



# Chimney Rock News



Choice is Local Control

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

February, 2023

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

Dear Consumer,

Now January is behind us, and we are into February which means we are one month closer to spring and hopefully getting rid of the snow and ice. We will get to start February with Spunky Old Broads Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> and Ground Hog Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> something probably only us old folks remember is the day the music died (Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper died in a plane crash) in 1959. Stuffed Mushroom Day comes around on the 4<sup>th</sup> with the 6<sup>th</sup> being International Frozen Yogurt Day and the 7<sup>th</sup> is Wave with all of Your Fingers at Your Neighbor Day (not just the one finger) . The 9<sup>th</sup> is National Pizza Day and the 11<sup>th</sup> is National Inventors' Day, on the 12<sup>th</sup> is Abraham Lincoln's birthday and the 14<sup>th</sup> is National Organ Donor Day and Valentine's Day. The 18<sup>th</sup> is National Drink Wine Day with Cherry Pie Day following on the 20<sup>th</sup> along with Presidents' Day and George Washington's birthday on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. On the 28<sup>th</sup> is National Chili Day and the next leap day will be February 29, 2024.

We got through the early year storms well with only a few outages but not being able to get around made them longer than we would like. Remember to always let us know if you experience a power outage as your location helps us narrow down where the outage begins and saves time. We are still having some difficulty getting materials and supplies, but some things are getting easier to get but way more expensive. As always let us know if you see anything that could become a problem or create a power outage, our phones are answered day and night. Have a good February and 2023.

## **Rate Adjustment Starting March 1st**

After six years with no rate adjustment, during the January Board Meeting, the Chimney Rock PPD Board voted to increase retail rates starting with March 1st usage. The rate adjustment primarily is due to the increases in supplies and power. We have been informed of a rate increase coming from our power supplier. The board voted on a 5% rate adjustment beginning with usage starting March 1st. A CRPPD residential customer using 1,445 kilowatt-hours per month on average will see an increase of approximately \$7 plus tax on their monthly bill. All other rate classes will see increases on their bills as well. We will continue to work hard to fulfill our mission to safely provide friendly, reliable service at the lowest practical cost for all our customers and to continue to deliver power that you can depend on.

## **Energy Efficiency Credits**

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, 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
- \*Old refrigeration and freezer going to be recycled
- \*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.

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

## Use Portable Electric Generators Safely

Portable electric generators can offer many benefits when a long-term electrical outage occurs due to a storm. However, if generators are not used properly, things could turn deadly.

Follow these tips to prevent misuse of portable electrical generators:

- Be sure to follow manufacturers' directions for installation and operation.
- To prevent electric shock, make sure your generator is properly grounded. The operation manual should provide correct grounding procedures.
- Operate electric generators or other fuel-powered machines outside where deadly carbon monoxide fumes cannot enter the home.
- Use the generator only in a well-ventilated and dry area located away from air intakes to the house. Do not use a generator in an attached garage.
- Do not overload the generator by operating more appliances and equipment than the generator can handle. The operating instructions should have an output rating for the generator.
- Individual appliances should be plugged directly into the receptacle outlet of the generator using appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords are rated for outdoor use, have a grounded, three-pronged plug, and are in good condition.
- Do not run extension cords under rugs.
- Never connect generators directly to your home's wiring. The reverse flow of electricity can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.
- Never plug a generator into a household outlet.
- Do not refuel a generator while it is running.
- Only store fuel outside of living areas and away from heat sources like water heater pilot lights.
- Turn off all equipment powered by the generator before shutting it down.
- Keep children and pets away from generators.

## Residential Generators

### WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

<i>INSTALLATION TYPE</i>	<i>PRICE</i>	<i>OPERATION</i> <sup>1</sup>	<i>CAPACITY</i>	<i>LENGTH OF OPERATION</i> <sup>3</sup>
<i>permanent</i>	<i>expensive</i>	<i>automatic</i>	<i>whole house</i>	<i>can be indefinite</i>
<i>portable</i>	<i>more affordable</i>	<i>manual</i>	<i>typically partial</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>depends on fuel tank size</i>



<sup>1</sup> Permanent generators start upon loss of grid power. They also exercise themselves automatically.

<sup>2</sup> Frequently powered: refrigerator, pumps (well, sump, septic), furnace, some lights, stove.

<sup>3</sup> Permanent generators use propane or natural gas, portable use gasoline. Permanent models offer significantly longer operating times.

## *Three DIY Efficiency Projects to Tackle This Year*

A new year brings new opportunities to save energy and money. You may think energy efficiency upgrades require a great deal of time and expense, but that's not always the case.

If you are interested in making your home efficient but don't want to break the bank, there are several DIY projects you can tackle to increase energy savings. Let's take a look at three inexpensive efficiency upgrades that can help you save energy throughout the year.

### *Trim Dryer Vent*

If your dryer vent hose is too long, your dryer is working harder than it has to, using more energy than necessary. The vent hose should be long enough for you to pull the dryer out a couple feet from the wall, but the shape of the hose should form a line-it should not have a lot of slack, with twists and curves. A shorter, unobstructed vent hose increases the efficiency of your dryer, dries clothing faster and reduces lint buildup, which can cause potential fire hazards.

Simply measure, mark and trim the hose to the desired length, then reattach the hose to your dryer and exterior vent. If you are unsure about the hose length, check out YouTube for a quick video tutorial.

### *Seal Air Leaks*

Sealing air leaks in your home can help you save 10-20% on heating and cooling bills. Apply caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing to seal in conditioned air. You should also weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs. Types of caulking and weather stripping materials vary, but ask a local hardware or home store for assistance if you are unsure about the supplies you need.

### *Insulate Attic Stairs Opening*

A properly insulated attic is one of the best ways to optimize energy savings and comfort in your home, but many homeowners don't consider insulating the attic stairs, or the opening to your attic space. Even a well-insulated attic can leak air through the stair opening, but there is a fix.

An insulated cover box can seal and insulate the attic stairs opening. You can build your own box or purchase a pre-built box or kit from a home improvement store. There are step-by-step instructions on how to build your own at <https://bit.ly/36YNCYQ>

Saving energy doesn't have to be hard. With a little time and effort, you can maximize energy savings and increase the comfort of your home.



### *Tangy Beef Turnovers*

1 lb ground beef  
1 medium onion, chopped  
1 jar (16 ounces) sauerkraut, rinsed, drained and chopped  
1 cup shredded Swiss cheese  
3 tubes (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent rolls

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink, 5-7 minutes, crumble meat; drain. Add sauerkraut and cheese.

Unroll dough and separate into rectangles. Place on greased baking sheets; pinch seams to seal. Place 1/2 cup beef mixture in the center of each rectangle. Bring corners to the center and pinch to seal.

Bake for 15-18 minutes or until golden brown.

## Attention Irrigators

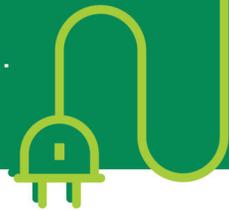
Spring is right around the corner and plans for farming are being made. Irrigation facility fees will bill out the end of April. If you are farming new land or are no longer farming land that the irrigation bill was billing in your name last year, please let our office know as soon as possible so changes on billing information can be made.

As a reminder, demand and kilowatts used will bill for 5 months - May through September.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



### LED VS INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULB



**LED**  
9 Watts

AN LED LIGHTBULB IS

**89%**

More efficient than an incandescent lightbulb



**INCANDESCENT**  
60 Watts

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

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

February Board Meeting:  
February 13th - 9:00 am

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