

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President Stacy Blawat
Vice President..... Peter Mosbeck
Secretary-Treasurer Mark Hanson
Directors Cecil Anderson,
Aaron Chervestad, Bonnie Christians,
Colette Kujava, Steve Linder, Randy Versdahl
Stephanie Johnson General Manager
Steve Conely Manager of Electric System Operations
Kelli Brateng. Manager of Member Services

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (218) 253-2168
Toll-Free: 1-800-245-6068
Fax: (218) 253-2630



AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE CALLS (218) 253-2200

Website: www.redlakeelectric.com
Email: info@redlakeelectric.com

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
1-800-252-1166 or 811

MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

Pennington and Marshall Counties:
Ronald Ditsch – 218-779-6758

Red Lake and Polk Counties:
George Stage – 701-306-3511

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. Please visit www.dli.mn.gov for more information. The inspectors can be reached weekday mornings between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by safely and consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.



Working with Local Legislators

by Stephanie Johnson

“All politics is local.” This observation by the late Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr., former Speaker of the House of Representatives, means that even national politics have a local impact, and people care most about issues that directly affect them. Indirectly, this famous adage underscores the importance and value of local politics.

At Red Lake Electric Cooperative, we think it's critical to develop and cultivate relationships with local legislators because they craft, introduce and vote on legislation that impacts the local business climate, the environment and quality of life for our community. That's why we work closely with our local elected officials. After all, our purpose is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy, but our mission is to help our (30006 Wade Selvig) community thrive.

Red Lake Electric is a local business that powers economic development and prosperity for our region. As a cooperative, we have deep roots here, and we listen closely to our members to better understand the needs of the community. Our leadership, board members and employees live and work right here in the community we serve.

We strive to be an advocate for our community, ensuring that local legislators know, understand and act on the issues that are important to our area.

Providing industry guidance and expertise

As a practical matter, we recognize that most legislators are “generalists,” yet they vote on a wide range of issues. Their expertise may not include

the changing energy industry, which is why Red Lake Electric provides guidance and expertise from subject matter experts who've been in the energy industry for many years.

Today's energy landscape is an increasingly complex topic covering not only the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the industry, but also encompasses technology, cybersecurity, the electrification of the transportation sector and more.

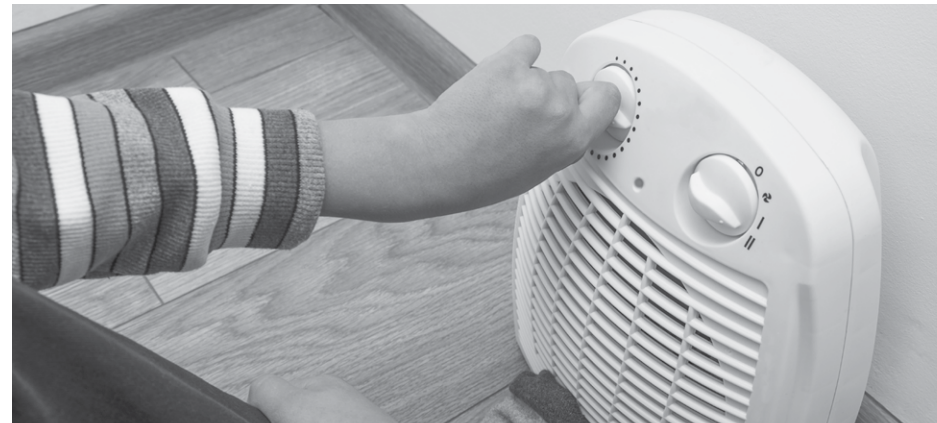
Our experts provide briefings and backgrounders to legislators, committees and staff, and we offer expert testimony for hearings and other legislative or regulatory meetings or gatherings. And because we're involved in economic development and we know local community leaders, we can provide insight on how issues and policies under discussion might impact our region.

Representing your best interests

We strive to be a trusted resource on energy issues. Because of our deep roots in the community, we have a firm understanding of local issues and needs. We will continue looking after the long-term interests of our consumer-members. This means we are able to cultivate and foster positive, productive relationships with legislators who know and trust us, because we're advocating on behalf of the community we serve.

We're proud to power your life and bring good things to the community. We hope you'll continue to advise Red Lake Electric on matters of importance so we can continue to advocate on your behalf and improve the quality of life for all.

Are portable space heaters efficient for my home?



Small space heaters are meant to do exactly as their name says: heat a small space. But unfortunately, many people use portable space heaters to heat their entire home, which can really take a toll on your energy bills. The truth is, whether you should use space heaters really depends on your home's efficiency and energy needs.

If you're using a space heater to compensate for problems in your home, like inadequate insulation, drafty windows and exterior doors, or an inefficient heating system, space heaters are not a practical solution. Your best bet is to improve the overall efficiency of your home. If you're on a tight budget, caulking and weather stripping around windows and exterior doors is a low-cost, easy way to save energy. Depending on the size of your home, adding insulation can be a great next step. Loose fill insulation typically costs \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot. Taking these proactive energy-saving measures rather than relying on space heaters for supplemental warmth can reduce your heating and cooling bills for years to come.

Perhaps your (30709 Daniel M Christenson) home is energy efficient but you're cold-natured and want a specific room to be cozier than the rest. In this case, a space heater may work for your needs. A good comparison is ceiling fans; we use ceiling fans in the summer to cool people, not rooms. A space heater can be used in a similar way during winter months. Only use a space heater in small spaces that you're occupying and, if possible, try to shut off other rooms

to contain the warmth provided by the space heater. If you decide to use a space heater to heat a small area in your home, make sure the heater is properly sized for the space; most heaters include a general sizing table.

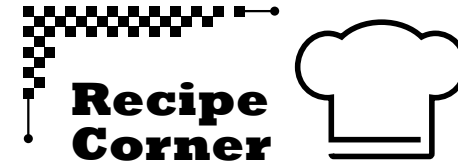
A word about safety: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates more than 25,000 residential fires are associated with the use of space heaters every year, resulting in more than 300 deaths. If you must use a space heater, purchase a newer model that includes the most current safety features and make sure it carries the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label. Choose a thermostatically controlled heater to avoid energy waste and overheating, and place the heater on a level surface away from foot traffic when in use. Always keep children and pets away from space heaters.

Consider alternative ways to stay warm like extra (24008 Brian Wellman) layers of clothing or UL-approved electric blankets. If you have hardwood or tile floors, lay down area rugs to provide additional insulation (and appeal!) and maintain warmth.

We know it's cold out there, but remember in addition to safety concerns, space heaters can greatly increase your energy bills if used improperly.

If you're looking for alternative ways to save energy and increase comfort in your home, contact Red Lake Electric at 218-253-2168. We're here to help you manage your energy use.

Source: NRECA Straight Talk



Submit your recipes to be published in *Volts & Jolts*. Email to info@redlakeelectric.com or mail to: Red Lake Electric Cooperative, PO Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750-0430.

Red Velvet Sour Cream Bundt Cake

Instructions:

Red Velvet Sour Cream Cake:

- 1 box Red Velvet cake mix
- 1 pkg. vanilla or white chocolate instant pudding
- 4 eggs
- 2/3 C. oil
- 1 C. Tillamook sour cream
- 1/2 C. milk or buttermilk
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract (optional)

Chocolate Glaze:

- 1/3 C. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 C. powdered sugar (more if needed)
- 3 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 2-4 Tbsp. milk

Vanilla Glaze:

- 1 2/3 C. powdered sugar (more if needed)
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- 2-4 Tbsp. milk

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and generously grease Bundt pan.
2. Sift cake mix into a large bowl.
3. Add pudding mix, eggs, oil, sour cream, milk and vanilla and stir until smooth.
4. Pour into Bundt pan, spread out evenly and bake for 45-55 minutes or until an inserted knife comes out clean.
5. Make each glaze in a separate bowl using a whisk to combine ingredients. Use more or less milk or powdered sugar to make thicker or thinner. Pour over cooled Bundt cake (Tip: put each glaze in a plastic bag, snip off the corner and drizzle it on).
6. Share the love!

Know the difference between the three categories of electricity generation resources

Red Lake Electric Cooperative uses a diverse mix of coal, wind and hydro power to ensure your 24/7 electricity needs are met. Electricity is a unique product because it operates in a near-instantaneous manner. It is generated, delivered to you and consumed in almost the (31567 Kailin M Radeke) same moment in time. While electricity storage technologies are in development, the vast majority of the electricity used across the country cannot currently be stored due to physical and economic constraints. Therefore, continuous electricity generation is required every second of every day.

But that doesn't mean all generation resources operate in the same fashion. There are three basic types of generation resources – baseload, peaking and intermittent – each of which bring different attributes to the grid. Learn more below about the operating characteristics for each resource.



BASELOAD

Baseload resources provide reliability and stability to the electric grid because they are designed to operate in a continuous manner during the vast majority of hours each year. Their dependable and predictable operation ensures power will be available when needed. The primary baseload resources on the U.S. electric grid are coal, natural gas and nuclear. Coal remains the most reliable and resilient resource in Red Lake Electric Cooperative's portfolio.



PEAKING

Peaking generation resources typically only operate when electrical demand is high (or "peaking"). These power plants are typically fueled by natural gas, diesel or biofuels and are designed to run a small percentage of the time each year. Peaking plants are able to ramp generation up and down more (20393 Jason E Peterson) quickly than baseload resources, but have a much higher per kilowatt-hour cost of production because they are only used occasionally.



INTERMITTENT

Intermittent resources – like wind and solar – provide power to the grid on a variable basis. If the wind isn't blowing or the sun isn't shining, these resources are not able to produce electricity. Because electricity storage is still limited at grid scale, baseload and peaking resources are required to fill in the gap to ensure reliable electric service can be maintained. Production from wind and solar can be severely limited during extreme weather events, like a polar vortex, when communities need reliable electricity the most.

COLD-CLIMATE HEAT PUMPS

Your perfect winter accessory

Have you heard the old rumor that air-source heat pumps just can't keep up with the extreme cold in our neck of the woods? Times have changed, my friend – cold-climate heat pumps (CCHPs) are now the hot-ticket item for every Minnesota home.

CCHPs take the design of an air-source heat pump and kick it up a notch. They integrate a variable speed drive compressor into the technology, keeping CCHPs highly efficient even when the thermometer hits zero. In fact, they've been given higher Heating Season Performance Factor (HSPF) ratings than standard air-source heat pumps.

JUST HOW EFFICIENT ARE CCHPS?

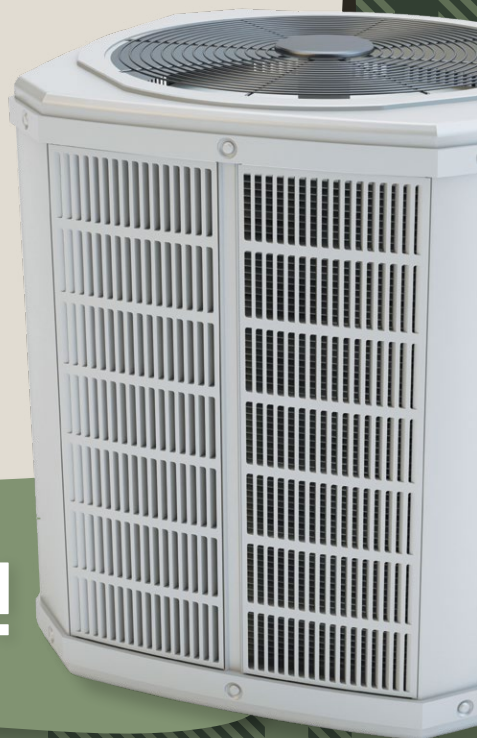
- When temperatures drop to below 47 degrees, CCHPs can run at 400% efficiency.
- At zero degrees, they still perform at 200% efficiency.
- Some companies even say their models remain efficient at as low as 20 below zero.
- Research has shown that CCHPs have been able to supply 90% of a home's heating needs with a 250% overall seasonal efficiency. That's pretty great, and it will save you a lot of money – especially with the volatile pricing of propane and natural gas these days.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative also offers a huge rebate and a reduced electric rate if you install your CCHP on the off-peak program. All you have to do is include a backup fuel source for (24003 Dave W Frederick) the times when electric demand peaks – usually around 100-150 hours a year.

The added bonus of a CCHP is, like a standard air-source heat pump, the unit also provides your home cooling in the summer. The process is the same whatever the season. The heat pump pulls heat out of the outside air and pushes it inside in the winter, and pulls heat out of your home and expels it outside in the summer. Your house remains consistently comfortable during any wild Midwest temperature swings.

Contact Red Lake Electric Cooperative today to learn how you can save big and stay warm with a cold-climate heat pump!

UP TO \$2,500 IN REBATES!





The Power of SmartHub

Use SmartHub on a desktop or mobile app to:

- Pay your bill
- View energy usage
- Compare usage
- Manage account settings

New to the SmartHub mobile app:

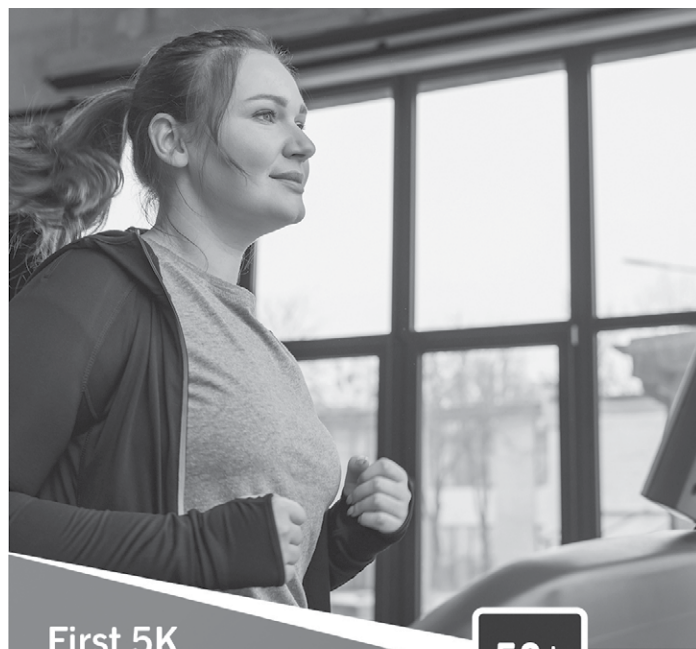
- Manage paperless billing settings
- Add additional service providers for multiple accounts



The SmartHub mobile app gives you even more control over your electric account right from your smartphone (29555 Nicholas Swanson) or tablet. Choosing paperless billing is now even easier, with the option to discontinue your printed bill through the app's settings menu.

To get started:

- Visit www.redlakeelectric.com and click on the SmartHub logo on the homepage.
- Enter your RLEC account number, last name and email address to create your SmartHub account.
- You will receive an email to finalize your registration.
- Complete your registration and download the SmartHub mobile app for total control over your electric account.



First 5K without slowing?

You just ran your first 5K without stopping – in the middle of winter. The 2021 time spent on your treadmill paid off in this 30-minute victory.

It's a powerful experience, powered by just 50 cents of energy.

That's the value of electricity.

50¢



NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Red Lake Falls, as an operating electric utility in the state of Minnesota, is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from co-generators and small power producers.

The cooperative will provide information relating to the said interconnections to all interested member-consumers of the cooperative free of charge upon request.

Any disputes between the cooperative and its member-consumers over interconnection, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Red Lake Electric Board of Directors.

NOTICE OF NAMES

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of *Volts & Jolts* are the names and account numbers of some Red Lake Electric Cooperative members. They will appear within the articles in parentheses as such (9999999.99 Willie Ray Member). If you find your name and account number, clip it out and send it with your next payment. You will be credited with \$5 on your electric bill.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative Director qualification requirements

No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director who:

- Is not a member of the Cooperative, receiving electric service at the member's primary residence in the district from which the director is elected.
- Within three years preceding a director candidate's nomination was an employee of the Cooperative.
- Is or becomes, or at any time during the three (3) years preceding a director candidate's nomination shall have been employed by a labor union, which represents or has represented, or has endeavored to represent any employees of the Cooperative.
- Is a parent, spouse or cohabitant of any employee of the Cooperative.
- Is a person who is a parent, spouse, or cohabitant of an incumbent director who is not up for re-election at that time.
- Is in any way employed by or substantially financially interested in an enterprise competing with the Cooperative or any Cooperative-affiliated business.
- Is or becomes the full-time employee or agent of, or who is or becomes the full-time employer or principal of, another director.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Director nomination and election procedure

The procedure for which directors can be nominated and elected for Red Lake Electric Cooperative is outlined in Article II, Section 10, of the Cooperative's Bylaws. That section reads as follows:

SECTION 10. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

(a) Nomination at District Meetings. Not less than forty days nor more than sixty days before any meeting at which directors are to be elected, the board of directors shall call a separate meeting of the members of each district from which directors are to be elected, at a suitable place in such district for the purpose of selecting a candidate for director to represent the members located within such district. The notice of such meeting shall be delivered to each member located in such district as provided in Section 2 of this Article and shall indicate the district to which such member belongs. The notice shall state that nominations for a director are to be made at the meeting. The district meeting shall be called to order by the director representing the district or by another designated representative of the board of directors, or in his absence, by any members residing in the district. The members shall then proceed to elect a chairman, who shall be someone other than a director, and who shall appoint a secretary to act for the duration of the meeting. Members of other districts present at the meeting may be heard, but shall have no vote. Nominations for candidates for director shall be made from the floor at the meeting, and any member residing in the district shall have the right to nominate one candidate. The meeting shall remain open for nominations until no further nominations are forthcoming.

Candidates must be members residing in the district and must possess the qualifications for director specified in Section 2 of Article III of these bylaws. Voting shall be by ballot and proxy voting shall not be permitted at any district meeting. Each member may vote for one candidate. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the official candidate of the district. In case of a tie, the winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin. The minutes of the district meeting shall set forth, among other matter, the name of each person nominated at the meeting and the number of votes received by each and shall specify the official candidate of the district. A certified copy of the minutes signed by the Secretary and the Chairman of the district meeting shall be delivered to the secretary of the Cooperative at the following meeting of the board.

(b) Nomination of Directors by Petition. Nomination for director can also be made by petition. Fifteen (15) or more members may make a nomination in writing to the Secretary over their signatures not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. This petition nomination must be in the format prescribed by the Secretary. Blank nomination petitions shall be available to all members at the Cooperative office. All petition nominees shall be listed in the notice of annual meeting and their names shall be printed on the election ballot.

(c) Election of Directors. At the annual meeting, the Secretary of the Cooperative shall place in nomination the names of the official candidates of each district. Election of directors shall be by printed ballot, separate ballots to be provided for each district, listing the candidates in alphabetical order. Only members of a district shall be entitled to vote for director to be elected from that district, and each member or member's spouse shall be entitled to vote for one candidate from the district in which he is a member. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes at this meeting shall be declared elected as director. In the case of a tie vote, the winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any election of directors.

(d) Voting by Mail for Directors. The members shall be entitled to vote by mail for directors at annual and special meetings as provided in this section. Each member shall be mailed a director election ballot in the form prescribed by the Board of Directors with the notice of the annual or special meeting. A member who will be absent from the meeting may vote by mail for directors by marking the ballot for the candidate of the member's choice. The member shall return the ballot personally or by mail to the Cooperative in a sealed plain envelope inside another envelope bearing the member's name. If the ballot of the member is received by the Cooperative on or before the date of the annual or special meeting, the ballot shall be accepted and counted as the vote of the absent member.



Rebates?
Check!



Energy efficiency tips?
Got 'em!



Smart gadgets?
You bet!

Our lives become more electrified every day – and you have the power to harness the value of this clean, safe, 24/7 resource. Your cooperative's refreshed **Value of Electricity website** will show you all the ways you can use electricity more effectively to add convenience, intelligence and savings to your home.

Visit the site for:

- Rebates/incentives specific to your cooperative or municipal utility
- Advice for the most efficient use of energy in your home
- Steps to “go electric” in every area of your life
- Local, firsthand stories from those who have captured the Value of Electricity
- Benefits of installing electric heating, water heaters, car chargers and more!



**VALUE OF
ELECTRICITY**

Check it all out at
valueofelectricity.com