



TIPS From T.I.P.

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OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

December 2009

Brooklyn, Iowa

Electricity Is Off. Do You Need Stand-by Power?

With your ever increasing reliance on electricity, it may be time to review your possible need for “stand-by power”.

Your Cooperative will continue to provide you with good service continuity. However, there still can be quite a few service interruptions-some planned, but most unplanned-that make it impossible to provide uninterrupted electric service to you. A few examples of unplanned service interruptions would be storms of any nature as lightning, ice or wind; animals such as raccoons or squirrels climbing up poles and shorting out the lines; vandals shooting out line insulators; vehicles hitting poles; etc.

If you can get by without electricity without too much inconvenience to you until your Cooperative can restore power, you may not need to obtain a stand-by power unit. If instead you must endure too many inconveniences and problems when your power is interrupted (one example might be if you have a large confinement setup), you probably should consider obtaining a double throw meter loop (a special loop used with stand-by power so your generated power does not go back out on the main line), a stand-by generator of some sort, and a proper outage alarm system. Depending upon the size and nature of your operation, you may want a tractor generator or a separate generator unit. Quite a few consumers have purchased automatic stand-by generators which, when operating properly, start up and operate automatically while your main power source is off.

Think it over, and if you would like further information on this matter, feel free to give your Cooperative a call.

Moving? Don't forget to notify your Cooperative.

Want to Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card? Log on to tiprec.com and Click on Rapid Pay or Call 866-271-5568.

Where Are You Losing Air?

If you've ever walked by your door or window on a blustery winter day and felt a chill, you might be wasting precious heating dollars on air that leaks out of your home.

When warm air is lost through tiny gaps and cracks in your home, your heating system will work harder to keep your home warm, and that can raise your energy bill and reduce your comfort.

As long as you're outside hanging holiday lights and decorating your yard this season, take a few minutes to stroll around the perimeter of your house in search of leaky culprits. Here's what to look for:

1. Gaps and cracks around exterior light fixtures, outdoor taps and other openings in the outside wall of the house.
2. Gaps around cable and phone lines or dryer vents that enter the house.
3. Exhaust vents and fans. Make sure they're closed tightly and free of dirt and lint.
4. Caulking around windows. It should be in good condition where window frames meet the brick or siding.
5. Damage to siding or other exterior cladding. Rips can let in cold air and water, which causes mold.
6. Loose bricks and mortar around the chimney or foundation. If you find leaks, take these steps to minimize air loss:
 - Seal gaps and cracks around fixtures and door and window frames with exterior caulk.
 - Use roof caulk to seal flashing around chimneys, skylights, rooftop vents and plumbing risers.
 - Call a contractor to inspect and repair loose bricks.

T.I.P. Rural Electric Phone Numbers:

Regular hours 641-522-9221

After hours & holidays 641-522-9223

Toll free anytime 800-934-7976

Office hours: 8-5 weekdays

website: www.tiprec.com



1992 Patronage Checks Returned After Payment In 2009

(Continued from November newsletter)

Jensen, Addison, Grinnell
Johnson, Jim D., Toledo
Jordt, Elmer G., % Jenny Jordt Roberts, Farmington, NM
Jung, Richard J., Saint Ansgar
Jurgensen, Connie Phillis, Grinnell
K S & K Contractors, Inc, Tama
Kaiser, Albert, Ozark, MO
Kauffman, Clark, Apache Jct, AZ
Kent, Tina, Fairfield, AR
Koch, Marty, Williamsburg
Kohl, Emery L., % Kathy Thompson, Cedar Rapids
Kriegel, Audrey A., Iowa City
Kruse, Mark A., Williamsburg
Kruse, Robert A., or Scott W. Meyer, Marengo
Kubik, Mrs. Charles, Marshalltown
Lamar, R. W., Des Moines
Lamb, Mrs. Charles, Belle Plaine
Lane, Colleen, Victor
Lasley, Gerard E., Tama
Lasley, Wayne K., Tama
Lebeda, James, Dysart
Lechters, Inc., % Technical Traffic Cons, Bardonia, NY
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Leopold, Harry C., Des Moines
Leslie Fay Outlet, Williamsburg Outlet, Wilkes Barre, PA
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Livingston, Gary Lee, Eureka Springs, AR
Lossner, Harold, Des Moines
Lynch, Earl or Betty, Beacon
Lynch, Steven P., Kihei, HI
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Maruska, Allen, Elberon
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Mauskemo, Aaron Shaun, Tama
Mauskemo, Glendora, Tama
Mc Elmeel, Gerald, Moberly, MO
Mc Fate, Carl, Laverne Mc Fate for the account of Carl Mc Fate, Toledo
Mc Lennan, Charles, Laurie S. Mc Lennan for the account of Charles Mc Lennan, Bozeman, MT
Michael, Larry J., Victor
Mikasa Factory Store #48, % Facility IQ-MS 1151, Spokane, WA
Miller, Christina, or Kelly Smith or Michelle Massey, Wayland
Miller, Terry L., % Elizabeth Massears, Lebanon, IL
Moore, Erica, Sigourney

Moore, Mari Leigh, Fairfield
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Molloy, Mrs. Willard, Johnston
Morgan, Mrs. Gailey, Tama
Mason, Leonard, Kathryn N. Morrison for the account of Leonard Mason, Tama
Mullnix, Dave, Marengo
Mumby, Scott, Victor
Nagel, Edith, Sigourney
Neill, Doris, Williamsburg
Nelsen, Darrell, North English
Nelson, Ardith, Ottumwa
Kiewit Network Technologies, Inc., Adel
Novy, Andrew J., or Alice R. Novy, Delray Beach, FL
O'Donnell, Billy W., Linden, IN
Odem, Richard L., Newton
Olson, Mrs. Russell W., Marengo
Orit Retail Holding Co., Gitano Group, Attn: Jessica Osipowitz, Edison, NJ
Osten, Ray, % Marjorie Ford, Homestead
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Schumm, Connie Clopton, Iowa City
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Selco, Inc., Dubuque

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Simmons, Donna, Ladora
Sines, Vickie, Sigourney
Smith, Tom P., Elizabethton, TN
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Steffen, Craig D., Williamsburg
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Taylor, Robert, % Cindie Jordan, Tama
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Vaughn, John H., Omaha, NE
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Voss, Jeffrey E., Williamsburg
Walden, David L., Arlington, TX
Walker Jr., Alex, Tama
Walsh, Henrietta, Hayesville
Watson, Dr. Robert, Nancy Malek for the account of Dr.
Robert Watson, Sherborn, MA
Weida, Joe, Traer
Weir, Mrs. Charles, Toledo
Wellman Savings Bank, Wellman Investment Co. for the
account of Wellman Savings Bank, Wellman
Wells, Jay, Carlisle
Welton, Kirk, Marshalltown
Western Outdoor Adv., Tifton, GA
Whisenhunt, Keith or Lisa, % Betty Whisenhunt, Belle
Plaine
White, Mrs. John V., Iowa City
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Williamsburg Pizza Hut, Wichita, KS
Wolfe, Henry D., Des Moines
Woodsmall, Denzell L., Burlington
Wright, James A., Coralville
Yeager, Deborah D., Ottumwa
Yock, Kaye, % Kaye Hanzlik, Chelsea
Yoder, James J., Madison, WI

Young, Barbara A., Hiawatha
Youngbear, Minnie, Tama
Youngbear, Nina, Toledo
Zeigler, Danny, Webster City

Beat December's Bad Fire Rap

December can be the happiest, homiest month of the year. It can also be the most dangerous.

More electrical house fires occur around the holidays than any other time, according to the U.S. Fire Administration. Lighting, heating and appliance use increase in the winter as we spend more of the day indoors and welcome more visitors to our homes.

Electrical system failures and appliance defects are sometimes the culprits in electrical fires. But much more often, faulty wiring and overloaded circuits or extension cords are to blame. In both cases, the fires are preventable.

Other preventable fires are traced to misused or poorly maintained cords, such as those run under rugs, frayed and overloaded into sockets.

Taking the proper precautions and using electrical cords safely can greatly reduce your risk of fire. Take these actions to help rid your home of fire risks:

- Check for outlets and light switches that are hot to the touch; a licensed electrician should replace any you might find.
- Have an electrician inspect your wiring if you frequently blow fuses. The heat from an overloaded electrical circuit makes the fuse blow.
- Replace all worn, frayed or damaged appliance cords immediately. Frayed wires can cause fires.
- Do not force a three-prong plug into a two-slot outlet or remove the third prong. The third prong minimizes the risk of electric shock.
- Never overload extension cords or wall sockets. Invest in power strips that also protect your electronics from power surges.
- Never run extension cords under the rug or use them outside, unless they are rated for outside use. Extension cords are designed for temporary use only.

Energy Efficiency-Tip Of The Month

Turn off kitchen, bath, and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing. When replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.

Attention members: You will notice a small red light on your meter. Do not be alarmed. This indicates the automatic meter reading device (Turtle) is working.

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Happy Holidays from your Directors and Employees

2010 Electrical Record					
Keep this calendar handy to record each month's electric bill.					
Month	Meter Reading	k.W.h. Used	Amount of Bill	Date Paid	Check No.
JAN.					
FEB.					
MAR.					
APR.					
MAY					
JUNE					
JULY					
AUG.					
SEPT.					
OCT.					
NOV.					
DEC.					

MAY WE SUGGEST: That you cut out the above chart, and when you complete your monthly bills, mark this chart also. This will be your continuous record of payments made and meter readings for the year. You can record the meter readings from the automatic meter reading system by looking on your bill.