

P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038



SUMMER ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS

Now is the time of year when it's fun to be outside and enjoy warm weather activities. Now is also the time to be aware of your surroundings in order to keep safe from having any accidents caused by electrical contact. The following are some tips to keep you, your family, and friends safe during this fun summer season.

- Never go near or touch a power line. Always assume a power line is "live" and keep people and pets away from the line.
- Fly kites, balloons and model airplanes away from power lines. If one gets caught in the lines, leave it alone. Do not try to remove it.
- Never climb trees, poles or steel towers that are contacting or are near power lines. Such close contact to power lines can be deadly.
- Don't use indoor lights for outdoor purposes. Make sure the bulbs, wiring and extension cords are designed specifically for outdoor use.
- Keep all electrical appliances and toys away from water, including lawn sprinklers, swimming pools, hoses, rain, etc.
- When using a ladder, pool skimmer, water pipes or any tall object look up! Be aware of power lines overhead that could come in contact with it.
- Keep electric radios, appliances and wiring for outdoor lighting away from swimming pools. Never touch an electric device when in a pool.
- Never repair a break in an outdoor extension cord. If the cord is damaged, throw it a way and purchase a new cord.
- Before you dig in your yard, call 811 for an underground locate. There may be underground wires buried in your yard.
- If you are planting a new tree, never plant it under or near power lines. Trees will grow up and limbs may interfere with the lines and interrupt service.

Source: Internet

AMR IRRIGATION METERS

As has been written in previous articles, AMR (Automated Meter Reading) meters were placed in irrigation services mainly in the Big Horn, Hysham, Sanders, and Sheffield areas, as well as a few in other areas, earlier this year. By the time this article goes out, two months of irrigation bills will have been processed. Even though, we would like to inform all of our irrigation members about what has remained the same and what has changed with having the AMR meters.

The same: 1. Meters are billed out May - October. 2. Irrigation rates remain the same this year as they have been for the last 4 years. 3. Readings will be processed from the last working day of the month and the demand charged out will be the highest reached kW reading from each month. 4. The May statement will include all/any usage that accumulated from the last reading in October to the recorded reading in May.

The change: 1. Whether small, medium or large, if there is **any** demand shown on the meter in the months of May through October, the demand will be billed out in that month.

REMEMBER: Once you have irrigated during a calendar month, you can start your pump as many times as you want during that same month and still pay for only one maximum kW demand charge. If you are planning to start your pump for the first time during the month and it is close to the end of the month, waiting until the 1st of the next month can save you that month's demand charge.

2022 ALLOCATION OF CAPITAL CREDITS

For most of our active members who were members in 2022 you should have seen this message on your May bill statement: *****SAVE THIS BILL*****YOUR 2022 ALLOCATION INFORMATION IS ON THIS BILL. PLEASE RETAIN THIS BILL FOR YOUR PERMANENT RECORDS. Then in the 'Billing Messages' was an explanation of Allocations as well as the amount that was allocated from 2022 to your capital credit account. REMEMBER: 1. You do not owe these amounts. 2. These amounts are not now payable and do not represent cash but rather your equity in your Cooperative. 3. You cannot apply these amounts to your electric bill.

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Money-Saving Water Heater Tips

- $\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$ 1. Drain the water heater from time to time. $\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$ $\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$ $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ You can extend the life of your new or existing $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ $\overset{\frown}{\sim}$ water heater by draining a few gallons from it $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ each month. Make sure to drain the water until $\overset{\frown}{\sim}$ it runs clear. This removes sediment that collects $\overrightarrow{}$ $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ over time. This sediment makes the water heat- $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ er less efficient and shortens its lifetime. Refer to $\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$ your installation model for instructions on how to \Rightarrow $\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$ 2 do this critical step. $\stackrel{\wedge}{\sim}$
- 2. Lower the temperature of your water heater. The standard temperature setting is often set far higher than it needs to be. Lower it to 115 degrees to prevent scalds and to conserve both water and energy.

Remember to obtain an electrical permit!

You can go online or stop by our office to pick up a form. Until our office receives a copy of your permit, we are not allowed to energize the service.



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