

Sun River Electric Cooperative

Ripples

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516

Web site: www.sunriverelectric.coop

After Hours & Weekend Dispatch:
406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

If calling from a local number or cell phone –
please use: 467-2526 or 467-2527

Be sure to check your breakers before reporting outages.

JANUARY 2017

By Scott Odegard, General Manager

No Rate Increase for 2017

I am very pleased to inform you that the Sun River Board of Trustees has reviewed the cooperative's strategic plan and budget for 2017, and has decided to "hold the line" on rates for the coming year. This is made possible, in part, by a quarter-cent per kilowatt hour decrease in our wholesale rate. This decrease offsets some increase in operations and maintenance expenses that we anticipate will occur in 2017.

We will continue to fine tune our rates to ensure our rate structure better matches our true cost of providing service. This is a process we began last year with the addition of a \$1/kw demand charge for residential accounts. Last year we lowered the cost per kwh to offset the demand charge, which meant

that the average residential account saw no additional cost. We are doing essentially the same thing this year, increasing the demand charge to \$3/kw but correspondingly decreasing the energy cost a like amount. Once again, the average residential account will see no change in their total bill.

We are giving other rate classes similar treatment, that is, initiating or increasing that particular tariff's demand component, but at the same time reducing the energy component to keep the rate revenue neutral with the old rate. Of course, how you use electricity will also play a role in what your overall energy cost will be. 227885

As always, if you have questions please call me or drop by the office.

Energy Efficient Tip

Do you have a block heater to help warm up your vehicle on cold mornings? Plugging in your heater overnight will use far more electricity than needed — use a timer to start the block heater just a few hours before you need your vehicle.

Consider this, block heaters range between 400 and 1,500 watts, so we will use 950 watts for our example.

If your vehicle is plugged in from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. every day for a month, the SREC kwh charge is .083 cents (not including the demand charge).

So lets calculate:

*.083 x 12hrs/day x 30 days x 950 watts
= .95/day or \$28.39/month.*

Now let's calculate using a timer that come on at 3 a.m. and runs until 6 a.m. every day for a month.

*.83 x 3hrs/day x 30 days x 950 watts.
= .24/day or \$7.10/month.*

With this calculation you can save \$21.29/month by using a timer. If you use a timer, be sure and use one that is rated correctly and, if used outdoors, that it is outdoor safe approved.



Co-op Connections Card Corner

Spotlighting these businesses

Gary Kasper & Company, Inc.

Accounting/Financial Advising/Tax Preparation

FREE notary and FREE copying (Limited to 10 pages)

Stop in and let us assist you in your copying or notary needs. No charge for these services.

Fairfield, MT • 406-467-2410

Gary & Leo's Fresh Foods

Grocery Store

Gary & Leo's Fresh Foods is your local grocery store that offers all of your grocery needs. In addition, Gary & Leo's offers A&W Root Beer.

Business hours: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily
FREE ice cream cone w/purchase of a combo meal from A&W.

Conrad, MT • 406-278-7843

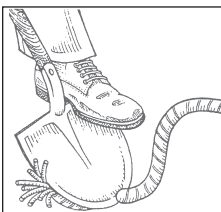
NAPA - K's Auto

Auto Parts Store

Five-percent discount on all items that are not special order.

Fairfield, MT • 406-467-3409

Show your card at these businesses for valuable discounts. Each month we will spotlight different businesses.



**Call 811
before
you dig**



Don't forget to stop by Sun River Electric Cooperative's booth at the MAGIE.

Thursday- Saturday • January 19-21, 2017

Montana ExpoPark, Great Falls

Stop by the office to get free tickets.

Swap Column

FOR SALE: Full-size metal futon frame, good condition, \$75; Lexmark X125, copy/print/fax/scan; king-size Select Comfort mattress, good condition, \$100; Kirby Generation 3 vacuum cleaner with attachments, needs new bag, free; mule saddle, new \$600; western saddle, \$900, can send pictures. Bobbie Bink, 264-5762.

FOR SALE: 5' x 2.5' skin-color steel bath tube, \$50; 6' metal watering trough, \$10; 5' metal salt or feed trough, \$5. Lyle Shannon, 467-2468.

FOR SALE: 40' x 50' TURN KEY home in sunny Ajo, Arizona, \$45,000. Shirley Haynes, (406)264-5774 or (520)387-3952.

FOR SALE: 2009 Jeep Commander Husqvarna chainsaw; radial tires 26x11-00R14-NHS, 4 ply; Tires P205/75R14 95T; Carhartt coat XL, assorted caps & beanies; Grizzly & Bobcat towels; Lewis & Clark

Expedition Jacket; oak bench with metal art, wagon wheel sides; 3' x 5' desk; leather couch with wall recliners; round 42' table; table with 6 chairs; oak queen-size bed; oak bar stools with back; end tables; entertainment center; office chair; TV stand; floor jewelry box. Cindy Hill, 463-2316 or 403-4343.

FOR SALE: Apollo welder; electric fence charger with posts & wire. Bob Bramlette, 733-2473.

FOR SALE: Older South Bend lathe, 24' x 72", \$500; hydraulic sausage stuffer, 60#, \$1,500; Farmall M, ran good when parked, \$1,250, (make offer). Ronald Ries, 278-3015 or 450-1017.

If you would like to place an advertisement in the Ripples Swap column, please contact Sun River Electric at 1-800-452-7516 or 467-2527, or email Kathy at kscott@sunriverelectric.coop by the first of the month.

Sun River Electric upgrades substation

Sun River Electric has completed a major upgrade to its South Conrad Substation. This substation provides power to several other substations in the north half of our service territory. The substation upgrade gives us a redundancy to existing facilities in case

of a catastrophic failure of equipment that may have caused an extended outage of several days down to a few hours. The substation improvements will also provide a loop feed to the distribution side of Pendroy Substation, giving us a capacity boost plus added reliability.



Trivia Question

How many people do electric cooperatives employ in the United States? A: 7,200 B: 72,000 C: 720,000

(Correct Answer is upside down on the bottom of this page)

Board of Trustees

Officers

John Burgmaier, President406-463-2522
Randy Parker, Vice President406-467-2974
Roberta Rohrer, Secretary/Treasurer.....406-278-5673

Trustees

Russ Bloom406-431-0168
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Leonard Sivumaki406-264-5482
Robert Pasha406-733-2028
Scott Odegard, Manager406-467-2527

Hidden numbers

If you find your account number hidden in this issue, it is worth a **\$50** credit on your next statement. There is one number hidden in every issue. Give us a call if you are the lucky consumer:

406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516

Reminder: Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee.

Pay as you go with **prePAY**
electricity from SREC.

It is easy! Call SREC to get started.



monitor. pay. alert. reload.

Answer to Trivia Question: 72,000