



Big Horn Rural
Electric Company

HIGHLIGHTS

LOOK FOR US ONLINE AT WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM



Photo submitted by:
Jazmin Irvine

ARE YOU PREPARED? >>>



September is National Preparedness Month — a good reminder that emergency readiness isn't just about flashlights and first aid kits. Financial preparedness can matter just as much.

An emergency savings account can serve as a financial safety net: a dedicated, easily accessible fund set aside for life's unexpected moments — job loss, medical bills, car repairs that can't wait. Many financial professionals suggest that three to six months of essential living expenses is a common savings target, though the right amount will vary based on your individual circumstances.

Getting started may be simpler than you might think. Some people find it helpful to open a separate savings account to keep funds out of reach for everyday spending, then set up automatic contributions — even small amounts can grow over time. When an unexpected expense does arrive, having savings in place may help ease the financial pressure. This September, consider taking one step toward greater financial resilience. You may be glad you did.

INSIDE

- Value of electricity
- Energy tip of the month
- Schedule your washer & dishwasher
- Scam tip of the month
- Recipe

September



1- Bills Sent Out
7- Labor Day (Office Closed)
21- Auto Pay Day
28- September Bill Due

October



1- Bills Sent Out
21- Auto Pay Day
26- October Bill Due

VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

When it comes to electricity, we rarely think twice when we flip on a light switch, brew coffee in the morning, charge our phones or adjust the thermostat. We simply expect the power to be there—and that's how it should be because you are a member of Big Horn REA, and reliably powering your life is our mission.

We know that many families across our local communities are feeling the impact of rising costs for everyday expenses. Groceries, gasoline, insurance and other necessities cost more than they did just a few years ago. And because of that, we understand that every household is carefully considering where each dollar goes.

That's why we think it's important to occasionally step back and consider the value electricity provides.

The average U.S. residential electric bill is about \$150 a month—roughly \$5 a day. We often think about what that \$5 provides. It's about the cost of a specialty coffee, yet electricity powers nearly every moment of our daily lives, often without us giving it a second thought. In fact, many typical purchases cost more than a day's worth of electricity. A fast-food combo meal averages about \$9, and a single movie ticket can cost around \$13.

For about \$5 a day, your refrigerator keeps food fresh around the clock. Your heating and cooling system helps keep your family comfortable through the seasons. Lights brighten your home after sunset. Appliances make cooking and cleaning easier. Devices stay charged so you can work, learn, communicate and stay connected with loved ones. When you think about everything electricity makes possible, it's one of the greatest values in the average household budget.

Even with electricity's exceptional value, we know every dollar matters. If you're looking for ways to lower your energy use, Big Horn is here to help. Whether you need efficiency advice, information about co-op rebates and efficiency programs or answers to questions about your monthly bill, our team is always available.

Big Horn is proud to be more than your electric provider. Because we're a cooperative, we're locally owned by you, the members we serve. That means every decision we make is guided by what's best for our community—not by outside shareholders.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: <<< TIP OF THE MONTH

September kicks off the fall shoulder season, when cooler mornings and milder evenings often mean you can give your heating/cooling system a break. Open windows, use ceiling fans and enjoy the fresh air whenever temperatures allow. It's also the perfect time to schedule annual HVAC maintenance before colder weather arrives. Because demand is typically lower during the fall, heating and cooling professionals often have greater availability, making it easier to book an appointment. Regular maintenance can improve your system's efficiency, help prevent unexpected breakdowns and keep your home comfortable all year long. Source: Dept. of Energy



A Little Cost. A Lot of Life.

For about \$150 a month, electricity powers hundreds of tasks that keep your home comfortable, connected and running smoothly—from brewing your morning coffee to keeping your family cool, safe and entertained.

- **720** hours of refrigeration
- **20+** loads of clean clothes
- **15+** home-cooked meals
- **90+** hours of lighting
- **Numerous** devices charged
- **Hundreds** of hours of cooling/heating
- **Countless** connections to work, school and entertainment

30 days of comfort



YOU SCHEDULE MEETINGS AND LUNCHES... SCHEDULE YOUR WASHING MACHINE AND DISHWASHER TOO!

Peak energy demand is a hot topic, but what is it and how does it impact electricity use? Simply stated, PEAK DEMAND is when energy consumption is at its highest.

In much of the U.S., energy use spikes in the summer and winter due to INCREASED ENERGY DEMANDS for indoor cooling and heating. In the summer, energy use spikes between mid- to late afternoon and evening. In the winter, energy use is higher in the early morning and late afternoon/evening.

Consider running major appliances during off-peak times to decrease strain on the energy grid.

CHANGING THE TIME OF DAY YOU USE ENERGY CAN



Help lower your energy bills.



Avoid service interruptions or glitches.



Do your part to use energy wisely, especially when energy demands are high!

Adjusting when you use electricity can help even out energy use and avoid service interruptions caused by high demand.



**We will be closed on
September 7th in
observance of Labor Day**

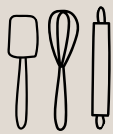


Farm Safety and Health Week | Sept. 21-25



SCAM TIP OF THE MONTH

Your smart thermostat, security camera, video doorbell and other connected devices make life more convenient—but they can also be targets for cybercriminals if they're not properly secured. Change default usernames and passwords, use strong, unique passwords for each device and enable multi-factor authentication when available. Keep your devices up to date by installing software and firmware updates, which often include important security fixes. Secure your home Wi-Fi network with a strong password and modern encryption. A few simple steps can help keep your personal information and smart devices safe from scammers.
Source: CISA



Recipe

• made with love •



Mississippi Post Roast
by Jazmin Irvine

Name of the dish

Ingredients

- 3-4 lb chuck roast
- 1 packet ranch dressing mix
- 1 packet Au jus gravy mix
- ¼ cup butter
- 6-7 pepperoncini peppers

Directions

- Place the roast in a slow cooker.
- Sprinkle the top with the ranch dressing mix and Au jus gravy mix.
- Place peppers and the butter on top.
- Cover and cook on low heat for 8 hours.
- Shred with 2 forks and enjoy!



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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John Joyce, President
Manderson: 568-2514
jnjoyce56@gmail.com

Willie Bridges, Vice President
Cowley: 548-2545
willieb@pryormtneng.com

John Fernandez, Secretary
Meeteetse: 272-1553
john.fernandez8614@gmail.com

Sara Schlattmann, Treasurer
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hortonwyo@gmail.com

Mike Miller, Director
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michael.miller2522@gmail.com

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(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419

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).



Big Horn Rural
Electric Company

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

PO Box 270, Basin, WY 82410
(307) 568-2419
FAX (307) 568-2402
1-800-564-2419

bhrec@bighornrea.com
www.bighornrea.com

Staff and Crew

Dotti Brown	Jazmin Irvine
Rusty Burden	Wade Koehn
Avery Clifford	Anthony Nelson
Stacy Cortez	Bill Phillips
Michael Flores	Tristen Snyder
Clint Getzfreid	Greg Sharp
Todd Herman	Justin Workman
Carrie Hunt	

Manager: Jeff Pillow
(307) 272-0748
pillow@bighornrea.com

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
7:00am-5:30pm

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