



Big Horn Rural
Electric Company

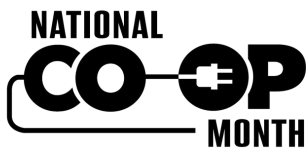
HIGHLIGHTS

LOOK FOR US ONLINE AT WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM



Photo by: Tracy Schatz

POWERED BY PURPOSE >>>



In October, electric cooperatives across the country take time to celebrate National Co-op Month and reflect on the unique advantages of being part of a cooperative. It's also the perfect time to thank you—the members who make it all possible. For us, it's not just a celebration. It's a chance to reaffirm the values that guide everything we do.

As the General Manager of Big Horn REA, I see purpose in action every single day. Unlike investor-owned utilities, our co-op doesn't exist to make profits for distant shareholders. We exist to serve you—our members, our neighbors and our communities. That purpose is what sets us apart. It's why we were founded, and it's what continues to drive every decision we make.

At its core, being a cooperative means we are member-owned and locally controlled. That's not just a tagline; it's the very heart of our business model. Members have a voice in how our co-op operates. You elect board members who live right here in our service area and understand the unique

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November

- 2- Daylight Savings (fall back)
- 3- Bills Sent Out
- 11- Veterans Day (Closed)
- 21- Autopay Day
- 25- November Bill Due
- 26- Board Meeting
- 27- Thanksgiving (Closed)
- 28- Black Friday (Closed)

December

- 1- Bills Sent Out
- 18- Christmas party (early closure)
- 22- Autopay Day
- 25- Christmas Day (Closed)
- 29- December Bill Due

POWERED BY PURPOSE

challenges and opportunities our communities face. Decisions aren't made in corporate boardrooms hundreds of miles away; they're made here at home, by people who care about the same things you do.

This local accountability means we can stay focused on what matters most: delivering reliable, affordable electricity and providing real value to the people we serve.

We do that by investing in essential infrastructure upgrades and technologies that strengthen our local grid and improve electric service. We work hard to manage costs and keep rates as low as possible—because we know how much rising prices affect families and small businesses in our area. And when storms hit or outages occur, Big Horn crews are here and ready to respond quickly, because we live here too.

But our commitment doesn't end at the power lines.

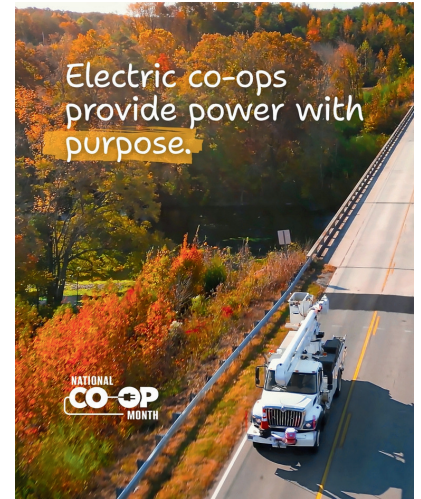
Co-ops were built to meet community needs, and that purpose extends well beyond delivering electricity. Whether we're supporting local schools, sponsoring youth programs, or partnering with volunteer organizations, we are always looking for ways to improve the quality of life in the places we serve. Community support isn't an afterthought—it's part of our mission.

We're also planning for the future. As electricity demand grows due to new technologies and economic development, electric co-ops are working to ensure we continue to meet those needs with a balanced, reliable energy mix. We know our members care about affordability and dependability, and we're committed to delivering both.

That's the power of the cooperative difference. That's what it means to be powered by purpose.

This National Co-op Month, I encourage you to take pride in your cooperative membership. You're not just a customer—you're an owner, a stakeholder, and a vital part of a larger effort to keep our community strong, connected and energized.

Thank you for the trust you place in us. We're proud to be *your* local electric cooperative.



LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP)

LIEAP (low Income Energy Assistance Program) is a federally funded program that will help people pay heating bills during the winter heating season. The program is open to homeowners and renters. It helps cover the cost of electricity, natural gas, propane, wood, diesel heating oil, coal and pellets when these are used for heating a home.

If you or someone you know needs assistance with heating bills this winter, please contact the Department of Family Services (DFS) at 800-457-3659 or Wyoming LIEAP at 800-246-4221 to get more information. Applications are accepted from October 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026. Weatherization applications are accepted year round. More information available at LIEAPWYO.org.

Are you considering adding a pivot or increasing your load? Big Horn will be working on the 2026 budget and wants to make sure we hear from you. Please contact Clint Getzfreid at 307-568-2419 by December 1, 2025 to discuss your project.



»»» ENERGY EFFICIENCY: TIP OF THE MONTH

As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows. Leaks reduce indoor comfort and lead to higher heating costs. If you can see daylight around the edges of a window frame or if a window rattles slightly when touched, air is likely leaking. Caulking and weatherstripping are simple, effective methods for sealing windows. These materials are available in a variety of compounds and forms, each designed for different types of surfaces. Choose the right product and apply it properly to reduce heat loss, improve comfort and lower energy bills.







PREPARING FOR THE BIG HUNT

As you prepare for hunting season, keep in mind that along with general hunting safety, electrical safety should also be top of mind.

Big Horn REA reminds hunting enthusiasts of these electrical safety tips:



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-  Familiarize yourself with the area before heading out to hunt. Take note of power lines and equipment, especially when hunting in densely wooded areas.
-  Observe all signs or postings that advise electrical safety, especially when scouting out a location for your tree stand.
-  Do not use power poles to support a tree stand.
-  Do not locate a tree stand near a power line or pole.
-  Be in the habit of looking up and out for power lines and do not come within 10 feet of an overhead line or pole when setting up or taking down a stand.
-  Never climb a utility pole.

Please report any damage to a line or other related equipment to us so that we can address it. Although we perform routine maintenance, damage may not be noticed for weeks or months unless an outage occurs due to the vast amount of lines that cover our service area.

Of course, always take the time to observe general hunting safety measures as well. Stay safe out there!

ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

During the hustle and bustle of the holidays, make safety a priority to help ensure that nothing spoils the fun, and make your holiday a happy one.

- Don't overload extension cords or outlets. Electric overloads can cause shocks and start fires.
- Cords should be plugged into outlets equipped with GFCIs. Use a portable GFCI if your outdoor outlets don't have them.
- Always unplug lights when replacing a bulb. Don't string together more light strands than recommended by the manufacturer.
- Outdoors, use only lights, cords, animated displays and decorations rated for outdoor use.
- Make sure all electric cords are out of high-traffic pathways and areas.
- Do not run cords through doorways or hide them under rugs or carpets.
- Do not let children or pets play with light strands or electrical decorations.
- Never plug more than one high-wattage appliance into a single outlet.
- Make sure outlets near sinks are equipped with GFCIs.



TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Do you know the warning signs of an energy scam? Scammers will often use high-pressure tactics that create a sense of urgency. They may also ask for unusual payment methods such as gift cards or cryptocurrency. Dodgy communication is typically associated with a scam, including poor grammar, spelling errors or unusual email addresses. If you spot any of these warning signs, take a moment to pause and determine if it's legitimate or if it's a scam.



Recipe

• made with love •



Name of the dish

Hearty Potato Soup
by Clint Getzfreid

Ingredients

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 Tbsp butter
- 1 onion chopped
- Chopped celery and carrots equal to onion (about 2 cups each)
- 3 Tbsp butter
- ¼ C flour
- 1 Tbsp basil
- 4 C peeled/cubed potatoes
- 4 C Chicken broth
- 1 ½ C milk
- 16 oz block of Velveeta (cubed)
- ¼ C sour cream (or ½ block cream cheese)

Directions

- Brown the ground beef in a large stock pot, once cooked use a paper towel to remove excess grease and remove from pot and set aside.
- Add olive oil and 1 Tbsp of butter to pot on medium heat. Once melted add onion, carrots, and celery with basil and salt and pepper to taste. Stir until tender.
- Once carrots are softened, add remaining butter (3 Tbsp) add flour, stirring to coat evenly. Let cook for a few minutes to brown and remove flour.
- Add potatoes and stir until incorporated. Pour in chicken broth and let come to a light boil stirring occasionally.
- Once potatoes are fork tender, add milk sour cream and Velveeta stirring until cheese is completely melted into soup.
- Turn off heat and add chopped bacon.

If preferred, put in crock pot on keep warm or low, add bacon in 30 minutes or so before serving




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!

>>> BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FOR OUTAGE OR TROUBLE

Call the office number: ANYTIME
(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)



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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
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Make sure to check out our QR Code to reach our website quicker, and follow us on Facebook for any outage updates!



BigHornRuralElectric

