

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.

JANUARY 2021

Slight irrigation rate change coming in '21


By **LEONA HUIDEKOPER**
Manager of Finance and Administration

EVERY year, in October, the Sun River Electric Board of Directors holds a planning session in conjunction with the regular board meeting. This past October, the board reviewed an independently prepared cost-of-service study.

The purpose of this type of study is to determine if the co-op is meeting its overall revenue requirements (to maintain financial stability) and that the revenue from each rate class is meeting its cost to serve. The good news is the study showed that the rate structure for the residential class is exactly where it needs to be. The bad news is that irrigation rates are producing revenue below the cost to serve.

There is other good news though, and it's that our wholesale power costs will remain the same in 2021. So, after determining our operating and capital budget needs, the board approved the rates for this year, with minor changes only in the irrigation rates. All other rates will remain the same.

With the changes to the irrigation rates, the historic and budget irrigation rate classes were eliminated. Beginning this month, all irrigation accounts will be billed on a monthly basis on the electronic rates. In addition, the irrigation rates were adjusted slightly.

A letter detailing the changes was sent in early November to all members with irrigation accounts. If you did not receive this letter, please let us know and we will get a copy to you right away. 

2021
MAGIE

CANCELED
**SEE YOU
IN 2022**

Swap Column

FOR SALE: Katahdin Hair sheep,
3 year old ram, \$300. Ralph
Feeler, 467-2955.

HIDDEN NUMBER

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**

ALWAYS
CALL | BEFORE YOU
DIG



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MANAGER

Scott Odegard406-467-2527

ATTENTION IRRIGATORS:

SREC to offer irrigation rebate program

Sun River Electric Cooperative is offering a new program for the irrigation members on the SREC system. The program is being put in place to aid the members in getting the best performance out of their irrigation system by doing maintenance on the motors, pumps and sprinkler heads.

The **IRRIGATION ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM** will be a program that offers five-hundred dollar (\$500) rebates to members who install an upgrade maintenance package to their irrigation system with work provided by one of the area's irrigation companies. The program will be funded by applying Universal System Benefit Program (USBP) funds that are collected on the monthly billing statements by SREC. The total number of projects funded will be 50 per calendar year. Any requests received after the initial 50 will have to re-apply the next calendar year.

SREC is striving for system efficiency for both the cooperative and the member irrigator. The more efficient the system operates, the less electricity and water that is lost.

Application forms and information can be found at local irrigation companies. If you have any questions, please call Brad Bauman at SREC. 406-467-2526. RM

Use a timer on your block heater to save both energy and money

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 Sun River Electric Cooperative kilowatt hour charge is 5.6 cents (not including the demand charge).

So let's calculate: $.056 \times 12 \text{ hrs/day} \times 30 \text{ days} \times 950 \text{ watts} = \$67/\text{day}$ or $\$20.16/\text{month}$.

Now let's calculate using a timer that comes on at 3 a.m. and runs until 6 a.m. every day for a month. $.056 \times 3 \text{ hrs/day} \times 30 \text{ days} \times 950 \text{ watts} = \$17/\text{day}$ or $\$5.04/\text{month}$.

With this calculation you can save \$15.12 per 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. RM

FREE children's books for kids in the SREC service area

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a 60-volume set of books. Each month a new book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home. Preschool children ages birth to 5, who are residents of Sun River Electric Cooperative's service area, are eligible. (You don't have to be a member, just live in SREC's service area.)

Register one of two ways:

1. Online at <http://imaginationlibrary.com/>
2. Online at www.sunriverelectric.coop.

Eight to 10 weeks after registration, your first book will arrive at your home and will continue until your child turns 5, or you move out of the SREC service area.



REMINDER:

Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee. 210711

Pay as you go with
prePAY
electricity from SREC. It is easy!
Call SREC to get started.

