



Big Horn Rural
Electric Company

HIGHLIGHTS

LOOK FOR US ONLINE AT WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM



APPLY NOW FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP



**We will be closed
November 11th in
observance of
Veteran's Day**

For nearly three decades, the electric cooperatives of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming have conducted an outstanding educational seminar known as the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp. Every July, nearly 100 high school students travel to Clark, Colorado (north of Steamboat Springs) after applying to their local cooperative. The primary objective of the camp is to provide an educational experience for young people on the organization and operation of a cooperative. The seminar strives to help develop leadership skills that will assist students with the challenges they will face in the future. The best way to learn about cooperatives is to form one, and that is what the participants do. When students arrive the first day, they form a cooperative and elect a board of directors. Each member of the cooperative is expected to take part in the workings of the co-op by seeking election to the board or by serving on one of the camp activity committees. If you are interested in attending the camp, please contact Jazmin Irvine at Big Horn REA, 1-800-564-2419 or visit our website www.bighornrea.com

INSIDE

- Demand vs. consumption
- Energy tip of the month
- Optimize your HVAC system
- Scam tip of the month
- Watt's Cookin'

November



- 2- Bills Sent Out
- 11- Office Closed(Veteran's Day)
- 21- Auto Pay Day
- 25- November Bill Due
- 26-27- Office Closed(Thanksgiving)

December



- 1- Bills Sent Out
- 10- Early Closure
- 21- Auto Pay Day
- 24- Closed
- 28- December Bill Due
- 31- Early closure

DEMAND VS. CONSUMPTION: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Did you know two homes using the exact same amount of electricity in a month can end up with different rate impacts? It all comes down to the difference between consumption (energy used over time) and demand (total power draw at any given moment).

A simple way to see the difference is by looking at two scenarios:

Scenario A: A single 100-watt lightbulb running for 10 hours uses 1 kWh of energy and creates 0.1 kW of demand.

Scenario B: Ten lightbulbs running for 1 hour also use 1 kWh of total energy, but they create 1 kW of demand because they are all turned on at the same time.

Why It Matters for the Grid

Both examples use the same amount of total energy, but the second example requires more utility infrastructure to instantly supply that higher short-term power.

The electric grid has to be built large enough to handle everyone's peak usage at once—even if those peaks only happen for a brief interval during the month.

Demand charges help your electric cooperative account for higher short-term impacts on the grid, ensuring that the members who create the need for larger infrastructure support its maintenance!

Power	×	Time	=	Energy Consumption
				
100 watts	×	10 hours	=	1,000 watt-hours (1kWh)
				
10 x 100 = 1,000 watts	×	1 hour	=	1,000 watt-hours (1kWh) 10 times more demand

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: <<< TIP OF THE MONTH

Adjust your water heater settings to save energy. As cooler weather arrives, your water heater may be working harder to keep up with longer, hotter showers. Check its temperature setting and consider lowering it to 120°F, which the U.S. Department of Energy recommends for most households. Lowering the temperature can reduce energy use while also helping prevent scalding. Always check the owner's manual before making adjustments.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy



We will be closed November
26th & 27th so that our
employees can enjoy this
time with family.

OPTIMIZE YOUR HVAC SYSTEM

As November settles in and temperatures begin to drop, your HVAC system will soon become one of the hardest-working appliances in your home. Before your system undergoes all that extra work this winter, now is a great time to ensure it is optimized and ready to go.

Start with something simple. One of the easiest and most effective measures you can take is checking filters. A clogged or dirty filter makes it harder for air to move through your system, which can cause it to work longer and harder than necessary. Check filters regularly and replace them according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Vents matter too. Take a look around your home to make sure furniture, curtains, rugs and other household items aren't blocking any supply or return vents.

If you have a heat pump, your outdoor unit also deserves extra attention this time of year. Falling leaves, limbs and other debris can collect around the unit and restrict airflow, so keep the area around your outdoor unit clear. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning recommendations. If you have a traditional central air conditioning system, your outdoor unit will likely remain idle during winter months, but it's still good practice to keep it clear of debris.

Don't overlook what you can't see. With forced-air systems, ductwork plays an essential role in delivering heated air throughout your home. Leaks, gaps or disconnected sections can allow conditioned air to escape before it reaches the rooms where you need it. If you've noticed rooms that never seem to get comfortable or unusually high energy use, ask an HVAC professional to inspect your ductwork.

Fall is also an ideal time for a professional tune-up. A technician can inspect your heating system, identify potential problems and make sure it is operating safely and efficiently before the coldest weather arrives. Regular professional maintenance can also help extend the life of your equipment.

Finally, take more control of your energy use by proactively managing your thermostat. There's no reason to heat an empty house. Lowering the temperature when you're asleep or away can help reduce energy use. Better yet, a programmable or smart thermostat can make those adjustments automatically, taking one more thing off your to-do list.

Big Horn REA offers free home energy audits, and energy efficient rebates. If you are interested in learning about both make sure to visit our website to get more information or give the office a call.

Your home heating system has an important job this winter. Giving it a little extra attention this fall to help the system operate more efficiently, reduce unnecessary energy use and potentially prevent an inconvenient breakdown on a cold winter night.

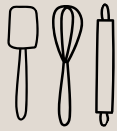


SCAM TIP OF THE MONTH

Stay alert for fraudulent utility calls. Scammers can spoof caller ID to make a phone call appear to come from your electric utility—even when it doesn't. They may threaten disconnection, demand immediate payment or ask for personal information. Don't rely on caller ID alone to verify a caller's identity. If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and contact your utility using the phone number printed on your bill or listed on the official website.

Source: FTC

Watt's Cookin'



Recipe

• made with love •



Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake

Name of the dish

Ingredients

- 2 (8oz) pkg cream cheese, room temp
- ½ C sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- ½ pumpkin puree
- 2 tsp pumpkin spice
- 1 (9in) graham cracker crust, store or homemade
- whipped cream, optional topping

Directions

- Preheat oven to 325°. Set crust on baking sheet.
- In large bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla extract, until smooth with no lumps. Beat in the eggs one at a time on low speed, until combined.
- Measure out 1½ C of cheesecake batter, spread on bottom of crust.
- Add pumpkin puree and pumpkin spice to remaining cheesecake batter and whisk gently until combined. Carefully spread the pumpkin layer (evenly) over the plain cheesecake layer.
- Bake for 35-40 minutes or until edges are set and center is slightly jiggly.
- Cool uncovered at room temp for about an hour, then cover and refrigerate for at least 3 hours.



WANTED

We would love to hear from
our members!



Got a scenic photo of a
place on our grid or a
recipe created by you?

Please email us at
jazmin@bighornrea.com
to have your photo or
recipe added to our
monthly newsletter!



If your submission is
chosen to be published
in our newsletter you will
receive a \$25 bill credit!

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FOR OUTAGE OR TROUBLE

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After 5:30 p.m., weekend and holidays all
calls will be answered by our professional
answering service, who will contact the
appropriate person(s).



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Make sure to check out our QR Code to
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