



June, 2015

Barb Moody, Editor

From The Desk Of... Don Smith, Manager

Greetings everyone!

As we welcome in the month of June and the official beginning of summer we have seen some much needed moisture this Spring and are ever so grateful for it!

Recently, I attended the Legislative Rally in Washington DC where we had the opportunity to hear from various speakers on issues at the national level and meet with our national legislators. It is always an educational opportunity to visit our nation's capitol and see the history, but to be able to speak directly with those individuals we elected to represent us at this level was a very special occasion. Senator Barrasso gave us a copy of a report from a committee he chaired for the Senate, along with Representative Lummis, for the House of Representatives. This report, (Principled Stewardship of the American West) begins with the statement of belief that *"The American West is an immense area of land that varies from rugged mountains and highland prairies to rolling hills and painted deserts. The wildlife, weather, and resources in the West are diverse, unique and spectacular."*



The report goes on to talk about our abundant natural resources of energy, food, timber, and minerals and how these resources improve the lives of people everywhere, not just in our own states. The report states that *"The Senate and Congressional Western Caucuses believe that the people who live on the land in the West are the best stewards of the land."*

Our main goal is to empower the residents, workers and local leaders in the West and throughout the nation to make the decisions that best serve their families and their communities." The report lists specific principles and expands on them. I believe this report is logical and direct, and provides thoughts to support and preserve economies while remaining responsible stewards of our environment. I encourage you to stop by our office and pick up a copy of the report and see what our elected officials have put together.

I believe this report takes us back to the intent of the Founding Fathers of our nation, where if I recall my government history correctly, during the development of the Constitution, the Founding Fathers debated whether to have a strong central government or let the states have the authority to rule themselves, with the feds taking only a limited role. I am not a constitutional expert and that high school class was a long time ago, so I don't remember the details. However, I do believe there was significant discussion on this issue well over 200 years ago, and today, some politicians have forgotten this history. As a result, we are seeing an attempt to expand federal authority outside the intent of our Founding Fathers. "One size" does not "fit all" for very many things, and legislation is no exception. Wyoming is not the same as Maryland or California or even Colorado. We all have our own challenges and our own opportunities. Our nation's Founding Fathers recognized this and provided the means for us to govern ourselves as states.

I'll get off my soapbox; however, I again encourage you to pick up a copy of the report as I think our elected folks did a very good job with this project. Along the lines of our nation and history, on June 14th we celebrate Flag Day and I encourage you to show your pride and fly our national colors. This nation provides us the freedoms that we enjoy and we should be very proud, grateful, and honored to have these freedoms.

As always, we would love to have you stop by and see us, even if for nothing more than to say hello. I wish everyone an enjoyable and productive summer season! Thanks for letting us serve you, our Member-Owners!

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The power of human connections®

Remember...Wheatland REA is closed on Memorial Day, May 25th.

DON'T FORGET...WE ARE ON "SUMMER HOURS" UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

Watts New is a publication of
Wheatland Rural Electric
Association
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(307) 322-2125
(800) 344-3351

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Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

OPERATIONS HOURS
Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Friday
CLOSED

OUTAGES-OPEN 24/7

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24 hours a day

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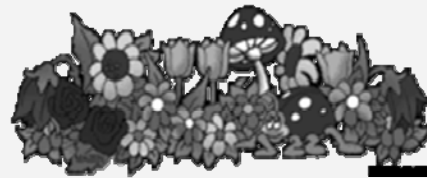
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From the Office Manager ...RKA

As I am write this article, I am looking at gloomy weather! Really!?!? I guess "Mother Nature" is trying to make up for the snow that we didn't receive last winter. If you have your May flowers planted, I hope that they make it through the turbulent weather. I have become wiser in my planting experience and realize the safest time to plant is after Memorial Day weekend!



I hope you all had a nice and relaxing Memorial Day weekend. Let us remember what Memorial Day is all about and pay special tribute to our veterans. We need to take the time to thank the veterans past and present for their sacrifice for our freedom!

Each June we have our annual audit. This is especially important to not only management, but also to you as members. The audit ensures that we are keeping accurate records and financial reports, which affect your dollars. Remember, as a cooperative, all our margins go back to you in the form of capital credits. Speaking of capital credits, in February 2015, we sent capital credit checks which are only good for 90 days. If you didn't cash your check, it was voided at the end of May. Please give us a call if you have any questions about this.

If you haven't been by the office within in the last few months, you might want to stop by and see some of the remodeling we have completed. We removed all the old tile and are in the process of replacing that with new tile and carpet. We also painted the lobby, hallways, and the bathrooms. The warehouse has new OSHA approved shelving that replaced 50 year old shelving. We are trying to make improvements a little at a time. Now with the nice weather, it is hard to get those linemen to work indoors, so remodeling is being put on "hold" for a while.

I hope everyone is still keeping alert to the EPA and all of its regulations. 111(d) and other regulations did not go away. Several lawsuits have been filed against this regulation so expect the issue to be in the courts for a long time. Unfortunately, there is no guidance or direction on whether businesses, cooperatives, power plants, etc. have to abide by the regulation now, or wait until a decision is rendered. There is an election coming up, and it would behoove us all to keep on top of "what is happening". Remember, these rules can affect your electric rates in the future.

With nearly 1/2 of 2015 behind us, I am a proud mother of a son who will be a senior in college and a daughter that will be a sophomore in college. I am thinking that just because they are getting older doesn't mean their mother is, right!?!?!?

If you have any questions or concerns, please call! Have a safe and pleasant 4th of July!!!

RKA

SUMMER HOURS!

LINEMEN: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

OFFICE: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

OFFICE ONLY: 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY

THE POSIE PATCH FLOWERS & GIFTS: 10% off on any one item per purchase. Limit one discount per week. Wheatland's choice for flowers and gifts at 1557 South St. Wheatland, WY 307-322-2547, open M-F 9:00AM to 5:00PM, Sat. 10:00AM to 6:00PM.

THE SHARP SHOP OF WHEATLAND: 5% discount on all sharpening over \$50.00. 87 Antelope Gap Rd., Wheatland, 307-322-3389, Drop off locations at: Wheatland Country Store, Drube's, Reliable Tool Rental, and Ace Hardware.

WHEATLAND ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CENTER: \$30.00 off multiple bookings scheduled in advance (minimum 3 bookings). 2 Holloway Rd., Wheatland, 307-331-1951, M-F 8:00AM to 5:00PM. Evenings and Sat. by appointment.

WHEATLAND COUNTRY STORE: 15% off one regular priced clothing item per purchase (excludes Wrangler #'s: 13MWZ, 31MWZ AND 936DEN). 301 16TH St., Wheatland, 307-322-3922, winter hrs. M-S 8:00AM to 5:30PM, summer hrs. M-S 8:00AM to 6:00PM Closed Sunday.

WYOMING PURE NATURAL BEEF: Free 1# package of hamburger with a purchase of \$40.00 or more. Mention the Cooperative Connections Card when making "phone-in" orders or note it when ordering on our website. Certified organic and processed at a USDA inspected facility. We do not use antibiotics or hormones. We guarantee you will be satisfied. Order your Wyoming Pure beef at: 307-331-1176 or online at www.wyomingpure.com.

WHEATLAND REA: 10% off of Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb purchases when you present your Co-op Connections Card. 2154 South St., Wheatland, WY 307-322-2125, M-F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM (winter hours), Office and Operations, M-Th. 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Office only, Friday 8:00 to 4:30 PM (summer hours). Catch us on [Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com)

ARBY'S RESTAURANT: Free 22 oz. drink with the purchase of any sandwich when you present your Co-op Connections Card. 91 16th St., Wheatland, 307-322-5432, S-W 6:30 AM to 10:00 PM, Thur. to Sat. 6:30 AM to 11:00 PM.

ARBY'S RESTAURANT: Free 22 oz. drink with the purchase of any sandwich when you present your Co-op Connections Card. 355 N Russell Ave., Douglas, 307-358-4400, S-W 6:30 AM to 10:00 PM, Thur. to Sat. 6:30 AM to 11:00 PM.

ASH'S SALES & SERVICE: \$20.00 off any appliance purchase when you "show" your Co-op Connections Card at time of purchase. 965 Gilchrist St., Wheatland. M-F 9:00 AM to Noon and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. We sell and service Whirlpool and GE brand appliances. We also sell & service water softeners.

BEAR CREEK ORIGINALS, LLC: 10% discount on spirit-wear for your favorite local school or team. Free set-up of your brand...they look great on caps! 219 N. Yellowstone, Glendo, 307-735-4152, M-F 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

BEST WESTERN TORCHLIGHT INN: 10% discount when you stay at the Torchlight Inn and present your Co-op Connections Card. 1809 16th St., Wheatland, 307-322-4070.

BUFFALO LODGE & GRILL: Free fountain drink with meal. 100 Buffalo Rd., Chugwater, 307-422-3248, M-S 8:00AM to 8:00PM. Motel open 24 hours daily.

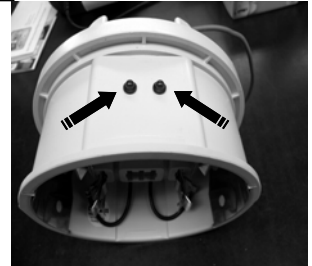



Your Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative
The power of human connections[®]



LIGHTNING SEASON IS HERE!
Protect yourself!
INSTALL
"GOOD QUALITY"
SURGE PROTECTION
Ask about leasing a "Meter Socket Surge Protector"

Already have a surge protector? Check your lights after every thunder/lightning storm, or at least once a month. If one or both lights are out, we need to replace your surge protector. Surge protector leases are still only \$4.95 per month.



What's this? It's your "pole number" (Well, somebody's pole number)! **Why is it important to you?** Because it is the number the linemen look for on our system map to find you. If you look on your meter pole, you will find a series of 2" aluminum numbers and letters similar to the ones in the picture above. If you give these numbers to the operator at the office, or to the call center after hours, you will help the linemen find you quicker, which means shorter outage times.

2015 POLE TESTING UPDATE

Pole testing starts about the 1st of June.

This year's circuits are:
West Circuit, Wheatland Substation

North Circuit, Goodrich Substation



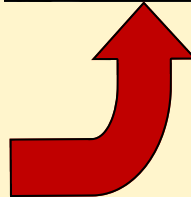
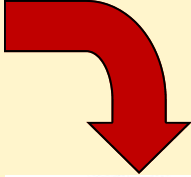
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**Hey Dads...
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**



THANK YOU - COYOTE - GRANDPARENTS - GRANDCHILDREN - SAFETY



**IS THERE AN ELECTRIC GRILL
IN YOUR DAD'S FUTURE?
ONLY \$209!**



In addition to the great working relationship we have with our safety partners, it takes community effort and support from our school districts to maintain the robust electric safety programs we offer.

We extend our "heartfelt thanks" to our partners, to the teachers and administrators of both school districts, and to the emergency responders who have taken the time to allow us to deliver our electric safety programs to them and the children of Platte County.

"Like" us on Facebook!

BURN FUND RAFFLE

\$\$\$ BUILDING A NEW HOME? \$\$\$
REPLACING A WORN OUT FURNACE?


Learn about Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) Heating at:
www.heatforlessnow.com

Current off-peak rate is \$.054 per kWh -or- 55% less than our residential rate of \$.12!

RE A Members enjoy low, off-peak, electric rates with ETS

IS A NEW FURNACE IN YOUR FUTURE?
CALL US & SAVE!

WOW!



1st prize -- Diamondback AR .223
2nd prize -- Remington 1187 Camo
3rd prize -- Savage 17 HMR
Tickets are \$20 each, only 500 printed

Get your tickets at the Wheatland REA office.

(2154 South St., Wheatland)

All proceeds benefit the Cody Hotline School Burn Fund.