



Chimney Rock News



Choice is Local Control

August, 2024

Manager Memos -by Curtis Kayton

Dear Consumers,

It's true! Time does fly, doesn't it? As summer winds down, it's a good opportunity to start preparing for the transition to a new season. Whether that means getting ready for a new school year, adjusting to different weather patterns, Husker football, or planning for harvest, there's always something to look forward to.

Summer is a busy time for CRPPD. System reliability is always a top priority. Summer outages related to storms, or animals and accidents prompt district personnel to be dispatched 24/7 all year to troubleshoot and restore service. Beyond reliability, we also operate in a way that will support everyone using the system to meet their needs for reliable electric service, especially irrigation and air conditioning loads. We have been acutely monitoring our system to ensure items like voltage regulation during the summer when electrical demand can fluctuate significantly do not cause problems for customer equipment, and we do hope that has been your experience also.

The month of August always signals budget season. The departments begin planning for activities and getting cost estimates for 2025. Staff analyses data pulled out of our software programs to drive literally every decision with regards to load serving, aging infrastructure replacement, substation upgrades, and fleet additions. This will continue through the fall and management will present the preliminary budget, listing all items like capital improvements and maintenance activities, fleet additions, projecting wholesale power costs, and the list goes on. We will then approve the final budget during our December board meeting and move right into the 2025 Season!

So, as we watch time fly by, understand seasons change and preparing for those changes is just a fact of life. Remember to finish this summer season safely, and if you have questions please stop in or call.

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 - new construction or conversion from gas to electric
- *Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton
15 SEER Minimum
- *Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- *Old refrig 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 required.

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.

Outdoor Projects That Save Energy

Do you spend a lot of time in the great outdoors? If so, a great way to spend some of that time is making your home more energy efficient. With these simple, low-cost outdoor projects, you can lower your monthly energy bills and make your home more comfortable. Now, that's outdoor time well spent!

Switch to LED Outdoor Lighting

Outdoor lighting is important for safety and security, but also for illuminating your outdoor space for evening fun with friends and family. Why not upgrade your outdoor lights to high-efficiency LEDs? They use about 75 percent less energy than conventional incandescent bulbs, and they last a lot longer. For security lights, add motion sensors to save even more energy and stay safe.

Caulk Windows

Cracked or peeling caulking around windows can create gaps that let conditioned air escape. You can fix the problem yourself following these simple steps:

- *Find exterior caulk at your local home improvement retailer.
- *Scrape away the existing caulk and make sure the area is clean and dry.
- *Spread the caulk evenly along the crack between the window and the frame.
- *Smooth the caulk out with a damp finger.

Seal Gaps Around Doors

Gaps around exterior doors waste energy, adding an unwelcome addition to your monthly bills. Adding weather-stripping to fill those gaps is easy to do. There are a number of products you can use, such as foam and rubber adhesives. Just cut them to length and attach them.

Door sweeps can fill gaps underneath. There are many different kinds of sweeps. Some will require fasteners, some will slide onto the door, and others use adhesives.

Landscaping for Energy Savings

If you have a green thumb and a little more ambition, planting trees around your yard can help you save energy and stay more comfortable inside. Leafy trees on the south and west side of your home provide cooling summer shade. The leaves fall off in the autumn to let warming sunlight through on cold winter afternoons. Evergreen trees on the north and northwest sides of your home provide year-round windbreaks. Remember to call 811 before beginning any digging project to have underground utility lines marked.

Now you can rest easy knowing that all your hard outdoor work will help make your home and property more energy efficient.

Back to School - School Bus Safety

Ride the Bus Safely:

School buses are the safest way for students to travel. Children need to do their part to stay safe both in and around school buses:

At the Bus Stop:

Be ready for the bus before it arrives.

Stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb while waiting for the bus.

Supervise young children.

Around the Bus:

Cross in front of the bus - at least 10 feet (or five giant steps) - and make eye contact with the driver before crossing.

Never walk behind the bus.

If you drop something near the bus, do not pick it up; tell the bus driver instead.

Getting On/Off the Bus:

Wait until the bus has stopped and the door opens before approaching the bus or standing up on the bus.

Use the handrail.

Secure any loose or hanging objects like straps on a backpack or drawstrings on a hood.

Behavior on the Bus:

Buckle up if seat belts are available.

Stay in your seat keeping head, arms and papers inside the bus, and talk quietly.

Keep aisles clear of books and bags.

Sharing the Road with School Buses:

Never pass a bus from behind if it is stopped to load or unload children.

If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop.

The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert, children are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks.



Zucchini Pizza Casserole

4 cups shredded unpeeled zucchini

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 large eggs

1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

2 cups shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese, divided

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided

1 lb ground beef

1/2 cup chopped onion

1 can (15 ounces) Italian tomato sauce

1 medium green or sweet red pepper, chopped

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place zucchini in colander; sprinkle with salt. Let stand 10 minutes, then squeeze out moisture.

Combine zucchini with eggs, Parmesan and half of the mozzarella and cheddar cheeses. Press into a greased 13x9 in. or 3 qt. baking dish. Bake 20 minutes.

In a large saucepan, cook beef, and onion over medium heat. Add tomato sauce; spoon over zucchini mixture. Sprinkle with remaining cheeses; add green pepper. Bake until heated through, about 20 minutes.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

TIP OF THE MONTH

Placing heat sources, such as lamps, computers or TVs, near your thermostat can result in false temperature readings, increased energy use and inconsistent cooling/heating. Make sure your thermostat is installed in an area clear of obstructions, electronic devices, direct sunlight and drafts.

Ensuring your thermostat is free from these types of interferences optimizes energy efficiency, improves indoor comfort and reduces wear and tear on your cooling/heating system.

Source: energy.gov



CHANGE YOUR AIR FILTER

Regularly changing your air filter helps your HVAC system run more efficiently.

 Safe Electricity.org®



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

August Board Meeting:
August 21st - 8:00 am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.