



WATTS CURRENT

Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative
Reliable. Affordable. Responsible.



June 2022

Shine The Light – Nominate a Local Volunteer by June 30!

Do you know someone in our community who deserves to be recognized for making a difference? Nominate them for our Shine the Light contest by June 30 and they could win \$2,000 for their local charity or nonprofit.

"We're really excited to participate in this statewide effort to celebrate our cooperative commitment to community," remarked CEO Jim Gossett. "There are many volunteers throughout our service area who deserve to be recognized."

Sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, this contest debuted last year and celebrates the people who make our communities better. Three winners will be announced in September and each will receive a \$2,000 donation for their charity or nonprofit. The winners will also be featured in the September issue of Iowa Electric Cooperative Living magazine. 12.12.01



How to Nominate

Member-owners and employees of Iowa's electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate local volunteers. If you receive electricity from RVEC, you're a co-op member-owner and we encourage you to nominate someone who is making a positive impact in the community. The volunteer being nominated does not need to be a co-op member-owner. Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians.

Go to www.iowaShineTheLight.com by June 30 to make a nomination and to review the contest rules.

Nominating Committee Selected

Seven members were elected to serve on the 2022 nominating committee. The purpose of the committee is to nominate members to serve on RVEC's board of directors.

District 1	Jason Klocke
District 2	Dennis Kennebeck
District 3	Jeremiah Johnson
District 4	Louis Tigges Jr
District 5	Dale Wernimont
District 6	Raasch Farms / Carol Raasch
District 7	Dennis Cook



Nominators will need to provide contact information and answer this question in 500 words or less: How has your nominee made a positive difference in the community and why do they deserve to be recognized?

Help us shine the light on our community volunteers; make a nomination by June 30!



CEO Jim Gossett

Supporting an “All-of-the-Above” Strategy for Energy Generation

Reliable. Affordable. Responsible. It is easy to say. It is an easy tagline to put on a shirt or letterhead. But it can be difficult to execute. At RVEC, we are intentional about demonstrating our commitment to safely providing reliable, affordable and responsible power to our member-owners.

Last month I used this space in the newsletter to address RVEC's efforts to keep rates affordable. This month, I would like to express our commitment to reliability. RVEC is a not-for-profit rural electric distribution cooperative, owned by you, the members we serve. For more than 80 years, our member-owners have been able to count on us to keep their power on.

It is through this lens that we evaluate energy source proposals and plans for the future. It matters less what the generation source is than that whatever the source, it is reliable.

In cooperation with our power suppliers, Corn Belt Power in Humboldt, IA, and Basin Electric Power in Bismarck, ND, we have implemented a successful community solar program and are currently developing a utility-scale battery storage trial. Renewable sources of generation will continue to grow.

Member-owners rely on RVEC to provide electricity even when the sun is not shining, the wind is not blowing, and cold temperatures limit the use of battery storage dependability. An “ALL-of-the-Above” generation mix, including legacy carbon-based resources and nuclear, is crucial to keeping the lights on for RVEC member-owners.

Last month, some utilities in the Midwest were put on notice by their regional transmission operators that energy could run short this summer. An unrealistic timeline for transition to renewables and a corresponding reduction in reliable baseload generation from fossil fuels could very well leave our member-owners without power. We are asking lawmakers at every level to be aware of the grave nature of a rapid transition to renewable generation that will disrupt the delicate balance of supply and demand for power grid equipment. 14.25.06

There is an evolution to renewables. Balancing the desire for less emissions with the critical need for reliable energy in a measured, thoughtful approach can allow RVEC to continue to safely provide reliable, affordable and responsible energy.

Corn Belt Power Cooperative

(Power Supplier to RVEC)

Generation Mix (2020)

Coal	46.1%
Energy Market Purchases	22.0%
Renewables (not hydro)	18.1%
Natural Gas	6.6%
Renewable Hydro	6.4%
Nuclear	0.9%

Property Taxes Paid

Property taxes are used to help fund such important things as education and city and county government. You might not be aware of it, but your Cooperative pays property taxes. RVEC receives a tax bill for the poles, wires, transformers, etc. out on the line and another tax bill for the office and warehouse. RVEC pays taxes in nine counties that we serve.

The following is a breakdown of the property taxes paid in 2021/2022

County	Taxes Paid
Audubon County	\$3,414
Buena Vista County	\$136
Calhoun County	\$626
Carroll County	\$41,771
Crawford County	\$50
Greene County	\$2,961
Guthrie County	\$379
Ida County	\$67
Sac County	\$20,758

Stay Safe Over Fourth of July

Make your holiday a safe one for your family by following some common-sense rules for celebrating with and near electricity.

1. Keep fireworks far away from overhead power lines. If fireworks are legal in your community and you choose to set them off yourself, keep them at least 10 feet away from power lines and 35 feet away from high-voltage wires.
2. Keep an eye on your grill. Whether it's electric, gas or charcoal, do not leave a hot grill unattended, even for a few minutes. Their intense heat can easily harm children or pets. Plus, if flames are involved, you need to be there if they get out of control. Cooking accidents are the leading cause of house fires.
3. If you need an extension cord to plug in your grill or another cooking appliance, do not use that cord on more than one device at a time. And do not plug extension cords into each other; they're not designed for that. They can overheat and cause a fire.
4. Keep the grill, blender, TV and other appliances away from the pool and from all water sources. Even if you're a safe distance away from the water, unplug the appliance as soon as you're finished using it.
5. Have a working fire extinguisher on hand.



**RVEC will be
CLOSED**

**Monday, July 4th
for Independence Day.**

***Have a Safe and
Happy Holiday!***

Membership – Single or Joint

Joint memberships are allowed for RVEC member-owners according to provisions in the Articles of Incorporation. Please read the following questions and answers to consider whether or not you and your spouse should consider a joint membership.

1. **What are the advantages of a joint membership?**
 - With a joint membership, either spouse is eligible to serve on the Board of Directors or the Nominating Committee.
 - Either one or the other may vote at a Cooperative Annual Meeting.
2. **Does a joint membership entitle both the husband and wife a vote at a Cooperative Annual Meeting?**
 - No. A membership, whether single or joint, has one vote. Either spouse may cast the vote, but the joint membership has only one vote.
3. **What happens to the patronage dividends if either the husband or wife dies with a joint membership?**
 - If a husband and wife hold a joint membership and one of the two dies, the membership is considered to be held by the survivor. Ownership assignment of the patronage is transferred to the surviving spouse.
 - In the case of a single membership, if the member dies, the surviving spouse must take out a new membership in his or her name. The patronage is paid out to the deceased spouse's estate and is not assigned to the surviving spouse's new membership.

Forms to change your membership are available at the RVEC office. Look at the name on your electric bill to see if you have a single or joint membership. 22.24.02

Please call if you would like more information about memberships.

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Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative
(RVEC) is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.



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Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
Reliable • Affordable • Responsible

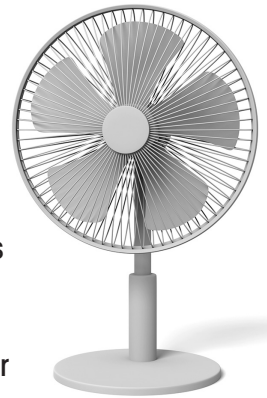


Touchstone Energy®

The power of human connections

Keep Cool This Summer Without Blasting Your A/C

There's no need to lose your cool when you get your summer electric bill during the hottest days of the year. Instead, try some alternatives to cranking up the air conditioning when the sun is blazing and it hasn't rained in days. 38.27.03



1. Install a dehumidifier. If the indoors feels as humid as the outdoors, there's too much water in the inside air. If you see water dripping out of the air conditioner or if you have to set it so low that you're freezing just to feel comfortable humidity-wise, the dehumidifier will help.
2. Cook outdoors or eat cold food. Salads, raw veggies and fruit make great summer meals, and they don't require you to turn on the stove or oven, which can make the air in the kitchen too warm. Instead, gather the family for a barbecue and fire up the outdoor grill or serve a cold buffet on extra-hot evenings.
3. Hang bright curtains. Red, orange and yellow tend to deflect heat, so for curtains, those colors are energy efficient. Closing the curtains or blinds during the day will keep sunrays from heating up the home you're trying to keep cool. Or install solar screens or a window tint to let in the light but keep out the heat.
4. Run fans. Ceiling fans whose blades turn counterclockwise pull heat up out of the room and send a soft breeze down into it, so anybody nearby will feel cooler. Portable electric fans placed in windows facing outward can suck heat out of a room on days when you want to give your a/c a break.
5. Run your dishwasher and clothes washer and dryer after dark. Appliances that use heat to operate also throw some heat into the rooms where they are located. So run them during the coolest part of the day—after the sun goes down.



VIEW YOUR KWH USAGE AND PAY YOUR BILL

Save yourself some time.
Go to www.rvec.coop
and pay your bill online.

Spot Your Number

Read Watts Current and watch for your location number. If you spot it, call RVEC by the 20th of the month and you will receive an electrical bill credit for \$25.00.