

Sun River Electric Cooperative

Ripples

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516

Website: 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.

DECEMBER 2018

Rates Set for 2019

The Sun River Board of Trustees has set rates for 2019. Over the past few years, our retail rate structure has evolved from a two-part rate (base and energy) to a three-part rate (base, energy and demand), and this gradual movement continues in 2019.

Effective January 1st, the residential rate demand charge will be increased from \$4 to \$5 per kilowatt, the energy charge will be decreased from 6.416 cents (combined distribution and purchased power) to 6.216 cents. The decrease in the energy charge almost

compensates for the increased demand charge. Also, the monthly base rate for residential accounts will be reduced from \$32 to \$31 per month. These changes will result in the average residential bill going up 3.29 percent, or about 14 cents per day.

Other rate classes were changed in a similar fashion, with the demand charge going up \$1 and a subsequent reduction in the energy charge. For the first time, irrigation accounts were included in this approach, with a \$1 per KW demand charge and a reduction in

the energy charge.

So why the (relatively slight) increase in rates? In the past few years we have been much more aggressive in returning our members' capital credits. In fact, we've returned almost \$3.3 million in the last five years alone. We think that is the right thing to do, and we've budgeted for sufficient margins that will allow us to do it.

As always, give me a call or stop by the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Scott Odegard

Scholarships • Scholarships • Scholarships

Sun River Electric Cooperative, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA) and Basin Electric Power Cooperative are offering several scholarships to students who live on the Sun River Electric system. 325242

Applications are available at SREC or your local school. Applicants are asked to include: GPA, ACT/SAT scores, community/school involvement, work history, letters of recommendation, personal statement and a short essay on the student's goals. MECA offers one \$500 scholarship in SREC's district, and Basin Electric will offer one \$1,000 scholarship systemwide. Sun River Electric offers 18 \$1,000 scholarships, two to each school in the SREC service territory. Sun River Electric will also offer a continuing

education scholarship for \$1,000 to students already in college and an electric lineworker scholarship for \$1,000 to those individuals interested in electric line work. The deadlines are as follows:

MECA — January 31, 2019

Basin Electric —
January 31, 2019

Sun River Electric —
April 5, 2019

SREC Continuing Education —
April 5, 2019

SREC Electric Lineworker —
April 5, 2019

If you have any questions, contact Ross at 467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516.





Sun River Electric Cooperative will be closed December 24 and 25, and January 1 in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

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

Swap Column

FOR SALE: John Deere A-tractor, \$2,500; 1974 Chevy 3/4 ton, 4x4 pickup with rebuilt heavy-duty flatbed \$1,000; 5-ton floor jack, \$300; Champion portable space heater, model 50148A \$350; arc welder, AC/DC heavy-duty welder, 250 amp DC, 295 amp AC with 120# welding rod, \$600; portable ice-auger \$150; portable air compressor, \$125; 8-ton long ram jack \$200. Norman Harris Estate. Contact Bill Harris, 264-5510.

FOR SALE: Wooden rocker in great condition, light color with rounded back, \$50 OBO; Coors K2 snowboard, new, call for

details. Lisa Bedord, 463-2475. **FOR SALE:** 6+ gallons Silver Dollar fibered aluminum roof coating, \$40. Mark Desoto, 466-3071.

FOR SALE: Grass/alfalfa hay, mainly grass, 60 round bales, 1,250 lbs per bale, \$95/ton. Dick Preputin, 788-1986.

FOR SALE: 2002 Oldsmobile Alero, V6, auto, air, 2 door, 180,000 miles, \$1,550. Rick or Charla Ferrin, 264-5566.

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



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

It is easy! Call SREC to get started.



monitor. pay. alert. reload.

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

Board of Trustees

Officers

John Burgmaier, President..... 406-463-2522
Randy Parker, Vice President..... 406-467-2974
Roberta Rohrer, Secretary/Treasurer ... 406-788-3960

Trustees

Russ Bloom..... 406-431-0168
Mitch Johnson..... 406-467-2109
Leonard Sivumaki..... 406-264-5482
Robert Pasha..... 406-733-2028
Scott Odegard, Manager..... 406-467-2527

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Purchasing electronic gifts this holiday season? Remember to purchase ENERGY STAR®-certified electronics and give the gift of energy efficiency. Visit **www.energystar.gov/productfinder** for a full list of efficient products.

Source: energystar.gov



**ALWAYS
CALL
BEFORE YOU
DIG**



SUN RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.