



# news & views

from Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Storm Season is Upon Us Are You Ready?

As summer rolls around, we anxiously listen for the rolling of thunder. Summer storms can mean damage to our lines and outages for our members.

Although we have a robust right of way maintenance program, we live in a heavily forested area. There are bound to be trees or branches that will cause power outages this summer.

We still shudder when we remember the fierce windstorms that swept through in 2009 and 2012. They caused massive damage and extended outages for some of our members.

So what can you, as members, do to prepare for summer storms and possible long outages? Some preparation tips are to remove dead or dying trees that could result in structure damage, prepare an emergency kit and have a family emergency plan in place.

Another option for members who rely on electricity for live-saving devices or

who do not want the inconvenience of being without power is a back-up generator.

We now have GenerLink collars for our meters that allow members to easily connect a generator during an outage. These collars have a limited capacity and will not power everything in your home, but offer an alternative to being completely without electricity.

The collars are an easy way to implement a home generator that will not back feed onto our system. Back feed from improperly connected generators can result in a deadly situation for our lineworkers.

If you are interested in learning more about GenerLink collars and/or back-up generators, please contact Member Services at 406-889-3301 or [memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop](mailto:memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop). We do have a loan program in place to assist with the installation costs.

When you do experience an outage, ALWAYS call the office number: 406-889-3301.



Photo Courtesy of: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

## AMERICAN RED CROSS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

Being prepared means being equipped with the proper supplies you may need in the event of an emergency or disaster. Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

**At a minimum, you should have the basic supplies listed below:**

- Water: one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
- Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Family and emergency contact information
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Multi-purpose tool
- Cell phone with chargers
- Extra cash
- Emergency blanket
- Map(s) of the area

**Consider the needs of all family members and add supplies to your kit. Suggested items to help meet additional needs are:**

- Medical supplies (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc)
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Games and activities for children
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)
- Extra set of car keys and house keys
- Two-way radios
- Manual can opener

**Additional supplies to keep at home or in your survival kit based on the types of disasters common to your area:**

- Tools/supplies for securing your home
- Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes
- Whistle
- N95 or surgical masks
- Matches
- Rain gear
- Towels
- Work gloves
- Plastic sheeting
- Duct tape
- Scissors
- Household liquid bleach
- Entertainment items
- Blankets/sleeping bags

From: <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/be-red-cross-ready/get-a-kit>

# RATE CHANGE AND HOME & GARDEN SHOW

By now everyone has received their first bill under the new rate design. Over the past year Lincoln Electric mounted a campaign to inform the membership of the need for changing its past rate practices.

It is important to know that the change was precipitated by LEC desiring to create a standard of fairness between members and to ensure its ability to be in a position to incorporate all future energy technologies.

The energy industry is most definitely experiencing major changes. Whether it is on a regional, State or Federal level, the impacts of regulations on utilities will be profound. Blending different types of energy technologies into the power supply will most certainly have its difficulties.

Ensuring that our distribution system

is robust enough to incorporate those technologies while keeping it safe and reliable for everyone is always our goal. Creating rates that reflect that philosophy and doing it fairly is certainly different than what most people are used to, but is critical going forward.

If you have any questions about the impact of the new rates on your bill, please call 406-889-3301 or stop by the office at 312 Osloski Road, Eureka. We can do a rate comparison that shows the difference between the two new offered rates and the old one on your specific household use from 2016.

If you need more information on the rate change, please check out the March 2017 *Rural Montana* on our website at [www.lincolnelectric.coop](http://www.lincolnelectric.coop). We also have hard copies available in the office.

On another note, please come visit us at the Home, Garden & Lifestyle show at the Lincoln

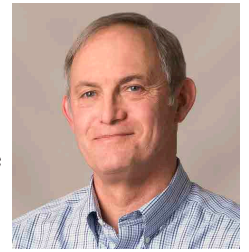
County Fairgrounds on June 10 from 10am until 6pm.

As noted in this issue's feature story, LEC, in conjunction with Rural Propane Services LLC, is offering a generator package for emergency use. It is comprised of a duel fuel generator, a disconnect collar and propane cylinder.

This system is not meant to run your entire house but critical loads like water, lights and refrigeration. It also protects our linemen from any back feed into our distribution system.

We will have an example of this setup at our booth, along with more information. We hope to see you there!

Ray



**Manager's Notes**  
by Ray Ellis

## News & Views

*Published monthly by Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

Lincoln Electric's Board of Trustees hold regular meetings monthly at the Eureka office. These are typically scheduled on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any items of interest, please contact the general manager prior to the meeting.

### Next Meeting Date:

**Monday, June 26, 2017**

### Board of Trustees

- **Mike Workman** - President, Dist. 5, Koochanusa Shores-Pinkham
- **Wesly Loughman** - Vice President, Dist. 4, Eureka-Tobacco Plains
- **Courtney Pluid** - Secretary, Dist. 3, Fortine-Glen Lake
- **Myra Appel** - Dist. 1, Flathead
- **Joel Graves** - Dist. 5, Koochanusa Shores-Pinkham
- **Tom Klyver** - Dist. 1, Flathead
- **Marianne Roose** - Dist. 3 - Fortine-Glen Lake
- **Tina Taurman** - Dist. 2, Trego-Stryker
- **Terry Utter** - Dist. 4 - Eureka-Tobacco Plains
- **Ethel White** - Dist. 4 - Eureka-Tobacco Plains

### General Manager Ray Ellis

**In case of power outage:  
Always call 406-889-3301**

312 Osloski Road  
PO Box 628  
Eureka, MT 59917

[www.lincolnelectric.coop](http://www.lincolnelectric.coop)  
[info@lincolnelectric.coop](mailto:info@lincolnelectric.coop)

## BUSINESS AND BOARDROOM BRIEFS

The regular meeting of the board of trustees was conducted on April 17, 2017. A quorum of trustees was present and the board took the following action:

- Approved changes to policies 206, 207, 208, 401, 402, 406, 408, 410, 414, 415, 416, 502, 505 and 506.
- Approved Resolutions 2017-1 through 2017-7.
- Awarded the right of way contract to Persson Tree Services.
- Approved a \$750 donation to the Eureka Chamber of Commerce for Rendezvous Days.
- Approved a \$525 donation to the Sunburst Foundation for Shakespeare in the Park.
- Approved a \$175 donation to the Kootenai Valley Rangers.
- Authorized the addition of a two-part rate offered for traditionally billed accounts.

	Year to Date 03/31/2017	Year to Date 03/31/2016
Year to Date kWh Sales	31,097,675	24,055,087
Year to Date Revenue	\$ 2,433,090	\$ 1,983,169
Year to Date Cost of Power	\$ 1,370,342	\$ 1,055,202
Year to Date Operating Exp	\$ 809,061	\$ 798,789
Year to Date Margins	\$ 256,554	\$ 122,262
Number of Members	4,499	4,414
Number of Meters	5,820	5,723
Miles of Line	955	949
Total Utility Plant	\$ 31,613,853	\$ 32,698,455
Member Equity	\$ 9,516,435	\$ 8,798,326
Mar. Average Residential Use (kWh)	1,979	1,536
Mar. Average Residential Billing	\$161.93	\$132.93

**BPA has scheduled a SYSTEM-WIDE OUTAGE  
From 11:00 pm on Wednesday, June 28, 2017  
until 5:00 am on Thursday, June 29, 2017  
ALL Lincoln Electric members will be without power  
during this time while BPA makes crucial repairs on the  
transmission line. We apologize for any inconvenience.**

## Unclaimed Capital Credit List

As part of a cooperative, our members are entitled to a refund of margins for years they had economic participation in the cooperative. These are returned in the form of capital credit checks. However, when members move, they sometimes fail to notify LEC of their address change and the checks are undeliverable. In order to make every effort possible to find those that have capital credit funds due to them, we are asking our current members to lend us a hand. Please look over the unclaimed capital credit list of names that will be published in the May, June, July 2017 *Rural Montana*. If you have a way to contact any of these folks, please contact LEC at 406-889-3301 or info@lincolnelectric.coop. Thank you for being great members!

### —H—

HAACK, LAVERN E  
HADDAD, DENISE D  
HAGGARD, MILLIE  
HAINES DRUG EUREKA  
HALE, PENNY M  
HAMERSKI, ROSE  
HAMILTON, MARY K  
HAMMOND, JIM E  
HAMMOND, WILLIAM H  
HANCE, ANNE  
HANCOCK, LEE  
HANCOCK, TERESA L  
HANNAY, JAMES M  
HANSEN, ROBERT W  
HANSON, CAROL  
HANSON, KIP  
HANSON, ROBERT  
HARDING, DICK  
HARK, PEARL J  
HARMON, CYNTHIA A  
HARPER, LENORA J  
HARRINGTON, JAMES E  
HARRINGTON, KRISTEN E  
HARRIS, JEFF  
HARRIS, SHERRI  
HARRIS, STILES  
HART, GERALD G  
HARTMAN, SUSAN  
HARVEY, ROBERT  
HAUGE, KRISTEN  
HAYES, SHELLEY  
HAYNES, BRIAN J  
HAYNES, GLEN  
HAYNES, PAUL  
HAYS, LAWRENCE L  
HAYWARD, VERNON

HEAD, DAVID  
HEATON, ELLSWORTH L  
HEGE, JOHN P  
HEINE, GAIL E  
HEINRICH, ROBBY D  
HELGELAND, KENT J  
HELLER, TINA M  
HELMER, W.L.  
HELSTROM, ERIC C  
HENDERSON, ROBERT F  
HENDERSON, ROBERT M  
HENDRICKSON,  
MATTHEW  
HENNING, CHARLENE M  
HENRIE, ARLEEN A  
HERHOLD, DEANNA L  
HERHOLD, EDWARD A  
HERRON, JAMES L  
HERRON, JOE  
HERRON, MARY P  
HIBBITTS, SUE  
HICKEY-OTSUKA,  
MAUREEN  
HICKMAN, LOIS  
HIGGINS, KENNETH  
HIGH COUNTRY TREE CO  
HILL, BETTE  
HINDMAN, RICHARD  
HINES, DOROTHY  
HINKLE, TED  
HINTON, LINDA M  
HIPSCHMAN, DAVID  
HIRSCH, JOSHUA M  
HISTORIC EUREKA  
FOUNDATION INC  
HIXON, THOMAS E  
HOAGLAND, BRIAN  
HOBART, STAMPER

HOEKSEMA, EDWARD A  
HOERNER, BRIDGER E  
HOFFMAN, GARY  
HOGGE, LARRY G  
HOLDEN, KAY L  
HOLDER, ROBERT W  
HOLLINGSWORTH,  
TERESA  
HOLTON, RON  
HOOD, THOMAS A  
HORNING, VIRGINIA  
HOSTUTLER, HEATHER M  
HOULIHAN, ARTHUR  
HOWARD, RHONDA  
HOWE, CHUCK  
HUBBLE, LINDA L  
HUBER, CAREY  
HUD - FHA  
HUDSON, JERREL L  
HULL, LOIS M  
HULLVERLY, VALLAIA  
HUMMISTON, ROBERT  
HUMPHREYS, RAMONA C  
HUTTA, PAUL

### —I—

INGLE, JANA K  
ISLAND, SYDNEY

### —J—

J J WELCOME  
CONSTRUCTION  
JACKSON, WILLIAM K  
JAMES, JESSE  
JAQUISH, JERRY  
JARDIN, JACK  
JENKINS, LINDA K  
JENSEN, KAREN G

JENSEN, PATRICIA N  
JENSHUS, SVEIN  
JOHANSON, KRISTEN R  
JOHNSON, CINDY S  
JOHNSON, CORNELIA S  
JOHNSON, GARY L  
JOHNSON, HAROLD  
JOHNSON, KURT S  
JOHNSON, LYLE  
JOHNSON, MIKE  
JOHNSON, SCOTT  
JOHNSON, THERESA  
JOHNSTON, DALLAS D  
JOHNSTON, DAVID L  
JONES, ARLENE L  
JONES, JERRY M  
JONES, RONALD W  
JORDAN, BEVERLY  
JORGENSEN, JENNIFER L  
JORGENSEN, ROBERT R  
JOSEPHSON, WAYNE L JR

### —K—

KABER, HARVEY N  
KATELEY, DAN  
KEEGAN, FAITH  
KEIM, DEAN B  
KELLEY, JOHN M  
KELLEY, WARREN J  
KELLY, CASEY E  
KELLY, RICK  
KELLY, THOM  
KELTNER, PAT H  
KENNEDY, FREADA A  
KIENITZ, LANCE  
KING, DIANA G  
KING, MARK S

*Continued on page 6*



**Unclaimed**

*Continued from page 5*

KING, MILDRED L  
 KING, STAN D  
 KINNEY, GARY  
 KIRILOFF, BRUCE D  
 KISER, GORDON P  
 KITCHENS, WILLIAM  
 KIZER, WAYNE  
 KJENSRUD, TREVOR  
 KLIMENT, OTTO E  
 KLINKE'S CHRISTMAS  
 TREES  
 KNOTTS, PATRICIA  
 KNUDSEN, DOUGLAS R  
 KOEHN, DANNY  
 KOLODZIEJ, RON  
 KOPF, LESLIE  
 KRAEPLIN, KENNETH J  
 KRAMAREVSKY, MIKHAIL  
 KRAUSS, ISABELLE A  
 KYSAR, ZONA I

**-L-**

LABAR, JEAN  
 LABAU, DAVID W  
 LABOMBARD, ALICE C  
 LACHANCE, PATTI L  
 LACHAPPELLE, CAROL  
 LAKOTAH LAND CO.  
 LAMB, FRANK  
 LAMBERT, SHAWN  
 LAMONT, MURRAY  
 LANCIEN, JOHN G  
 LANDON, SCOTT B  
 LANE, TERRY  
 LANFORD, BRUCE E  
 LANPHAR, BILL B  
 LANPHAR, SUSAN  
 LAROQUE, ANNE M  
 LAROQUE, BEN A  
 LARSEN, BRETT  
 LARSON, DONALD W  
 LARSON, LARRY  
 LASHLEY, DAVID W  
 LATHAM, LOICE  
 LAURSEN, ANDY  
 LAVALLEY, ROCHELLE  
 LAWETZKI, VIRGINIA F  
 LAWLER, LINDA L  
 LAWRENCE, JANET  
 LAWSON, SUSAN  
 LEDYARD, JOHN L  
 LEE, AUBREY  
 LEE, ENOS D  
 LEE, RANDY C  
 LEHNEN, FRED L  
 LENIUS, DOUG R  
 LENT, DAVID  
 LERCK, BOB W  
 LESLIE, PATRICK J  
 LEVESQUE, SHERRY  
 LEVESQUE, TERESA  
 LEVINSON, ROSALIE W

LEWIS, JOHN  
 LEWIS, LARRY  
 LEWIS, SALLY  
 LEWIS, WILLIAM  
 LICENCE, SANDY L  
 LIDSTER, JAMES H  
 LILLY, CARROLL  
 LINCOLN, RUSSELL R  
 LINDQUIST, VERONA  
 LINN, DARWIN C  
 LOEHR, WILLIAM  
 LOGAN, CINDY A  
 LONG, JEFFREY G  
 LONG, VICTOR L  
 LOOMIS, JEFFREY R  
 LOPEZ, AMADO  
 LORENZ, JOE  
 LOUREY, MICHAEL D  
 LOWRY, STEVE  
 LUCE, JERRY W SR  
 LUCIANO, ALFRED A JR  
 LUCIANO, ALFRED J  
 LUETKE, SANDRA  
 LUETKE, TRACY M  
 LUI, ALBERT  
 LUMSDEN, ARTHUR  
 LYTE, KACEY E

**-M-**

MACFARREN, WISHART  
 MACK, DAVID L JR  
 MACK, JOHN  
 MACKER, ROBERT  
 MACKAY, DANIEL M  
 MACKAY, S.A.  
 MACMILLAN, BUCK M  
 MAERTENS, MARY L  
 MAGONE, MICHAEL  
 MAHON, TAMMY  
 MAILE, CHAD L  
 MANGOLD, MICHAEL T  
 MANUEL, IRVIN R  
 MANYX, PATRICK  
 MARABLE, RUSS  
 MARGRAVE, WILLIAM D  
 MARSH, MICHELLE S  
 MARSHALL, GARRETT  
 MARSHALL, RALPH  
 MARTIN, A.F.  
 MARTIN, DAVID A  
 MARTIN, DWAIN E  
 MARTIN, FRED E  
 MARTIN, THOMAS L  
 MARTINDALE, RANDALL B  
 MARTINEZ, MANUEL  
 MARTINY, CARL  
 MARVIN MEYERS  
 LOGGING  
 MARZINKO, MARY  
 MASCHE, MARILYN  
 MASON, GLORIA M  
 MASON, JAMES  
 MATOUSEK, GEORGE V  
 MATTHEWS, JERRY L

MCCLOY, DELBERT  
 MCCULLEY, MICHAEL B  
 MCCULLY, BRUCE J  
 MCCULLY, TAIMI L  
 MCCUTCHEON, PAIGE  
 MCDONALD, J.C.  
 MCDONALD, MIKE  
 MCDONALD, ROBERT A  
 MCGARVEY, DALE L  
 MCGAVIN, KORY B  
 MCINERNEY, BRIAN  
 MCINTYRE, JERRY  
 MCKAY, CRAIG R  
 MCNAIR, LILY A  
 MCNAIR, LYLE F  
 MCNAMARA, DANENE L  
 MEEHAN, MICHAEL  
 MEEKER, MICHAEL J  
 MEHA, JEVAT  
 MEHAFFEY, LANCE  
 MELLOW, JOHN  
 MELTON, EARL R  
 MEREDITH, ANNATESA  
 MEYER, RACHEL  
 MIKITA, HOLLY  
 MILLER, BARBARA M  
 MILLER, CAROL A  
 MILLER, CURTIS  
 MILLER, GLADYS  
 MILLER, KARL A  
 MILLER, LAURA M  
 MILLS, RICHARD  
 MINGS, MARY K  
 MOBERG, GARY  
 MOCKO, STEPHEN R  
 MOEN, MICHAEL R  
 MOFFATT, ROBERTA  
 MOGUS, RHETA  
 MOHR, MIKE  
 MOLLANDER, KAREN  
 MONROE, PEGGY  
 MONROE, STEVEN  
 MONTANA, DEAN  
 MONTANA DEPT OF  
 HEALTH  
 MONTANO, FELICIA A  
 MONTEX PROPERTIES  
 INC  
 MOORE, DON  
 MOORE, EUGENE  
 MOORE, LAURA S  
 MOQUIST, GLEN R  
 MORGAN, JAMES P  
 MORGAN, LARRY  
 MORRIS, DONALD J  
 MORRIS, MICHAEL A  
 MORROW, KEVIN E  
 MOSER, WAYNE J  
 MOSS, C.S.  
 MOSTELLER, DANIEL D  
 MT STAR PARTNERSHIP  
 MULFORD, TRAVIS  
 MUNDS, KATHLEEN G  
 MURPHY, GEARY S

MURPHY, PATRICIA  
 MURPHY, TIMOTHY P  
 MYERS, TAMMI L  
 MYHRA, MONTE J  
 MYHRE ADVERTISING  
 MYRICK, JERRY E  
 MYRICK, ROGER

**-N-**

N. B. NELSON CO.  
 NAISBITT, JOHN T  
 NEILSON, CURTIS D  
 NELSON, DENNIS  
 NELSON, DOROTHY  
 NELSON, GORDAN R JR  
 NELSON, LORNA C  
 NELSON, NEAL B  
 NERECK, STEVE T  
 NESVACIL, MICHAEL L  
 NEWBURY, CAROL L  
 NEWMAN, DEBORAH  
 NEWTON, HELMA N  
 NEWTON, RICHARD N  
 NICHOLSON, JOAN E  
 NICKELL, JOHN R  
 NICKELL, SHAWN H  
 NICKERSON, CLAY  
 NIX, JOHN L  
 NORMAN, KATHY  
 NORTHWEST GAMES INC

**-O-**

O'BRIEN, ERNEST  
 O'BRIEN, JOHN T  
 O'BRIEN, LOUIE  
 O'FARRELL, EDIE M  
 OLSON, J.R.  
 OLSON, JAY C  
 ORMISTON, TODD  
 OSBORNE, STEPHANIE A  
 OSLER, CHARLES R  
 OSTWALD, JAMI  
 OTTO, KEN J  
 OVIST, EDITH  
 OWENS, HERMAN  
 OWENS & HURST  
 LEASING

**-P-**

**(Partial)**

PAGE, JEANETTE M  
 PALMER, JEREMY C  
 PANIAGUS, PEDRO  
 PARAMUSHAK, ROMAN  
 PARKER, ROGER D  
 PARKER, STEPHAN R  
 PARKMAN, CHERYL M  
 PARRISH, BILL  
 PARSLEY, RON  
 PARSONS, JAMES D  
 PATCHELL, GARY  
 PATRICK, BARBARA  
 PATTERSON, JOLLADEANE  
 PAYTON, BRUCE

*Continued in July*