



# Chimney Rock News



Choice is Local Control

[www.crppd.com](http://www.crppd.com)

January, 2022

## **Manager Memos -by Alvin Harimon**

Dear Consumer,

Well 2021 is gone and we are starting a new year, I hope this one is better. We have gone through some crazy times the last couple of years and I am ready to get back to “normal” life as crazy as it may be. Here at Chimney Rock we are doing business as usual as long as we can keep materials on hand we will be doing some line improvement projects and maintenance this winter and spring to keep reliable and safe power for the summer months when our system is at peak loads.

We will start the new year on January 1<sup>st</sup> with New Year's Day which is also National Hangover Day, then on the 3<sup>rd</sup> we can celebrate Fruit Cake Toss Day, on the 4<sup>th</sup> is National Spaghetti Day. On the 6<sup>th</sup> is a couple of celebrations that may not go well together as it is National Bean Day and National Cuddle Up Day, on the 7<sup>th</sup> is Old Rock Day (I don't know if this is music or just old rocks) on the 16<sup>th</sup> there was nothing to celebrate so someone made up National Nothing Day. The 17<sup>th</sup> is Martin Luther King's birthday and the 19<sup>th</sup> is National Popcorn Day, on the 20<sup>th</sup> is Penguin Appreciation Day which is o.k. but on the 21<sup>st</sup> is Squirrel Appreciation Day which anyone in the power industry will tell you we do not, as many of our outages are caused by these furry little buggers! January is also National Blood Donor Month and National Soup Month.

Remember our phones are answered day and night so if you have a problem or see something that could become a problem let us know. If you have a high school student who would like to go to the Nebraska Rural Electric Youth Energy Leadership Camp in July and possibly win a trip to Washington D.C. keep us in mind, I will have more information in later articles or call our office for more information. Have a safe winter and stay warm!



## Energy Efficiency Credits

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, Energy Star appliances and LED lights. Must be new installations and submitted within 90 days.

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

Some of the credits include:

- \*Electric water heaters - \$50/unit
- \*Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton  
15 SEER Minimum
- \*Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- \*Energy Star Appliances (refrig, freezer, clothes or dish washer and clothes dryers)\$30-\$90
- \*Induction Cooktops 30” or larger, must be replacing gas
- \*LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp, 500 Lumens or greater
- \*Electric trimmer, chainsaw, or pruner, electric blower or lawn-mower - 25% of cost, up to \$150
- \*Whole House Fans - \$100
- \*Smart Thermostats - \$25

Receipts are generally required. Chimney Rock also contributes to some of the credit.

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

## *Are Portable Space Heaters Efficient for My Home?*

Small space heaters are meant to do exactly as their name says: heat a small space. But unfortunately, many people use portable space heaters to heat their entire home, which can really take a toll on your energy bills. The truth is, whether you should use space heaters really depends on your home's efficiency and energy needs.

If you're using a space heater to compensate for problems in your home, like inadequate insulation, drafty windows and exterior doors, or an inefficient heating system, space heaters are not a practical solution. Your best bet is to improve the overall efficiency of your home. If you're on a tight budget, caulking and weather stripping around windows and exterior doors is a low-cost, easy way to save energy. Depending on the size of your home, adding insulation can be a great next step. Loose fill insulation typically costs \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot. Taking these proactive energy-saving measures rather than relying on space heaters for supplemental warmth can reduce your heating and cooling bills for years to come.

Perhaps your home is energy efficient but you're cold-natured and want a specific room to be cozier than the rest. In this case, a space heater may work for your needs. Only use a space heater in small spaces that you're occupying and, if possible, try to shut off other rooms to contain the warmth provided by the space heater. If you decide to use a space heater to heat a small area in your home, make sure the heater is properly sized for the space; most heaters include a general sizing table.

A word about safety: the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates more than 25,000 residential fires are associated with the use of space heaters every year, resulting in more than 300 deaths. If you must use a space heater, purchase a newer model that includes the most current safety features and make sure it carries the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label. Choose a thermostatically controlled heater to avoid energy waste and overheating, and place the heater on a level surface away from foot traffic when in use. Always keep children and pets away from space heaters.

Consider alternative ways to stay warm like extra layers of clothing or UL-approved electric blankets. If you have hardwood or tile floors, lay down area rugs to provide additional insulation and maintain warmth.

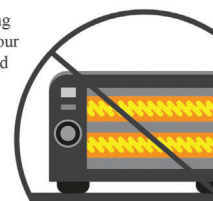
We know it is cold out there, but remember in addition to safety concerns, space heaters can greatly increase your energy bills if used improperly.



### **TIPS TO DITCH THE SPACE HEATER**

Space heaters are energy hogs, and older models can be extremely dangerous. This winter, ditch the space heater and try these alternative solutions to stay cozy.

- Use an electric blanket to keep warm during the night.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around all windows and doors to prevent heat loss.
- Consider adding insulation to your attic and around duct work.



## ***Scholarships Offered***

Chimney Rock PPD in conjunction with Basin Electric and Tri-State Generation and Transmission are offering a \$1,000 and two \$500 college scholarships. Applications for the scholarships must be U.S. citizens and dependents of Chimney Rock consumers.

Applicants also must be students enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time undergraduate or graduate course of study at an accredited, two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

Scholarship information will include SAT/ACT scores and overall grade-point average, work experience, participation in school and community activities, a personal statement of career goals, applicant appraisal and an essay question.

Applications for the 2022-23 school year will be accepted until February 11, 2022. For more information contact your school's guidance counselor or call Chimney Rock PPD.

## ***Rocky Mountain Electric League Foundation Scholarship***

Students of Chimney Rock PPD customers pursuing an electric industry career are eligible to apply for this scholarship. There are several scholarships awarded in amounts up to \$3,000. The scholarship deadline is February 25, 2022. For more information on eligibility requirements and for the application information log on to [www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org), click on RMEL Foundation and scholarships.

## ***Budget Billing Set Up Time***

Customers currently on budget billing will have their accounts "settled up" with the January billing. The accounts will bill the actual amount due on the account.

This is a good time to set up new budget accounts. New budgets will start with the February billing. If you would like more information on budget billing or would like to set up your account on budget just give our office a call.

## ***Four-Cheese Pasta with Peas & Ham***

Kosher salt  
12 ounces penne  
1 cup frozen peas  
2 large eggs, plus 1 egg white  
1 cup evaporated milk  
4 T unsalted butter  
3 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated  
3 ounces part-skim mozzarella cheese, grated  
3 ounces fontina cheese, grated  
3 ounces deli ham, diced  
1 ounce parmesan cheese, grated

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add pasta and cook until very al dente, about 8 minutes, adding peas in the last 2 minutes of cooking.

Meanwhile, whisk the eggs, egg white, evaporated milk and 1/2 teaspoon salt in a bowl.

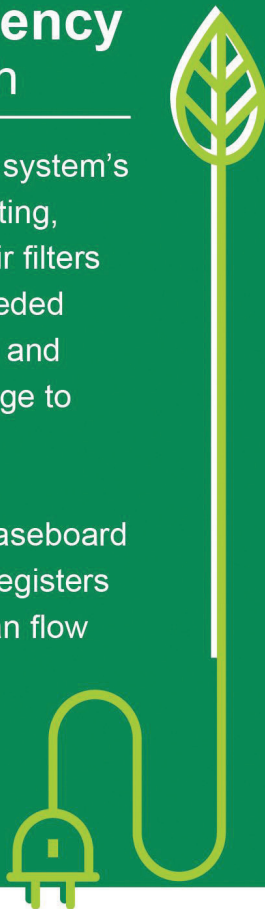
Drain the pasta and peas; wipe the pot dry and return the pasta and peas to the pot. Add butter and stir to coat. Add the cheddar, mozzarella, fontina and the egg mixture. Place the pot over medium-low heat and cook, stirring constantly, until thickened, 8 to 12 minutes, adding the ham halfway through cooking. remove the pot from the heat and stir in parmesan.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Maximize your heating system's performance by inspecting, cleaning or replacing air filters once a month or as needed to reduce energy costs and prevent potential damage to your system.

Make sure radiators, baseboard heaters and warm-air registers aren't blocked so air can flow freely.

*Source: Dept. of Energy*



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During normal office hours and  
after hours call:

(308) 586-1824 or

(877) 773-6300

January Board Meeting:

January 10th - 9:00 am

This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider and em-  
ployer.

## Update Your Contact Information

Chimney Rock PPD would like you to help us update your contact information. There are times when we need to contact our customers and if account phone numbers are not up-to-date we are unable to contact anyone. Some situations where contact information may have changed:

- \* No longer have a land line.
- \* Changed cell phone numbers.
- \* Loved one listed on the account has passed away.
- \* Mailing address has changed.
- \* New last name.

If you have any changes that need to be made to your billing account, please let our office know.