



# Chimney Rock News



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July, 2022

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

Dear Consumer,

July is here and the first day of summer was about ten days ago, so things are starting to heat up here in western Nebraska. It can get very hot and dry this time of year so make sure you drink plenty of water and watch for signs of heat exhaustion.

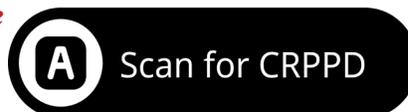
This month we can celebrate Independence Day on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and a lot of other days. Some of these days are: on the 1<sup>st</sup> is Canada Day and International Joke Day, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> is World U.F.O. Day, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> is Eat Beans Day, then after the 4<sup>th</sup> is National Bikini Day on the 5<sup>th</sup>. The 6<sup>th</sup> is National Fried Chicken Day, on the 7<sup>th</sup> is National Strawberry Sundae Day and the 8<sup>th</sup> is National Motorcycle Day. The 9<sup>th</sup> is National Sugar Cookie Day and the 10<sup>th</sup> is Pina Colada Day. The 11<sup>th</sup> is Cheer Up the Lonely Day which you can do easily as it is also National Blueberry Muffin Day. The 14<sup>th</sup> is National Nude Day and the 15<sup>th</sup> is Cow Appreciation Day then on the 17<sup>th</sup> it is Peach Ice Cream Day and National Ice Cream Day followed by National Hot Dog Day and National Ice Cream Soda Day on the 20<sup>th</sup>. National Chili Dog Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> and ending the month with National Watermelon Day on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

We are still working on our three year work plan projects and general maintenance along with new services and are not having a lot of issues with getting materials for jobs. With that being said, the price has gone up considerably and some things are many weeks to months until we can get them here. Be careful and have a good July.

***We now offer a mobile app. Down load the app on your Apple or Android phone. This app allows you to make payments, view usage, statements and payment history.***

***Use the QR code for the app store, or search for Chimney Rock Public Power in the app store.***

***If you have an existing log in you can use the same account information, or you are a new user, create a new account.***



## **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 only. 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, clotheswasher 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.

## *Stay Safe with and around Irrigation Equipment*

Irrigation electrical hazards are a growing problem in many regions of the country. In the summer heat and during dry spells, farm irrigation can be vital for profitability. However, it is equally vital that operators know, follow, and share proper safety precautions to avoid potentially deadly electrical accidents when operating, handling, and working around the watering systems.

In 2011, two 14-year-old girls were detasseling corn in northern Illinois. These girls received a fatal electrical shock from a center pivot irrigation system. Several others on the detasseling crew felt the shock.

While working around irrigation equipment—stay away and do not make contact. Keep in mind that metal and water are conductors of electricity. Aluminum irrigation pipes, while lightweight and easier to handle, are excellent conductors of electricity.

Remember, water—including morning dew—and electricity is a dangerous mix. Electricity follows the shortest path to the ground and can flow through any conductive material, such as water or metal.

To ensure safe operation of irrigation equipment here are some tips:

- Make sure that irrigation system wiring is properly grounded. Before the start of each irrigation season, have a qualified electrician check the pump and wiring.
- Store unused irrigation pipes far away from power lines or electrical equipment.
- Position irrigation pipes at least 15 feet away from power lines.
- Position the water jet streams so that there is no chance of them spraying onto power lines. If this happens, the entire system could become energized, creating a danger for anyone nearby.
- Stay away from the piping during any lightning activity. Install lightning arresters to protect your equipment.
- If fuses continually blow or circuit breakers repeatedly trip, have a professional check the wiring. This could indicate a potential electrical hazard.
- Always shut off and lock the master electrical control switch before servicing the machine.
- Avoid moving irrigation pipe and equipment on windy days, as a sudden gust could lift pipes into overhead power lines. This power line contact could prove fatal to a person holding the pipe
- Take some time to survey your surroundings before moving equipment. Look up and around you; note any power lines that could be close enough to come into contact with equipment—and stay away.



Always know the location of nearby electrical lines when working with irrigation equipment. Any contact between the irrigation equipment and nearby electrical lines could be fatal or cause serious injury. If an irrigation pipe comes in contact with a power line, never try to remove it yourself. Stay away from the pipe, and call your local electric utility for help.

## *Stay Fresh: Five Tips for Better Indoor Air Quality*

We spend a lot of time indoors. In fact, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates the average person spends 90% of their life indoors.

Additionally, our homes are becoming more energy efficient—they're better insulated and sealed with less ventilation—which is great for our energy bills but not so much for our indoor air quality. The thought of breathing in pollutants can be scary, but the truth is, indoor air pollution is common and simply unavoidable. The good news is there are ways you can easily improve the air quality of your home.

Here are five tips to help you breathe a little easier.

**Change your air filter often.** Clogged, dirty filters reduce the amount of airflow and the HVAC system's efficiency. When a filter becomes too clogged, the excess dirt and dust are sent through your air ducts, adding unnecessary allergens and other unwanted particles into your living space. During the cooling season, the Department of Energy recommends replacing your air filter every month or two. This is one of the easiest ways to promote better indoor air quality and energy efficiency.

**Regularly vacuum carpet and rugs**—especially if you have furry friends. The cleaner the home, the healthier the home. Vacuuming carpet and area rugs once a week can greatly reduce the accumulation of pet dander and dust inside your home. Frequently clean other areas that collect dust, like drapes, bedding and cluttered areas.

**Use vents to remove cooking fumes.** Those exhaust fans aren't just for when you burn the bacon. Fans help remove fumes emitted while cooking and eliminate unwanted moisture and odors. They may be a bit noisy, but these handy tools can help you improve indoor air quality.

**Get a handle on humidity.** Summer months typically bring more humidity than we'd like, especially if you live in a high-humidity climate zone. Moisture in the air can carry bacteria and other unwanted particles that you eventually breathe in. Dehumidifiers work to remove that moisture from the air, reducing the amount of bacteria, mold and other allergens in your home.

Incorporate air-purifying plants into your living space. There are several varieties of indoor plants that can help detoxify your home from dust and germs found in a variety of home products, furniture and other materials. A few low-maintenance, air-purifying plants to consider are snake plants, aloe vera plants and pothos plants (also known as Devil's Ivy). These vibrant, lush plants are eye-catching and beneficial for any home. Remember to review care conditions and think about placement for any new plants you add to your home. Taking simple steps to purify indoor air can improve health and overall quality of life. With a little effort, you can improve the indoor air quality of your home and breathe a bit easier.



### *Grilled Zucchini*

2 medium zucchini, sliced into thick strips

1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

1/2 tsp. lemon zest

1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes, plus more for garnish

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

4 basil leaves, torn into medium pieces

Preheat grill on medium-high. In a large bowl, toss zucchini with oil, lemon zest, and red pepper flakes. Season with salt and pepper.

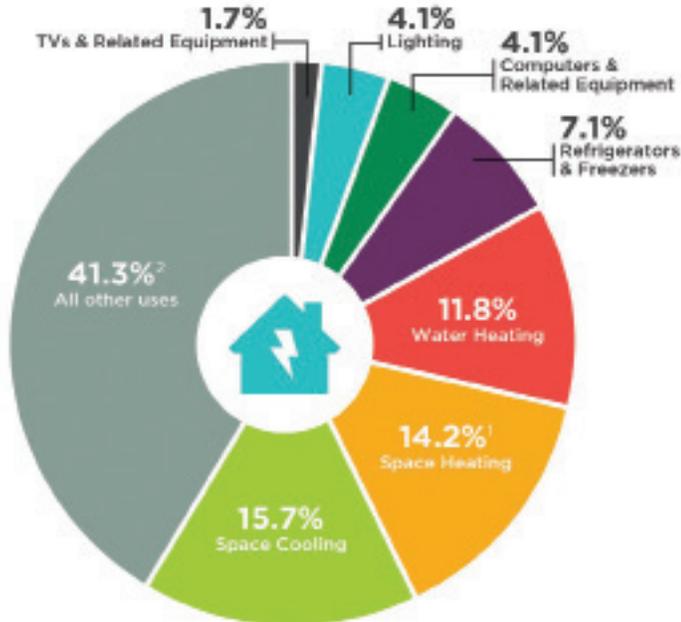
Once grill is hot, carefully use tongs to rub an oiled paper towel over grates.

Using tongs, place zucchini on grill. Cover and cook, 3 minutes. Flip and continue cooking on high, covered, 2 to 3 minutes more.

When zucchini is tender, remove from heat and garnish with basil and more red pepper flakes.

# How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses" below) accounts for the largest percentage of electricity consumption in American homes.



Source: Energy Information Administration 2021

<sup>1</sup>Includes consumption for heat and operating fans; fan and boiler pumps.  
<sup>2</sup>Includes microwave appliances, clothes washers and dryers, stoves, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know the combined use of large appliances like dishwashers, clothes dryers and washing machines account for the largest percentage of electricity use in the average U.S. home? Take small steps to save energy when using these appliances.

Only run full loads in the dishwasher, and thoroughly scrape food from dishes before loading. Dry towels and heavier cottons separate from lighter-weight clothing, and clean the lint screen after every use. Wash clothing in cold water to save energy used to heat water.

Source: EIA and DOE



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

July Board Meeting:  
July 11th - 9:00 am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.