A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

CHARLES MIX ELECTRIC
SEPTEMBER 2023 VOL. 24 NO. 5

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

Invasive Species

Zebra Mussels on the Missouri
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Drone Spraying
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Who is Frank??

Russell Gall
Manager

Many of our members know that I was the member services advisor here at Charles Mix Electric for over two decades before becoming the general manager. That job included a vast array of different tasks, including implementing new technology, problem solving and dealing with customers, most of which are member-owners of this cooperative. I learned a lot during that time, and some lessons I carry with me even today.

One such lesson came early on when dealing with the customers during that part of my career. That lesson was that it is best to be honest and frank with the members. In fact, I remember the very event that stuck that notion in my mind nearly 25 years ago. It was a discussion with a member regarding the payment for two water heaters, both of which did not qualify for rebates as the member had initially thought. I explained the policy, its intent and why those two water heaters did not qualify as freebies. However, I never just said the words "You have to pay for these." Thankfully, the member finally figured it out, then expressed his dissatisfaction in the most honest and frank manner possible. That tongue-lashing suddenly made me realize that I could have gotten to the inevitable part of where the intelligence of my posterior was put into question a whole lot quicker had I just uttered those six words. What I also learned was that being upfront with people should not include expletives that may hurt one's feelings.

Here is the reason I tell this story about being direct and truthful. It has everything to do with the future of electric rates for Charles Mix Electric customers, specifically changes to the farm and residential rate structure. Since farms and residents are the largest group of CME members, I want to be upfront about the changes that will affect a lot of people.

Currently, what we are looking at is increasing the monthly service charge, lowering the price per kwh to one flat rate, and possibly adding new components such as demand charges, transformer or additional meter charges, or time-of-use rates. I cannot give you specifics yet, since none of these changes are set in stone, but they are things being considered for implementation over the next three years. You can see that the rate is going to be broken into smaller pieces with a cost associated for each component. None of these proposals will significantly change the overall price of electricity for most members. Still, some members will be affected in a positive way, while others may end up paying more for their power.

Although not new to electric cooperatives in South Dakota, these changes may surprise most, or even upset some CME members. Nevertheless, the driving force behind these changes is simply to make the rates fair for all members. In order to do that, the rates need to be designed to compensate for new technology and intermittent use of power in our unique area of SD. Things like solar generation systems, electric vehicles and the seasonal services which have sprouted up all along the Missouri impact

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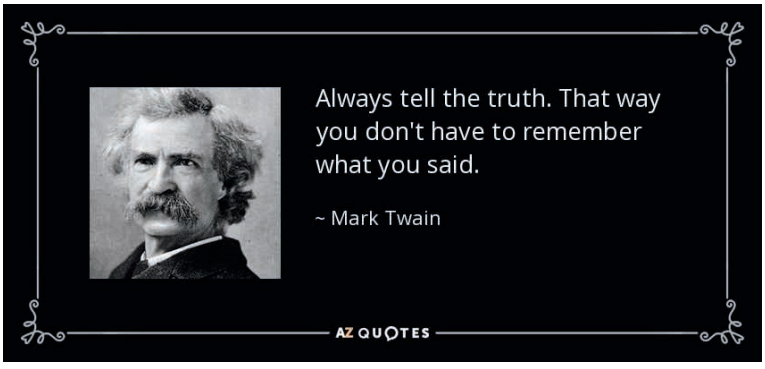

COOPERATIVE
CONNECTIONS

CHARLES MIX ELECTRIC

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BE PREPARED! IT'S NOT JUST FOR BOY SCOUTS

Does your family have an emergency plan in the event of a natural disaster? September is National Preparedness Month. It's a great time to think about what you would do if disaster strikes.

What can you do to prepare for an unexpected catastrophe? Make an emergency plan. Discuss this plan with your family members. Consider any special needs your family might have. Make sure kids know important phone numbers. Plan and practice evacuation routes.

Put together an emergency supply kit. Include enough non-perishable food and water for several days. Flashlights, radios, and extra batteries are helpful. Keep your kit stocked with necessities, including medical care and first-aid items. Consider the special needs of older adults, pets, and those with disabiliities in your household.

Disasters can happen anywhere, any time. Stay a step ahead by signing up for local weather and emergency alerts.

Open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Open 7:00 a.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day
Closed weekends/holidays
Call 1-800-208-8587 for outages or emergencies.

Your meter is read on the 1st of each month. Payments are due by the 15th of each month. $2 fee for late payments.

No One Can Take Your Place

National Farm Safety and Health Week Sept. 17-23, 2023

The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers.

Fall harvest time can be one of the busiest and most dangerous seasons of the year for the agriculture industry. For this reason, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week.

This annual promotion initiated by the National Safety Council has been proclaimed as such by each sitting U.S. President since Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944. National Farm Safety and Health Week is led by the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS), the agricultural partner of the National Safety Council.

Did you know?

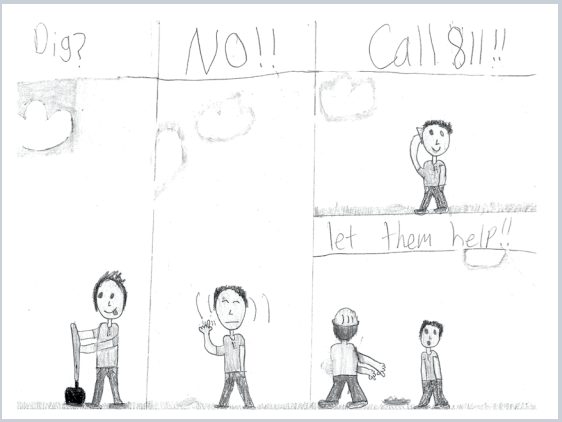
- Rural roads pose special dangers especially during harvest season. Watch out for slow-moving farm vehicles and be informed, aware, and patient while sharing rural roadways.
- Farm stress is real, and many things like weather events, tragedies, market uncertainty, or diseases can tip us out of our comfort zone.
- Every day, about 33 children are seriously injured in agricultural-related incidents.
- Hazardous gasses on farms can be found in silos, manure storages, grain bins, and other confined spaces. Be in the know about hazardous gasses and where they can be found on farms.

Farm and ranch life can be demanding and stressful. Over the past several years, it has reached a critical stage for the folks who grow America's food with COVID-19 pandemic impacts on top of natural disasters, extreme weather events, financial pressures due to fluctuating commodity prices, labor shortages, trade disruptions and a long list of other factors. Given these ongoing challenges, it's no surprise that more farmers and farm families are experiencing stress and mental health concerns.

Today, safety professionals still use this promotional week to remind those working in our nation's most dangerous industry to be careful. Agriculture's death rate is why farmers and ranchers must use safe farming practices during harvest and throughout the year.

South Dakota's electric cooperatives urge our agricultural producers to make better safety and health decisions this harvest season and during the next year. Join us in promoting safety during the 80th annual **National Farm Safety and Health Week Sept. 17-23, 2023**.

During this time, please encourage others to adopt safe practices and behaviors as we prepare to prevent injuries during this harvest season.



Call 811!

Evey Hinrichs, Age 9 3/4

Evey Hinrichs advises people it's not safe to dig before calling 811. Evey is the daughter of Kelby and Carrie Fey from Aberdeen, S.D., members of Northern Electric Cooperative.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

DIPS AND SPREADS

SPINACH DIP

Ingredients:

- 16 oz. sour cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise (must be mayo)
- 1 pkg. frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 1 can water chestnuts, chopped
- 1 tbsp. minced onion
- 1 tsp. season salt
- 1/2 tsp. Accent
- Dash of Worchestershire sauce
- 2 dashes of hot sauce

METHOD

Serve with Club or Ritz crackers.

Linda Hubbard
Rapid City, S.D.

CREAMY CINNAMON DIP

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 container (8 oz.) sour cream
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tbsps. milk
- 2 tsps. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. all natural pure vanilla extract

METHOD

Beat all ingredients in medium bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Spoon into serving bowl. Cover.
Refrigerate until ready to serve. Serve with fresh fruit slices, cookies or pound cake or angel food cubes.

mccormick.com

CARAWAY CHEESE SPREAD

Ingredients:

- 1 container (12 oz.) Cheddar cheese spread, at room temperature
- 2 tsps. minced onions
- 1 1/2 tsps. whole caraway seed
- 1/2 tsp. Lawry's® Seasoned Salt

METHOD

Mix cheese spread and seasonings in medium bowl. Cover.
Refrigerate at least 2 hours to blend flavors.
Serving Suggestion: Serve with assorted vegetables such as celery sticks, cherry tomatoes, jicama sticks, carrot sticks, endive leaves, and/or assorted crackers.

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Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

Manager's Column

continued from page 2

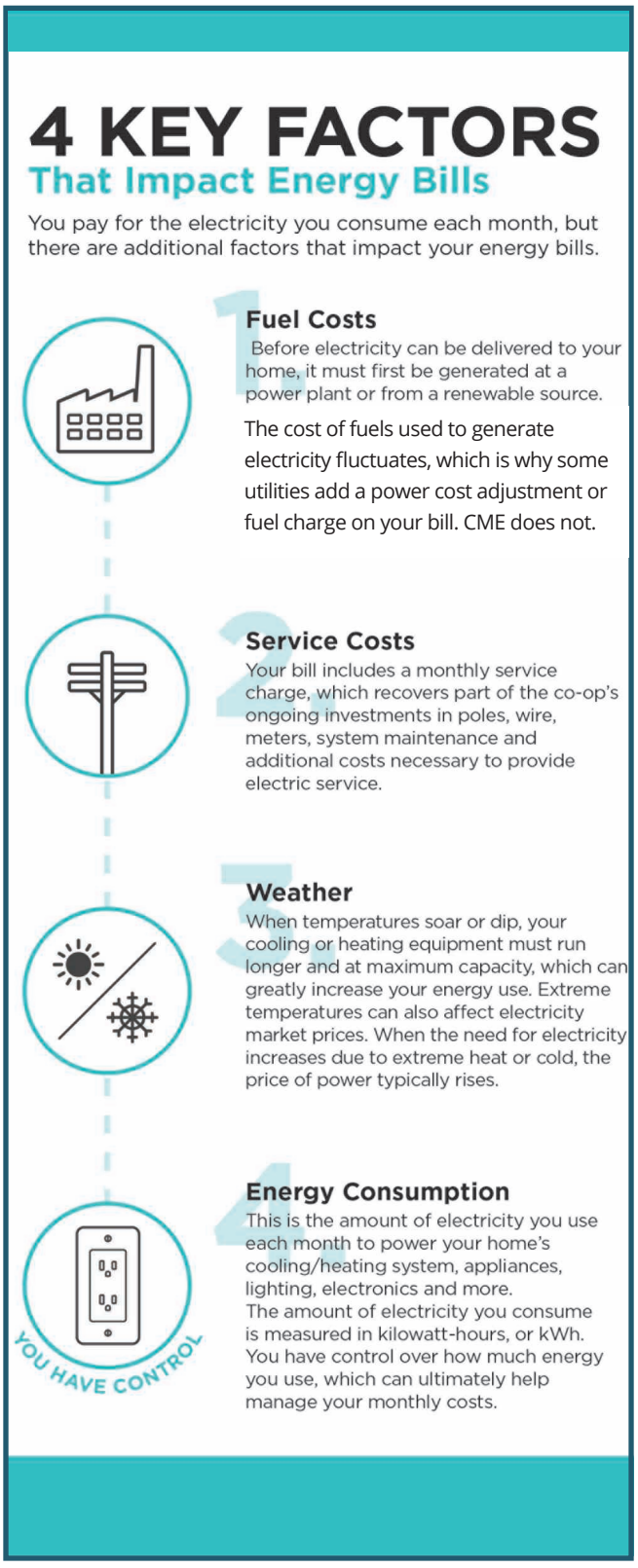
6) Charles Mix Electric's power bill in ways that cannot be recovered under the current rate structure. Without these changes, costs may be shifted to members not using power for these types of loads. Ultimately, the goal is make electricity prices fair for every member, with each paying the proper amount based on when, how fast and how much electricity they use.

Over the last few years, the CME board of directors and employee group have been working hard to put everything in place to bring these changes to fruition. Improved meter information, management of the data, billing system upgrades and improved communications channels to the members are all things we are working on to make these changes happen. The most important part of the puzzle is communicating with our members to explain – sometimes quite frankly – the impact they will see on their electric bill. The good news is that members will have the ability to manage electric bills in their favor. This will not only lower costs for them, but it will help lower costs for their electric cooperative. And in due course, it will also lower costs to all their fellow members. It's a win – win!

I urge all members to take a close look at their electric bill each month. There are two very important things to look at which will help you control costs. The first is the Peak Demand Billing time and date found in the Messages box. This is the period of time when the billing peak occurred throughout the East River Electric system. The second is the Demand Rate 1 line, showing the member's contribution at the time of the billing peak. These two pieces of information will help members understand their impact on the cooperative power bill. Through awareness, energy alert notifications or just slight changes to energy use habits, members can lower their demand, and help control costs.

In closing, I want to reiterate that these changes are going to be implemented slowly over time. By doing so, I hope to limit the impact to members while providing a pathway to smart energy use in the future. That may not sound frank, but it is my honest effort to "Do what is in the best interest of our members."

Enjoy the fall season and stay safe.



TERMESPHERE PAINTER

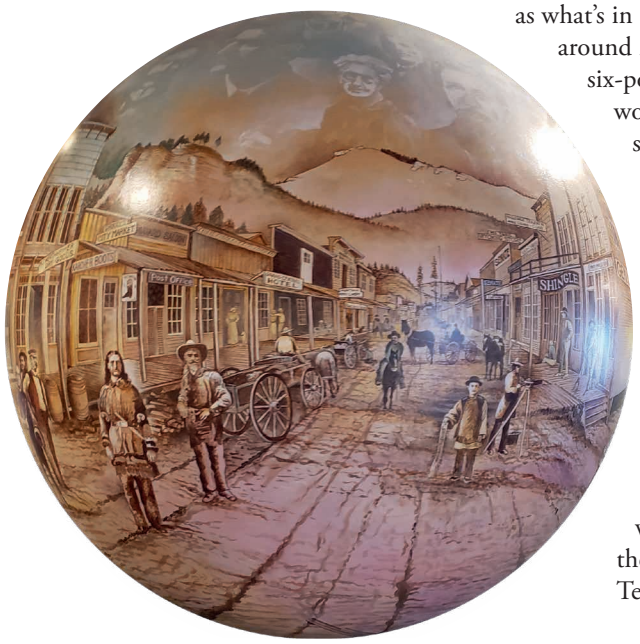
Local Art Legend Has a Complete Perspective on Art

Jocelyn Johnson
jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

Dick Termes, a local artist from Spearfish, S.D., has an original artistic ability. He has found a way to capture the complete perspective of his environment into one piece of art – the Termesphere.

This unique type of art isn't practiced by anyone else – it's an exclusive artform that embodies all that a person sees around them if they were to turn in a circle while looking up and down.

Termes hit upon the idea of six-point perspective in 1968 at the University of Wyoming where he earned his master's degree in art.



Later, while teaching visual perspective as an art professor, his panoramic view of art grew. During a class discussion, a student of his compared five-point perspective to a ball. This comment was the start of his six-point perspective art.

"I imagined I was on the inside of a ball but still was drawing on the outside," Termes said. "I would have what's behind me in the picture as well as what's in front of me and all around me. This would be a six-point perspective and I would have to put it on a sphere to do that."

"I thought at the time, certainly other people have done this; but, 52 years later, I realize, no, no one has done this," Termes said. "It opened such a big door. There could be a thousand people doing it and we wouldn't be doing the same thing."

Termes has gained notoriety worldwide for his art. In 1998, he was invited to showcase his art alongside M.C. Escher, a renowned graphic artist, at the University of Rome.

Even though his art is known worldwide, his home is South Dakota. "I get a lot of inspiration by living in South Dakota and the Black Hills," Termes said. "It's been the perfect spot for me."

Termes received the South Dakota Governor's Award in the Arts and has been inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame. His hometown of Spearfish, S.D., also proclaimed September 9 as "Dick Termes Day."

In 1992, Termes opened Termesphere Gallery outside of Spearfish, S.D., where he sells his art. Since its opening, his gallery has been visited by thousands of art enthusiasts from around the world.

"People are intrigued with this art because it's the first time a painting can be the total environment," Termes said. "It doesn't have to just be a square or rectangle. Every second of every day, you're in a complete environment. All you have to do is turn around and look at is and you have a Termesphere."

INVASIVE SPECIES

State run boat checks and washing stations aim to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species, such as zebra mussels, in South Dakota.

Zebra Mussels and Their Impact on the Missouri River

Frank Turner
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The Missouri River in South Dakota, renowned for its outstanding recreational areas, fishing holes and scenic campgrounds, draws a wide swath of tourists from around the world. However, these welcoming public waters have become the home of one unwelcome intruder—the infamous zebra mussel.

Endemic to southeastern Europe, the zebra mussel made its journey to the United States Great Lakes in the '80s as an unlikely stowaway, clinging to the hulls of large ships and barges. Since their arrival, the mussels have proliferated across the Midwest, spreading from one river system to the next.

So how can a mollusk, merely the size of a fingernail, inflict millions of dollars in economic damage to local recreation, agriculture and hydroelectric power generation? Martin Goding, Gavins Point Dam maintenance and operations manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, explains that one zebra mussel can spawn more than a million eggs in a season, overrunning the local ecosystem. Once established, the mussels latch onto every viable surface in the water—they envelop pipes, ruin beaches and disrupt hydroelectric dams.

In 2015, local governments detected South Dakota's first infestation of zebra mussels in Lewis and Clark Lake. Goding says this discovery ignited a fierce battle against the invasive species.

"We are in the war to eradicate the zebra mussel, but I don't think we're ever going to completely eliminate them," said Goding. "They are multiplying faster than we can get rid of them."

Zebra Mussels completely envelop Gavins Point Dam's water gates, adding up to an additional 30 tons of weight.

With few effective treatments at their disposal, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been forced to adjust to operating within a river infested with mussels. The change has significantly increased the maintenance costs associated with running Gavins Point Dam. Pipes, essential for cooling the dam as it produces electricity, now require routine disassembly and cleaning. Over the course of six months of warm weather, the dam's lakeside gates collect an additional 30 tons of weight from the relentless accumulation of zebra mussel shells and the debris they carry.

"We have spent a million and a half dollars over the last five years just in maintenance to deal with this invasive species—and that's not even counting the cost of materials," said Goding. "Zebra mussels have really impacted the operation and turned maintenance into a nightmare."

Beyond maintenance, zebra mussels have also disrupted power generation. Outbreaks of zebra mussels within the dam's infrastructure have resulted in unscheduled and forced outages, interrupting an energy source that has been historically reliable.

"One could safely say that Gavin Point Dam has lost a million dollars in power generation over the last five years," said Goding.

Since the initial invasion in 2015, some strategies have emerged to mitigate damage from the invasive species. The introduction of UV lights and the addition of strainers have curbed the presence of zebra mussels within the dam. Even still, the mussels have continued their spread northward through the Missouri River to Lake Sharpe near Pierre, S.D.

According to Goding, the experiences at Gavins Point Dam serve as a stark warning for dams and water systems yet to face infestation.

"Lewis and Clark Lake is beyond prevention," said Goding. "We have crossed that bridge and they are not going away."

Which Type of Heat Pump is Right for You?

Heat pumps provide high-efficiency heating and cooling, but they come in different types. Which one is right for your home?

AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

Air source heat pumps are the most widely used. They do lose some efficiency and heating capacity at very cold temperatures, but cold climate models are available.

GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMPS

Geothermal heat pumps use a water solution circulating through pipes buried in your yard to transfer heat into and out of your home. They take advantage of the relatively constant temperatures underground.

Geothermal heat pumps can work well in cold climates and are very efficient and reliable. However, they typically come with a higher installation cost.

DUCTLESS MINI SPLIT HEAT PUMPS

Mini split systems include an outdoor compressor and multiple indoor units that circulate refrigerant through tubing. The indoor air handlers are typically installed on a wall or on the ceiling.

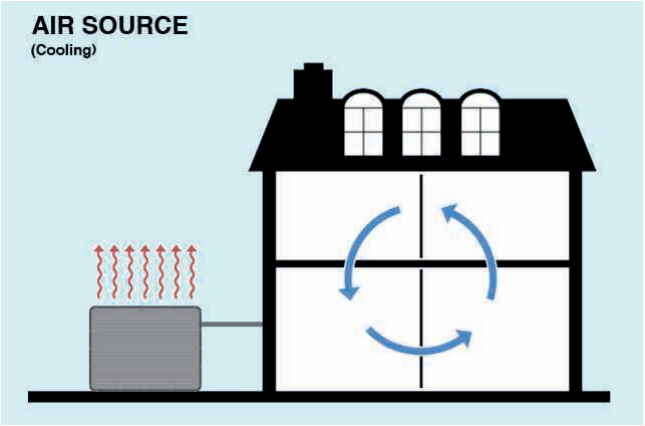
Mini splits operate similarly to air-source models, but they don't require ductwork, making them a good choice for additions or homes without ducts.

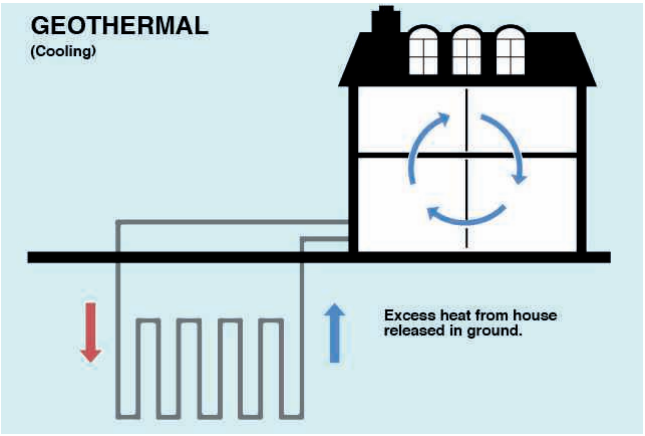
SELECTING THE RIGHT SYSTEM FOR YOU

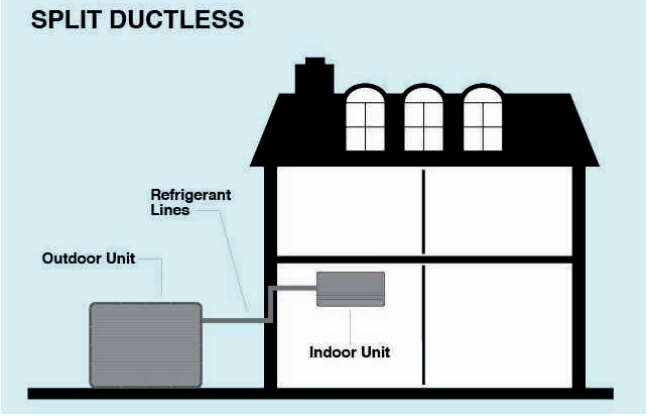
So, selecting a heat pump depends on your space conditioning needs, your budget, and your location. Whatever type you choose, you'll realize the benefits of energy savings, as well as clean, quiet, and low-maintenance operation.

At CME we can offer advice and help you select the right system for your needs.

$$ Your new heat pump system may qualify for a CME rebate of up to $600! Special reduced rates for all-electric-heat and/or controlled AC also available! Loan programs also available. Contact our Member Services department!







How to Keep Your Upstairs Cooler This Summer

Stop sweating it out on your second floor. Take comfort to the next level with these simple tips.

Owners of two-story homes face the same problem every summer: The upstairs is hotter than the first floor. The choice seems to be to sweat it out or lower the thermostat to make up the difference. Unfortunately, doing nothing can lead to a lot of hot, sleepless nights, while adjusting the thermostat can give you a chill when you receive your summer energy bills. There has to be a better way.

WHY IT'S HOTTER UPSTAIRS

The temperature imbalance in your home has to do with science, but you don't have to be a scientist to understand it. As air gets warmer, its molecules spread farther apart and it becomes lighter. The lighter hot air rises to the second floor. The denser cool air sinks and gets trapped downstairs.

STRIKING A BETTER BALANCE

You can't change the laws of physics, but there are things you can do to make your upstairs more comfortable and save money.

- Use window treatments. Close shades and curtains on south and west facing upstairs windows during the afternoon. This will help keep out unwanted heat gain. Install insulating shades to save even more energy and improve comfort.
- Circulate air. If you have ceiling fans, turn them on when you're upstairs. They circulate air and make you feel cooler. They don't actually cool a room, so turn them off when you and your skin leave to avoid wasting energy.
- Seal attic air leaks. Go in your attic; check for gaps around recessed light fixtures, plumbings, furnaces flues and ductwork. Seal with caulking or expandable foam. Add weatherstripping to your attic access or door.
- Cool your roof. Conventional roof materials absorb heat and bring it into your home. A cool roof reflects sunlight and emits solar radiation, making your upstairs and your entire home more comfortable. If you live in a warmer climate, look for lighter colored materials when replacing your roof. This will reflect some of the heat that would otherwise warm your house and, particularly, the upstairs area.

If you have an older air conditioning system or one in need of repair, consider replacing it with an ENERGY STAR certified system. ENERGY STAR® units use less energy than standard models.

Drone Spraying

A Modern Tool in Today's Agriculture

Scott Waltman

As modern agriculture continues to evolve, drones are one of the newer tools farmers can use to help their land and crops.

The hovering, unmanned aircraft can be handy for small areas and places it's difficult for traditional spraying options to get to, according to those who offer the service to those in the ag sector.

Drones aren't the weapon of choice to spray chemicals on 1,500 acres of corn or soybeans, but that day is likely coming, said Derek Ver Helst, who operates Dakota Unmanned Aerial in Brandt.

Closer to the coasts, drones are already used for a multitude of purposes that aren't just fun and shooting videos. They are only going to become more prominent in ag-heavy states like the Dakotas, he said.

"The possibilities are pretty much just limited by your imagination," Ver Helst said.

He said his background as an agronomist piqued his interest in spraying with drones. Dakota Unmanned Aerial is a side hustle he started about two years ago. He works as a senior conservation agronomist for AgSpire.

Nick Williams had a background in agriculture working for CHS Cooperative and selling farm equipment before starting Williams Drones southeast of Parkston in August 2020. Business has been good, he said, estimating that it has doubled each year.

"It's really taken off, it continues to grow," Williams said.

He and Ver Helst agree that farmers have been receptive to the relatively new option, willing to give it a try when the project isn't too big.

Williams said he does mostly ag-related work. In late July, he was staying busy with fungicide applications.

Drones are great near shelter belts and around wet areas. Those are places

that are hard for a land rig or spray plane to get to. Drones work better because they are smaller and more agile, he said.

A route is mapped out and the drone reads that information and flies mostly autonomously, Williams said.

He sets the height, speed, gallons of application per acre and swath width. Once a drone is in the air, it does almost all of the work, though Williams said he can control the height a little, if needed.

Drones have sensors and other features so they don't run into trees, equipment, wind turbines or structures, he said.

Depending on the amount of land to be sprayed, it can take longer to map a field than to spray it, Ver Helst said.

His drones carry 10 liters, but others have a capacity of 40 liters, he said. When a drone runs out of chemical, it returns back to the operator, who puts on a new tank, changes the battery and sends it back out, Ver Helst said. The drone will pick up spraying right where it left off, he said.

In 2016, land-grant university researchers and educators started work to increase the use of drones in agriculture, according to information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

That work continues today. It includes identifying and evaluating the most user-friendly and cost-effective drone platforms and sensors, according to the USDA.

Some drone operators offer swarm spraying, Van Helst and Williams said.

For instance, there could be five drones programmed to follow the same grid over a field, pasture or slough working in unison, Van Helst said. As one runs out of spray, it returns for a new tank of chemical and battery until the job is finished.

Van Helst said he doesn't do a lot of spraying. Most of it is on pastures. But, he said, he has done some work in orchards and vineyards where grapes are grown.

Williams has branched out a little more. Last year, he said, he was hired to do a dust-control project at the Sanford Underground Research Facility in the Black Hills. That is the former Homestake gold mine near Lead.

And both men say drones can be used to combat one of South Dakota's least-popular commodities – mosquitos.

Drones can be used to spray for skeeters on fairgrounds, when there's a big city gathering and even in a residential area.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, they were even used to shower stadiums with antibacterial spray, Van Helst said.

One drone operator in Texas was contacted to see if drones could be used to drop fish food into a pond, Williams said.

He said his drones can cover about 20 acres an hour, though some can do 30 hours an acre. And he expects the new drones released next year will be able to spray 40 hours in an acre.

For large fields, a land rig or a spray plane is still a better bet, Williams said. A traditional ground sprayer can probably cover 70 acres an hour, he said.

Van Helt said his T-40 drone can handle about 100 acres a day.

One challenge in getting started is getting all of the licensing needed from the Federal Aviation Administration. He spent about two years testing and writing exemptions and working through the legalities.

Commercial drone operators need a remote pilot certificate from the FAA. Another license is needed to dispense chemicals from a flying aircraft, Van Helst said.

He said he has procured 14 FAA exemptions and will need two more next year.

That's why some drone operators hire a business to navigate that process. That's the route Williams took.

Being a drone operator can be fun or frustrating, just like any other job, he said. He just checks the forecast and hopes it holds. Trying to spray when the wind is 20 mph or more just isn't going to work, he said.

Even so, Van Helst said, drones are a fantastic tool. Ground rigs and spray planes will always be needed, and drones are just one more option for farmers to tap.

"There's a right time and a right place for everything," he said.

SHIFTING GEARS

The Viborg-Hurley School District's new electric-powered school bus is expected to arrive in September.

South Dakota School District Powers Forward with New Electric Bus

Frank Turner
frank.turner@sdrea.coop

The shift from gas and diesel-powered vehicles to electric alternatives is gaining momentum across the U.S., encompassing cars, semi-trucks, and even school buses. Among these making the change is the Viborg-Hurley School District, which is preparing to modernize one of their classic yellow school buses.

The initiative began when Viborg-Hurley School District secured a grant through the EPA's Clean School Bus Program earlier this year, enabling the purchase an electric school bus to join the school's fleet. Using nearly $400,000 from the grant, the school bought their bus and accompanying charging station from Lion Electric, a Canada-based electric vehicle bus manufacturer. Southeastern Electric, a local South Dakota cooperative, was instrumental in encouraging the school district to apply for the grant, according to Matt Jensen, the Viborg-Hurley School District business manager.

"We have community members working at Southeastern who are always looking out for the school's best interests," said Jensen. "They keep us informed about opportunities like this."

Set to arrive in September, the new bus reimagines the classic yellow school bus for a greener future. Its entirely electric engine doesn't require any traditional fuel and instead relies on an electric motor and a charged battery to transport students. To comply with the grant, the school district will have to retire one of their existing diesel engine busses, phasing out the old technology for something new.

According to Jensen, the introduction of new electric technology into the school district's bus fleet has elicited a few questions and some skepticism from the local communities. With a top speed capped at 60 miles per hour and a range of up to 155 miles, the bus comes with its own set of limitations. However, Jensen explained that the vehicle's primary purpose will be for everyday local bus routes, rather than long-distance extracurricular travel.

"There was, and maybe still is, some hesitation because it's something new," said Jensen. "That being said, there's still a lot of excitement and hope that this becomes a more efficient and cleaner way to operate our bus fleet."

The school district will not be without support during this transition. Lion Electric offers complete after-sales support for their vehicles and nearby services providers have the capability to service the vehicle as necessary.

"What drew us to Lion is that their buses are climate tested, which is important to us in South Dakota," he said. "They are specifically designed for harsher climates. I think it will just take some getting used to but I think the community, our students and bus drivers, are excited for the new opportunity."

REGISTER TO WIN!

Bring this coupon and mailing label to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives booth at Dakotafest or the South Dakota State Fair to win a prize!

Your Phone Number:_____

Your E-mail Address:_____

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

SEPT 2
Hidewood Valley Barn Dance
7 p.m.
47236 183rd St
Clear Lake, SD

SEPT 4
Hidewood Valley Steam Threshing Show
Steam Whistle Blows
1 p.m.
47236 183rd St
Clear Lake, SD

SEPT 8-10
James Valley Threshing & Tractor Show
World's Largest Steam Traction Engine
Andover, SD

SEPT 9
Ribfest/Car & Tractor Show
Live Music 4 p.m.
Bethel Lutheran Church
Platte, SD
605-680-3027

SEPT 9-10
Old Iron - Fall Harvest Festival
Delmont, SD

SEPT 10
10th Annual Black Hill Beer Run
Spearfish Campground Pavilion
Spearfish, SD
605-642-7730

SEPT 10
100th Anniversary of Little Brown Church
11 a.m.
Service, Potluck & Auction
West of Hayes
Hayes, SD

SEPT 11-17
HOBO Days
Live Music-Fun
Olivia, MN
320-523-1000

SEPT 16
Midland Appreciation Day
Theme: Automobiles
1:30 p.m.
Midland, SD

SEPT 17
St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
Church Bazaar
12 p.m.
Hoven, SD

SEPT 22-24
Coal Springs Threshing Bee
Meadow, SD

SEPT 23
Springfield Dakota Senior Meals Fall Festival
9 a.m.
Springfield Community Building
Springfield, SD

SEPT 24
Annual Bazaar & Fall Fest
4 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Wagner, SD

SEPT 29-30
Junkin' Market Days
Ramkota Exhibit Hall
Sioux Falls, SD
605-941-4958

OCT 6-7
Holman Acres Pumpkin Fest & Vendor Show
Philip, SD
605-441-1060

OCT 7
Spirit of Dakota Award
Huron Event Center
Huron, SD
605-352-6073

Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.