCO - BRANDT NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NELSON, MITCH NELSON, RYAN NELSON, STEVE NELSON, SUSAN J. NEMECEK, JASON NETTUM, BONNIE NEUROHR, HAROLD

MCLAUGHLIN, CASEY

JUNDT, MICHAEL J.

K&S ENTERPRISES INC. DBA

LEE, JEREMY M.

ROUGHRIDER

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



NEUSTEL KENT NEUTGENS, CHANDRA NEWBURY, JENNIFER NEWMAN, SUSAN NGUYEN, QUOC NOEL, JESSE NORTH STAR ANGUS RANCH NORTHERN ENERGY CORPORATION NORTHRUP, CHRIS NOVOTNY, DEAN OBERLANDER, JENNIFER O'BRIEN, DONOVAN O'CONNOR, TONI ODNEAL, JOSEPH A. OLANDER, BRIAN OLHEISER, AMY S. OLHEISER, KELLY OLHEISER, VAUNDA OLHEISER MASONRY INC. OLSEN, KELLY OLSON, KANDI OLSON, MEL OLSON, SARA OLSSON, LEILA OPITZ, TYLER OPPEGARD, AMBER OPPEGARD, MICHAEL ORDAHL, SHAUNA ORGAARD, MARTIN ORTMEIER, AMANDA O'SHEA, MERLE OSTERHOUT, JACK OTT, DAVE OUKROP, MARY L. OYUGI, DENIS P&P PROPERTIES INC. PALASMA, JEFFREY S. PALMER, CHARICE PARAMOUNT DRILLING U.S. LLC PARSON, NICK PAVLICEK, KELCEE PAXTON, KARLA J. PEARSON-HEPP, TAMMY PEREZ, JOHNNY PERRY, TIMOTHY PETERS, JEFF PETERSON, RAYMOND PETERSON, SCOTT PETERSON, TABATHA PETROFF, ROXANNE PHINNEY, KIRK POIKUS, RALPH POITRA, SUSAN M. POLENSKY, JANEL PONTOW, GLENN D. POTTER, STEPHEN J. PRAUS, JAMES M. PRESCOTT, PHILLIP PRESLICKÁ, RUBY PRIC.E JOEY PRINGLE, BRENT PRIVRATSKY, GARY PROPST, CASSIE PUPPE, MARIA QUACKENBUSH, SHELLY QUANBECK, MARK QUEENVIEW CONDO ASS'N. QUIGLEY-ROTH, MELISSA RAGAINS, TIM RAMBERG, BRIAN RAMBUR, DANIELLE RAMOS, DAWN RANDALL, PHIL N. RANGITSCH, DONNA RASMUSSEN, ROBERT

RAUSER, KARLA A.

REBSOM, KEN **RED IRON PUMPING &** SUPPLY INC. RED MAN PIPE & SUPPLY RED RIVER ELECTRIC REED, SAVANNAH REINER, AMBER REINHARDT, DUANE T. REISS, MELISSA RENDELL, JOHN D. RESSLER, DARYL RETTERATH, CORNELLIA REYNOLDS, BRYAN RICHARDSON, GARY RICHTE, ERIC RICK, JAMES JR. RIDL, DAWN M. RIVERO, SERGIO ROBERSON, LISA ROBERSON-KITZMAN, DAYNA ROBERTS, SHANE A. ROBSON, GARETT RODRIGUEZ, OSCAR RODS HOT OIL SERVICE INC. ROLFSON, JESSIE ROMANYSHYN, RAINALD ROMO, LARAE ROSS INDUSTRIES ROSTVOLD, RYAN ROYAL, ARLIE L. RUNGE, RUSSELL W. RUSK, KELLEY RYAN, MITCHELL RYDEN, MARY L. S&S INSTALLERS SABROSKY, TRAVIS SACKMAN, JONATHEN L. SADLER, TERILEE SAFFORD, LYNN SAFRATOWICH, LANA SAGE, TOM SAILER, CURTIS SAILER, GAIL SAILER, MIKE SAILER, SIDNEY SAINT, CYR JOY SANCHEZ, KELLY SAND, JACLYN SAND. REBECCA L. SANNES, MICHAEL S. SANTROCK, TINA SARGENT, LANETTE SASSE, BONITA SCHAEFFER, CARLA SCHANTZ, CHRIS SCHANTZ, DOUG SCHANTZ, TAURA SCHERBINSKE, HERB SCHICK, SHEILA SCHLENDER, MYRON SCHMIDT, DOUGLAS J. SCHMIDT, STEPHANIE SCHMITZ, CINDI SCHNAIBLE, T.J. SCHNEIDER, JOE SCHNEIDER, MICHAEL J. SCHNEIDER, RYAN J. SCHOEDER, DEAN SCHOLLETT, ANDREW SCHOLLMEYER, CLARENCE SCHONERT, WAYNE SCHROEDER, DAVE SCHULZ, CODY SCHUMACHER, BRENDA SCHWAB, BRANDI

SCHWAB, ROGER

SCHWALBE, DALE E.

SCHWARZ, DONALD SCHWARZBAUER, GINA SCOTT. JODI SEABERRY, ROBERT SEAGO, JONATHAN B. SEBASTIAN, KEN SELE, DOUG SEMERAD, JUSTIN SHAW, KENNETH SHEA, MARY E. SHEAR, MELISSA SHIPMAN, DAVID SHIREK, MICHAEL R. SICKLER, HOWARD SIEGLER, AMANDA SIMNIONIW, KAYLA SIMONS, BEN A. SITTER, RAYMOND F. SJOMELING, CHRIS SLAUBAUGH, BRENT SLINDE, JESSIE SMARSH, JEFF SMITH, ANNA SMITH, DENISE A. SMITH, GARRY SMITH, JOAN F. SMITH, MACK SMITH, RICK SMITH, TOM T. SNOW, HEATHER C. SNOW, WILFRED C. SNYDER, JEREMY SOLBERG, TIM SOLEM, TODD SOMMER, MIKE SONDROL, CLYDE SOUTHWEST SPEEDWAY SOYK, RICHARD SPLICHAL, KATIE M.

STAFFORD, SHANNON STAGL, PERRY STAGL, STEVEN H. STARMED HEALTH PERSONNEL STEARNS, CARA STECKLER, JASON STEFFAN, DARLENE STEFFEN, GLENN STEFFES, BRAD STEIN. SHARI STEINBEISSER, CRYSTAL STEINER, DOUGLAS B. STEINER, GERALD L STENDER, JANE STEWART, JOANNA STEYER, LOREN STICKA, TAMMY STICKA, TOM STOCKDILL. GARLAND STOCKERT, MARIA STOCKIE, RUSSELL L STOLTZ FD STONE, MAVIS STONE, VIVIAN STRAND, CURTIS STRAND, SARAH STRAUB, CHERYLL STREIFEL, TRUST STROH, AUBREY STRUBE, ERNEST STVERAK, GEORGE

Names H-S are included on this list, and additional names will appear in the next issue of the local pages of North Dakota Living.

What are capital credits?

Roughrider Electric Cooperative is a nonprofit business. We exist only to provide goods and services to you, our members, not to make a profit for a shareholder or investor. Cooperatives are operated to provide at-cost electric service to their members. When all the expenses are paid, the cooperative's margins are credited to you in the form of capital credits.

As the financial condition of your cooperative allows, you are paid these capital credits. In the meantime, your capital credits are your equity in the cooperative.

Refunds are allocated based on the amount of business a member does with the cooperative – the more electricity used, the larger the capital credit check. If you have questions about your capital credits or would like a more detailed explanation, contact Roughrider Electric at 800-748-5533.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Safety Starts with me: Down and dangerous

If you see a downed power line, always assume it is energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it or anything in contact with the power line.

If you are in an accident with a utility pole, your vehicle may be charged with electricity. If this is the case and you step out of the car, you will become the electricity's path to the ground and could be electrocuted. Loose wires and other equipment may be in contact with your car or near it, creating a risk for electrocution if you leave the vehicle.

"While downed lines can sometimes reveal they are live by arcing and sparking with electricity, this is not always the case. Power lines do not always show signs that they are live, but they are just as lethal," said Kayden Ficek, a Roughrider Electric Cooperative lineworker.

After an accident, stay in the car and tell others to do the same. If you come upon an accident or see downed power lines, do not approach the accident scene. If you see someone approaching, warn them to stay away, as a downed power line energizes the ground up to 35 feet away. Call 911 to notify emergency personnel and utility services. Do not leave your vehicle until a utility professional has told you it is safe to do so.

If you're in an accident, the safest place to be is almost always inside the car. The only circumstance when you should exit the vehicle is if it is on fire, and those instances are rare. If



you must exit the vehicle, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Continue to "bunny hop" with your feet together to safety. Doing this will ensure you are at only one point of contact and will not have different strengths of electric current running from one foot to another, which can be deadly.

If Ficek could give members one piece of advice it would be, "Always stay away from downed power lines, as they can be very dangerous."



Your Touchstone Energy*Cooperative



You've likely heard or read that most automakers are transitioning many or all of their new vehicles to electric-only models over the next 10 years. Regardless of the type of car you drive today, the electrification of the transportation sector is underway.

As we receive inquiries about electric vehicles from Roughrider Electric Cooperative members, we thought it would be helpful to respond to some of those frequently asked questions in this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.

Q: Why is Roughrider Electric communicating about electric vehicles?

A: It's no secret that consumer interest in electric vehicles (EVs) is growing. It is estimated that approximately 80% of electric vehicle owners will charge overnight at home. Roughrider Electric is providing information about EVs so our members can make informed decisions when considering an EV purchase and charging options.

Q: Can I charge my EV using an existing outlet or do I need a special outlet?

A: All EVs come with a 110-volt-compatible (Level 1) charging unit, which can be plugged into any standard household outlet. For an eight-hour overnight charge, this will enable traveling 36 to 40 miles a day. If you typically drive longer distances or are in a hurry, 240 volt, Level 2 charger takes about half the time and provides about 180 miles of range over an eight-hour charging period. A Level 2 charger should be installed by a licensed electrician. Be aware that an upgrade may be required for your homes electrical service and also your Roughrider service.

Q: Does the outside temperature affect the range of an EV?

A: If you plan to purchase an EV, it is time to have a conversation with your electric cooperative. As more Roughrider Electric members look to buy EVs, it's helpful to know where they're located in our area so we can plan and respond to meet charging needs.

Q: Should I let my co-op know if I plan to purchase an EV?

A: If you plan to purchase an EV, please let us know so we can better serve you.

As more members look to purchase an EV, Roughrider Electric must ensure we have the necessary electric infrastructure in place to meet future EV charging needs, without jeopardizing the ability to keep reliable power flowing to our local homes and businesses.

As your local energy provider, Roughrider Electric is best suited to advise and help our members and local businesses plan for the electric vehicle future.

Please reach out to Roughrider Electric before purchasing a charger, as it could have a large impact on your electric bill and may not be supported the current size of your electrical service provided by by Roughrider Electric Cooperative.





Board meeting highlights

When, where and who: The board of directors of Roughrider Electric Cooperative met at Roughrider's Hazen office on April 28.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The board reviewed and approved the minutes of the March 31 meeting.

Co-general managers' report: Travis Kupper and Jason Bentz presented the co-general managers' report.

WDUS/3C updates: A March report was presented to the board from WDUS and subsidiaries.

Board member reports: Attendees at the meetings over the past month reported to the board.

CFO report: Alex Craigmile reported about the March financial reports.

Operations report: Shawn Olson provided the board with an update.

Member services/key account report: Leonard Hibl provided the board with an update on his written report.

Legal report: Jennifer Grosz provided the board with an update on the status of projects addressed in her written report. ■

