



Chimney Rock News



Choice is Local Control

www.crppd.com

March, 2020

Manager Memos -by Alvin Harimon

Dear Consumers,

Well now February is behind us and it is time to get ready for spring (this year on March 19th) and the other things March has to offer. March 1st is National Pig Day and Peanut Butter Lovers' Day, but then comes the 7th which is National Crown Roast of Pork Day, on the 6th is Dentist's Day and World Day of Prayer (you can pray that you don't have to go to the dentist) then the 8th is Be Nasty Day, probably because it is also time to switch clocks again for Daylight Savings Time, the 11th is Johnny Appleseed Day and the 13th is Blame Someone Else Day then the big one for March is Saint Patrick's Day on the 17th and the 22nd is National Goof Off Day but the 26th is the best because it is Make Up Your Own Holiday Day, so enjoy and have a great March.

We are hoping for a better weather scene this March than last March, no blizzards and long power outages. If we do have any of these happen please remember if you have generators to use them safely. As always if there are any problems you can call our office any time and we will try to remedy that situation as soon as possible. If you see anything that you think could be a problem let us know, it could cut down the outage time. As you head back into the fields or start burning weeds, please be aware of poles and wires and contact us if there is a problem. From all of us at Chimney Rock Public Power we hope you have a happy, safe, and productive March and 2020.

Irrigation Reminders

Irrigation facility fees will bill the end of April. If you are farming new land or are no longer farming land that has an irrigation service on it, please let our office know as soon as possible.

Also as a reminder, demand will bill in the months of May, June, July, August, and September. During the months that we bill demand, if at all possible, do not run the irrigation system if it will operate less than five days, this will save you paying a high demand charge.

When moving a system dry during the months demand is charged, leave the setting on the sprinkler at 30 or 40%, not 100%; this will create a lower demand charge.

Energy Efficiency Credits

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, Energy Star appliances and LED lights. Efficiency Credits are available on new installations only.

Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits from Tri-State G & T are:

- *Electric water heaters - \$30 - \$100/unit
- *Heat pumps \$125 - \$150/ton
- *Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- *2 Ton or larger Energy Star air conditioners-\$100-\$150/unit
- *Energy Star Appliances (refrig, clothes or dish washer and clothes dryers) \$30-\$90
- *LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp

Chimney Rock also contributes to some of the credit.

Please contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at 586-1824.

Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors.

Safe – Efficient – Electric

Home Safety Tips

It's no surprise that winter months bring increased potential for fire risks and electrical safety hazards. This makes sense because during the coldest months, consumers are using additional electrical devices and appliances, like space heaters, electric blankets and portable generators. Safeguard your loved ones and your home with these electrical safety tips.

Don't overload outlets. Overloaded outlets are a major cause of residential fires. Avoid using extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliance connections—they should be plugged directly into a wall outlet.

Never leave space heaters unattended. If you're using a space heater, turn it off before leaving the room. Make sure heaters are placed at least three feet away from flammable items. It should be noted that space heaters take a toll on your energy bills. If you're using them throughout your home, it may be time to upgrade your home heating system.

Inspect heating pads and electric blankets. These items cause nearly 500 fires every year. Electric blankets that are more than 10 years old create additional risks for a fire hazard. Inspect your electric blankets and heating pads—look for dark, charred or frayed spots, and make sure the electrical cord is not damaged.

Use portable generators safely. Unfortunately, winter storms can cause prolonged power outages, which means many consumers will use portable generators to power their homes. Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. For portable generators, plug appliances directly into the outlet provided by the generator. Start the generator first, before you plug in appliances. Run it in a well-ventilated area outside your home. The carbon monoxide it generates is deadly, so keep it away from your garage, doors, windows and vents.

WHY IS MY POWER OUT?

A storm or a squirrel may be to blame

 Safe
Electricity.org



When the power goes out,
we work hard to resume service
as quickly and safely as possible.

Here are some common reasons the power goes out:



STORMS:

Mother Nature can interfere with power delivery.



TREES AND VEGETATION:

This is why we work so hard to keep power lines clear.



ANIMALS:

Curious animals can cause damage, especially squirrels.



ACCIDENTS: Run-ins with a utility pole or other equipment can cause an outage.



PUBLIC DAMAGE: Unsafe digging, equipment or line damage, vandalism or theft can all interfere.



OVERLOAD: This happens when demand spikes, like on a hot summer day.



EQUIPMENT ISSUES: We maintain and inspect equipment regularly, but sometimes malfunctions occur.

Thank you for your patience during outages.

Unruly Trees and Power Lines: We're On It

We love trees. They beautify our landscape, provide shade and are an essential part of nature. When you see us out trimming trees, know that we are doing so to keep you safe and prevent service issues.

Too close for comfort

Although most trees do not present a problem, some of them grow into or crowd power lines or other utility equipment. When greenery becomes too close for comfort, we have to address it because overgrowth can interfere with power distribution and create a fire hazard.

Power lines can give off a spark or arc that may land on a nearby branch and ignite. Additionally, the lights in your house may flicker when tree branches brush power lines during high winds. Stormy weather can also cause limbs to break off and land on lines. In fact, the majority of power outages are caused by tree-related issues. It is our job to ensure trees, branches and limbs are a safe distance from power lines.

Clear power lines make it easier and safer for line-workers to access lines and fix problems that may occur. When clearing around



lines, we make sure proper pruning techniques are used to preserve tree health as much as possible. Pruning is the first line of defense against unruly trees, although sometimes a tree must be removed. This is a last resort for certain scenarios: when a fast-growing tree is located directly under a power line or for trees that are leaning, in decline, or cracked or split.

In your own yard

When hiring someone to trim trees on your property, know that most tree-care workers are not qualified to work around energized power lines. By law, only OSHA-certified utility line clearance workers are allowed to work on trees or branches within 10 feet of a power line.

Contact our office with questions about trees around power lines.

Irish Beef Stew

2 tablespoons olive oil
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
2 lbs beef chuck, cut into 1 1/2 inch cubes
1 lb carrots, cut into 1 inch pieces
6 large potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks
1 white onion, cut into large chunks
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 cups beef broth
1 (6 ounce) can tomato paste
1 (12 fluid ounce) can or bottle Irish stout beer
1 tablespoon cold water
1 tablespoon cornstarch

Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Toss beef cubes with flour to coat, then fry in the hot oil until browned. Place the carrots, potatoes, onion and garlic in a large slow cooker. Place the meat on top of the vegetables. Mix together the beef broth and tomato paste and pour into slow cooker along with beer.

Cover and cook on high for 6 hours or low for 8 hours. During the last hour before serving, dissolve the cornstarch in cold water and stir into the broth. Simmer on the high setting for a few minutes to thicken.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Placing hot food in the refrigerator makes the appliance work harder than necessary, using more energy. Allow food to cool down before you place it in the fridge.



CRPPD Director Elections

There are to be two directors elected to the Chimney Rock Public Power District's Board of Directors in the November 2020 General Election. The incumbent directors are Richard Kildow and Travis Petersen.

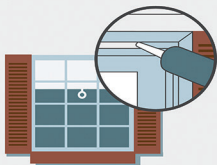
If you would like to run for Chimney Rock's Board of Directors you need to follow these guidelines:

- 1) You must have service with Chimney Rock Public Power.
- 2) Incumbent directors are required to file as candidates by July 15th. All other candidates are required to file for office by August 3rd.
- 3) A filing fee of \$10 is required, payable to the Secretary of State. File nomination papers, voter registration certificate and completed Statement of Financial Interest with the Secretary of State prior to your filing deadline; you must make sure there is enough time allowed for mailing the filings to the Secretary of State. The Statement of Financial Interest must also be filed with the County Clerk or Election Commission.

EASY WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY

WEATHERIZE

Seal doors and windows with caulk, weather stripping and/or plastic film.



SEAL IN WARMTH

Close blinds and curtains during the night to keep cold air out. Open them during the day to let sunlight in.



COOK UP SAVINGS

Use smaller appliances, like microwaves, toaster ovens and slow cookers when possible.



**Chimney Rock
Public Power District
128 W 8th St.
P O Box 608
Bayard, NE 69334**

Board of Directors

President
Kevin Stuart

Vice-President
Travis Petersen

Secretary/Treasurer
Richard Kildow

Larry Fiscus

Corey Henkel

Stan Propp

Staff
Shauna Abbott
Jacob Ashmore
Tina Douglas
Bryce Hargens
Alvin Harimon
Ron Hubbard
DJ Kearns
Kande Laeger
Justin McAllister
Hunter McCormick
Scot Ouderkirk
Brandon Wyckoff

March Board Meeting
March 9th, 9:00 am

**During normal office hours
and after hours call:
(308) 586-1824 or
(877) 773-6300**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.