

Live Lines

Woodbury County Rural Electric Cooperative

October 2010

DO "THE TWIST" AND SAVE

Woodbury County REC members may participate in the "Change A Light - Change the World" program with special pricing on CFL bulbs.

Did you know you typically spend more lighting your home than operating your refrigerator annually? If you're using standard light bulbs and inefficient fixtures, you're wasting energy and money. Switching to energy-efficient lighting can save you time, energy and money – and help protect the environment. Make your next light bulb an ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulb.

Replacing the five most frequently used light bulbs in your home with ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs, can save approximately \$35 in annual energy costs.

The season is changing, did you remember to replace your furnace filter?



CHANGE FOR THE BETTER WITH ENERGY STAR

Savings With A Twist

ENERGY STAR®

Special pricing is available for a limited time on ENERGY STAR Qualified Light Bulbs.



Light up your life - for less!

Visit a participating retailer near you and stock up on money-saving, energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) for a special price. ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs:

- Use up to 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent light bulbs.
- Last up to 10 times longer and
- Save on average \$30* or more in energy costs over its life.

For more information or a complete list of participating retailers, visit www.iowachangealight.com or call (800)339-6856 or (800)469-3125.

This offer is good for Woodbury County REC members from October 1st thru December 31st with a limit of 12 bulbs per member at the special price.

*Savings vary with usage and rates.

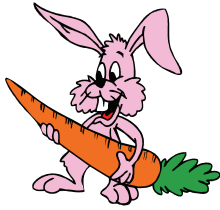
A Difficult Dig-in Summer

This past summer was an especially difficult one as far as underground dig-ins goes. The majority of the dig-ins were because a contractor, or member, was doing work and either did not call for a locate or dug in a spot not indicated on the locate information.

These preventable types of outages are costly for the REC not to mention the inconvenience to the members involved. With fall here, and the rush to get those last minute digging jobs being done before the ground freezes, make sure to call "Iowa One Call" at 800-292-8989 or 811. All utility owned underground facilities will be located at no cost.



The Recipe Corner



Spiced Carrots Polynesian

- 6 medium carrots, sliced
- 2 small onions, thinly sliced
- 2 T. melted butter
- 1/2 C. pineapple or orange juice
- 2 T. light brown sugar
- 2 T. parsley
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- Salt and pepper to taste

Place carrots in pan with melted butter, onions, fruit juice, sugar and seasoning. Cover tightly and simmer on very low temperature for 30 minutes or until done.

Although a challenge, stable rates projected for 2011

Although it may be a challenge, electric rates to the members of Woodbury County REC are projected to be stable in 2011.

One challenge is coming about because the cost of wholesale electric power from both of the RECs suppliers, Basin Electric and the Western Area Power Administration, is going to be increasing in January 2011.

An equally difficult challenge is what is going to happen on the federal energy legislation front. There have been many versions of energy bills in Congress in the last year but none of them have gotten the votes needed to pass. But that does not mean that the issue has gone away.

At this time, beginning on January 1st., the Environmental Protection Agency is set to begin regulating carbon under the Clean Air Act. If that action does come to pass, it will mean higher electricity prices, especially in Iowa and in other Midwestern states.

Whether you believe carbon should be regulated or not and whether climate change is real or not, one area of agreement seems to be that everybody believes it is a bad idea to try to regulate carbon under the Clean Air Act. More often than not, both sides will say it's likely to be what one democratic congressman termed a "glorious mess."

This is a serious deal, and all of us need to pay close attention to this issue.

2010-2011 Iowa Home Energy Assistance Program

ATTENTION RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS - NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2010-2011 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing. If you are not sure where to apply, please write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Capital Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

or, call your local community action agency.

WHEN TO APPLY:

Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:
October 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011
All other households:
November 1 2010 to April 30, 2011

WHAT TO TAKE:

Proof of Income (for all household members age 19, and over)
Most recent 3 months' check stubs, award letter from Social Security or 2009 tax return.
Social Security numbers for all household members (documentation required)
Recent heat bill
Recent electric bill
Recent telephone bill

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the three-month period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your most recent 3 months' check stubs.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIP RECIPIENTS:

Please bring your current DHS Notice of Decision or contact your local office for acceptable document information.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified.

INCOME MAXIMUMS		
Household Size	Three Month Gross Income	Annual Gross Income
1	\$ 4,061	\$16,245
2	\$ 5,464	\$21,855
3	\$ 6,866	\$27,465
4	\$ 8,269	\$33,075
5	\$ 9,671	\$38,685
6	\$11,074	\$44,295

For households with more than six members, add \$1,403 per three months, or \$5,610 annually for each additional member.