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Official publication of

Meeker Cooperative
Light and Power Association

www.meeker.coop

Record-setting temperatures and humidity led to higher demand for power in July

Minnesota residents are used to extremes in temperature, from subzero January days to the melting heat of July and August. However, the recent heat wave of mid-July was unusually difficult to bear. Extreme humidity caused heat indexes to soar anywhere from 100 to 120 degrees.

Dangerous, record-setting high minimum temperatures were recorded several places in Minnesota. At the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport, a record high minimum temperature of 80 degrees was set on July 18 and 20. Also, a dew point of 82 degrees on July 19 was the highest dew point temperature reported on an hourly observation since such records began in 1945, the National Weather Service reported. That dew point, along with the 95 degree temperature, led to a heat index of 119.

MISO (Midwest Independent Systems Operator), who manages transmission of energy throughout our region, experienced and successfully managed its highest demand ever for electricity in the grid operator's 12-state market area, with demand peaking at 103,975 MWs (megawatts), surpassing the last record of 103,246 MWs set on July 31, 2006.

As more electricity is called for, the price on the open market increases dramatically. For example, on July 18, the MISO day-ahead on-peak price per megawatt-hour (mWh) was four times the off-peak price for power. To avoid these higher prices for energy, Meeker Cooperative will "control" certain

electric appliances to reduce the energy demand "peak." Controlling demand this way reduces the spikes in demand, keeping energy costs lower for our power suppliers and for your Cooperative.

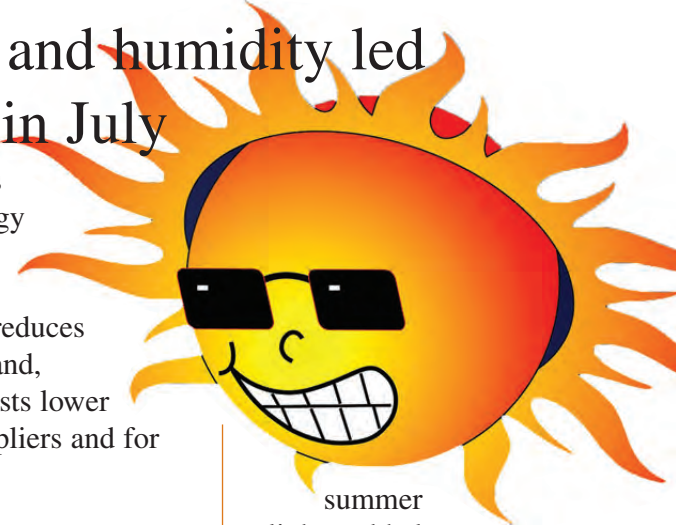
Members who have agreed to allow Meeker Cooperative to control their electric loads receive an electric rate that is about half of the standard rate because they are instrumental in helping Meeker Cooperative avoid larger energy prices on the market. They also help delay the necessity of building new power plants.

Between the dates of July 16-20, Meeker Cooperative controlled the following systems:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Cycled Air: |27 hours |
| Peak Shave Water Heaters: |34 hours |
| Commercial w/back-up generators: |28 hours |
| Irrigators: |18 hours |
| Interruptible Commercial: |18 hours |

In addition to the crucial contribution of energy management members, there are things all of us can do to help save energy and beat the heat during times of high energy demand:

- Turn off everything you're not using, including TVs and computers, which can heat up a room quickly.
- Raise your air conditioner thermostat to 78 degrees and use fans to circulate air. You can save 3 to 5 percent on air conditioning costs for each degree you raise the thermostat.
- Close blinds, shades and draperies facing the sun to block



summer light and help fans and air conditioners cool more efficiently.

- Close doors leading to uncooled parts of your home. If you have central air conditioning, close off vents to unused rooms.
- Check to ensure that no furniture or other obstacles are blocking ducts or fans, which will enable cooled air to circulate more freely.
- Cook and use other heat-generating appliances in the early morning and late evening hours whenever possible. Better yet, cook outside on the grill, use a microwave, or eat cold salads and sandwiches.
- Switch to compact fluorescent lighting, which emanates 75% less heat than regular bulbs.
- Have your central air unit cleaned and inspected to get the most cooling for the money.
- Check and change HVAC filters yearly for optimum efficient performance.
- Spend the hottest part of the day cooling off in a lake, shopping at local stores or going to see a movie.

If you are interested in saving money on your heating and cooling energy bills, contact Meeker Cooperative at 320-693-3231 or 800-232-6257 to inquire about becoming an energy management member.

Sources: Energy Central, National Weather Service



Members let us know...

Thank you to every member who completed and returned the recent Member Satisfaction Survey. Your input is very valuable.

Meeker Cooperative is continually striving to improve the programs and services we provide. That is why in December of last year we undertook a comprehensive look at ourselves through the eyes of the member-owners of Meeker Cooperative. We have asked you to complete this survey every three years since 1998. So the 2010 survey marks the fifth time this survey has been completed.

In 2010 a random sample of 1,106 members were asked to complete a 96 question survey about our services, programs, performance, rates and your future needs and wants. Since we only undertake this survey once every three years we make it as comprehensive as possible.

Incidentally, the survey company was quite worried about the length of the survey. They felt that with so many questions, we would only get a small number of members to respond, thereby making the survey invalid. They were absolutely stunned when 44% of you sent in your completed surveys, which made the accuracy "plus or minus 4.4%." A great big THANK YOU to the 486 members who took the time to tell us what you think.

Interpreting the results in itself can be an art form. A simple example is the question "Capital Credits are an important Co-op benefit." More members responded "strongly agree" in 2010 than in the previous survey. However less responded "agree" and thus an overall decline in the score. On the one hand, more members are passionate about capital credits, but overall fewer see them as a benefit. The challenge for the Co-op is not to

do anything regarding capital credits that would upset those that "strongly agree" while trying to make improvements so that more members view them as a benefit.

Although many factors such as current economic conditions, environmental issues, energy mandates and regulations affect members opinions, completing the survey provides us with valuable results, information and trends in members' perception concerning

the Co-op and the electric industry in general.

Listed below are some of the 96 questions and their representative responses, along with the comparative results from the previous two surveys. Even though the comparison of the simple percentages of each question may not be comparing "apples to apples" it still provides you with an easy way to compare the results.

Overall, the Co-op fared well, but as you can see there are some areas where we need improvement. You can be assured we will use this information in our business planning to make the necessary improvements.

Watch for the September *Pioneer*, where I'll cover more items from the survey.

2010 Member Satisfaction Survey Results

Members were asked to respond to 96 questions in 10 categories by choosing one of the following: "Strongly Agree", "Agree", "Disagree", "Strongly Disagree" or "Don't Know". Percentages represent combined responses of "Strongly Agree" and "Agree".*

| | 2010 | 2007 | 2004 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Meeker's overall performance meets or exceeds my expectations | 96% | 96% | 99% |
| Meeker promotes Electrical Safety | 99% | 99% | 100% |
| Meeker is a good corporate citizen | 98% | 98% | 99% |
| Meeker is environmentally conscious | 99% | 99% | 100% |
| Meeker seeks to develop programs of value for members | 92% | 97% | 98% |
| Being a Co-op member has more value than being a customer of an IOU | 76% | 96% | 96% |
| Members can make a difference by providing input through their directors | 70% | 91% | 93% |
| Method used to elect Board of Directors is open and honest | 65% | 96% | 99% |
| Meeker works hard to keep my electric bill low | 77% | 88% | 89% |
| Meeker employees are courteous and professional | 97% | 97% | 98% |
| Meeker should continue to support community programs | 89% | 96% | 98% |
| Meeker should continue to promote economic development | 88% | 96% | 98% |
| Meeker adequately plans for the future electrical needs of its members | 96% | 98% | 99% |
| I trust Meeker to make business decisions that are in my best interest | 92% | 93% | 97% |
| Electricity is a good value | 82% | 90% | 93% |
| Capital Credits are an important co-op benefit | 89% | 97% | 98% |
| Meeker's rates are competitive with neighboring electric utilities | 75% | 91% | 93% |
| Meeker maintains its electric system well | 98% | 98% | 97% |
| I have experienced few outages of five minutes or more | 88% | 88% | 82% |
| The quality of service I receive from Meeker meets or exceeds my expectations | 96% | 96% | 97% |
| Meeker Cooperative's newsletter is informative | 96% | 99% | 94% |
| Meeker keeps me adequately informed about Co-op events and business | 95% | 97% | 88% |
| I would recommend Meeker Co-op to others | 83% | 87% | 84% |

*It should be noted that the remaining percentages may not have disagreed with the statement but may be in the "Don't Know" category.

If You're Not Baking, You're Wasting Energy



Remember the Easy-Bake Oven? It was a miraculous device, baking brownies, sugar cookies, and any number of other treats—all with the aid of a 100-watt incandescent lightbulb. It's nice to know the extra heat given off by inefficient lighting can be put to good (and delicious) use.

But you're not cooking with the other lightbulbs in your home, and traditional incandescent bulbs waste 90 percent of their energy by releasing heat. That's not surprising, since the bulb's design hasn't been updated since it was created 130 years ago.

Just as cars and refrigerators have become more efficient over time, lightbulbs are getting an overhaul. In 2007

Congress passed the Energy Independence and Security Act, calling for incandescent bulbs to be at least 28 percent more efficient starting nationally in January 2012. Each household could save \$50 every year with this change, and those savings add up—Americans could save over \$6 billion annually.

You have several efficient lightbulb options. If you don't want to stray too far from the bulbs you're used to, consider halogen incandescent lightbulbs. They cut energy use by about 25 percent and last three times as long as traditional incandescent bulbs.

How are they different? A small capsule holds halogen gas around the filament. This minor addition boosts the bulb's lifespan and efficiency. But everything else—the shape, color range, and ability to dim—stays the same as the bulbs you grew up with.

Another distinctive style of bulb should already be familiar—compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). CFLs are the most common and cost-effective efficient bulb on the market. The trademark swirly style is linked to the concept of efficient lighting, but some manufacturers also encase CFLs to diffuse the light and provide the same look and feel as traditional bulbs. CFLs offer 75

percent energy savings over traditional incandescent bulbs and last 10 times longer.

The last lighting option holds the most promise for our lighting future. Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are commonly used in electronics. The bulbs are small—about half the size of a pencil eraser—but by banding several bulbs together, a bright and dependable light emerges. LEDs use 75-80 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and last 25 times longer—by far the longest lifespan yet for lightbulbs. They're expensive, but prices will fall as more folks use the technology. Ready to start saving? New labels, appearing in January, will help you compare the lumens (light output) from your old bulbs and buy a comparable efficient bulb. You can learn more at energysavers.gov/lighting.

But what about the Easy-Bake Oven? Have no fear—future bakers will still be able to perfect sugary treats. Hasbro plans to introduce a new Easy-Bake Ultimate Oven in late 2011, featuring an alternative heating element. Rest assured, future chefs can still find inspiration—and you can funnel some of your lighting savings toward culinary school! Location #25-22-125

Sources: LUMEN Coalition, U.S. Department of Energy, Hasbro, Inc.

Survey coming to members affected by July 1 storm

The July 1, 2011 storm will find a place in history at Meeker Cooperative. Those of us who are employed at the Co-op these days don't remember such widespread damage and outages. Our linemen, who worked so diligently to restore the system, hope they never see another storm like that again.

Because we haven't experienced something this widespread and damaging, we are looking to our members who were out of power to complete a short survey that will give us an idea of how we did to restore your power. The survey is scheduled to arrive the second week of August. We ask that you complete it and return it to the agency conducting the survey in the envelope provided.

We hope that a storm and outage of this magnitude never happens again. However, if it does, we want to do the best job we possibly can to restore your power. Your answers to this survey will help us make the necessary changes, if needed, to do just that.

House to be auctioned Sept. 26

Meeker Cooperative will be selling a home by auction on September 26 at 3:00 p.m. with the requirement that the house and garage will be moved off the property.

The house, located directly behind Cooperative headquarters at 63315 260th Street, is a 1999 modular rambler encompassing 1400 square feet of living space, with a 96 square foot breezeway connecting the home to a 784 square foot garage. The home has three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Open houses will be held Saturday, Sept. 10, 9-11 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 18, 1-3 p.m. Steffes Auctions will be conducting the auction.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karl Lundin, President — District 9

North Kingston, Kingston, Forest City in Meeker

James Wirz, Vice President — District 3

Luxemburg, Maine Prairie, South Maine Prairie in Stearns; Forest Prairie in Meeker

Jeffrey Anderson, Secretary — District 5

Fairhaven in Stearns; Cokato, Southside, French Lake in Wright; Dassel in Meeker

Mark Larson, Treasurer — District 6

Harrison, Kandiyohi, Genessee, Fahlun, Lake Elizabeth, E. Lake Lillian in Kandiyohi; Cosmos, Acton, Danielson, Swede Grove in Meeker; Brookfield, Boon Lake in Renville

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Stearns; Union Grove in Meeker

Karen Becker — District 2

Eden Lake in Stearns; Harvey, Manannah in Meeker

DeWayne Albright — District 4

Litchfield, Greenleaf in Meeker

K. Bruce Krueger — District 7

Collinwood, Cedar Mills in Meeker; Stockholm in Wright; Acoma, Hutchinson in McLeod

Larry Huhn — District 8

Darwin, Ellsworth in Meeker

Kim Keithahn — Attorney

MEEKER PIONEER

USPS 018-308 ISSN 1525-1055
Periodicals Postage Paid at Litchfield, MN.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Meeker Pioneer, P.O. Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355-0068.

The Meeker Pioneer is published monthly for \$5 per year for members and \$10 per year for non-members by Meeker Cooperative, 1725 U.S. Hwy. 12 E, PO Box 68 Litchfield, MN 55355-0068

CEO/General Manager: Tim Mergen
Editor: Becky Sorenson

The Meeker Pioneer is the official member publication of Meeker Cooperative and focuses on our members, programs and events. All member story ideas and comments are welcome. Send to Becky Sorenson at the address above.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For 24-hour service call

320-693-3231 or 800-232-6257

Fax: 320-693-2980

Web site: www.meeker.coop

Use the "Contact Us" form on the home page

Meeker Cooperative Mission Statement

"To enhance the quality of life of the Cooperative's Members and Customers by providing safe, reliable, competitively priced energy and other value-added services, while practicing environmental stewardship."

Tips for staying safe around water



Safe Electricity offers the following tips to stay safe in or around swimming pools:

- Do not put any electrical appliances within five feet of a swimming pool.
- Any electrical outlets within twenty feet of a pool should be equipped with a GCFI, or Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter.
- Pools and decks should be built at least 5 feet away from all underground electrical lines, and at least 25 feet away from overhead electrical lines.
- As always, never swim during a thunderstorm.
- Use battery operated, rather than electrical, appliances near swimming pools.
- If a swimmer is electrocuted or shocked, don't dive in yourself or you could be electrocuted as well. Turn off the power, and then use a fiberglass shepherd's hook to pull the victim out of the water.

When you leave the pool, don't change the radio station or touch any electrical appliances until you are dry. Never touch any electrical appliances when you

are wet or standing in water. If children wish to play with sprinklers or hoses, emphasize that they should be set up well away from any electrical outlets or appliances.

Electricity and water are dangerous around larger bodies of water as well. If you plan to go boating or fishing this summer, be aware of your surroundings and potential electrical hazards.

If your boat comes in contact with a power line, never jump out of the boat into the water – the water could be energized. Instead, stay in the boat and avoid touching anything metal until help arrives or until your boat is no longer in contact with the line.

Be sure dockside outlets have ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection and check cords that are plugged into them to make sure there is no broken casing or exposed wire.

Check for the location of power lines before fishing. Make sure you are casting the line away from power lines to avoid potential contact. Also be aware that anchors may snag underwater electrical or telephone cables.

Electrical equipment around swimming pools can pose a very real hazard. According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, deaths and serious shocks occur in and around swimming pools each year.

You can't put a price on security...

Award-winning fire, flood, break-in and more protection...

Heartland Security

2009 DEALER OF THE YEAR FOR WESTERN U.S. SECURITY PRO

Sign up for a Heartland System by August 31 and receive \$100 off! (Note: this offer cannot be combined with other specials.)

Want to know for certain your home is safe when your're away? Wish to know the police or fire department can be on their way in the event of an emergency... automatically? A Heartland Security system can do all of these things and more! In addition, get \$100 off this type of priceless security between now and August 31. Heartland systems can also be customized to fit a multitude of applications, including livestock, surveillance, medical and more. Call 1-888-264-6380 or visit www.heartlandss.com for more information.

But you can save \$100 on a new Heartland Security system!

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

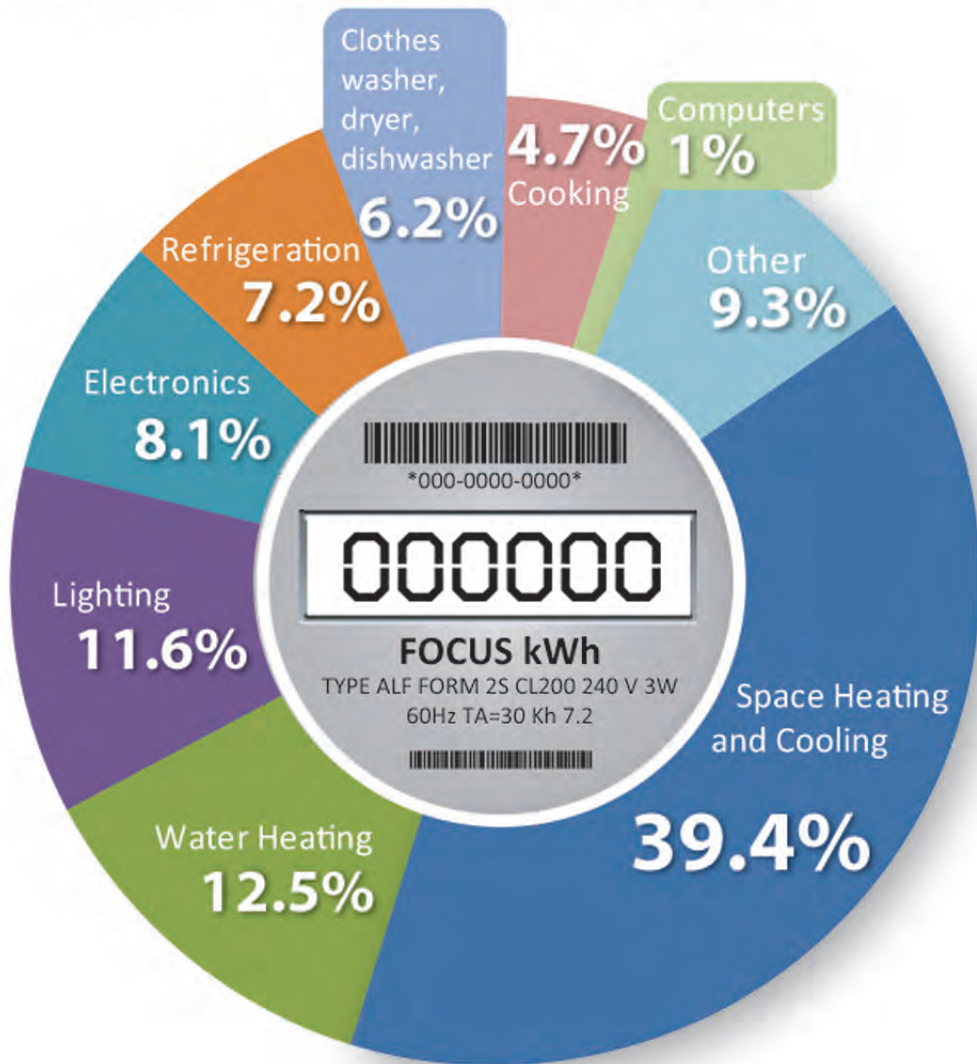
Safe Digging Is No Accident: Always Call 811 Before You Dig

Know what's below. Always call 811 before you dig. Visit call811.com for more information.

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

U.S. Department of Transportation TRAVELERS Common Ground Alliance

How Your Home Uses Electricity



Source: 2009 Buildings Energy Data Book, U.S. Department of Energy, Table 21.5. Represents an all-electric home. Updated February 2011.

When it comes to saving energy and money, every little bit helps. Even small changes can add up to big savings. See how at: www.togetherwesave.com

However, if you want to see where you can make the biggest changes, the graph at left shows you where the average family uses the most electricity in our homes. Even if your home isn't an all-electric home, your largest percentage of energy costs will still be spent in space heating and cooling. Lighting and water heating are also areas where changes can yield excellent results.

Contact your electric Cooperative to see all the ways you can make changes to reduce your electric bill. We are happy to help you use less, spend less, and enjoy the same level of comfort you've always had, if not more!

INDUSTRY News

Coal hauling costs on the rise across the nation

Freight railroads' bills for hauling coal to power plants jumped by almost 40 percent between 2001 and 2008, and more than doubled along some routes, according to a new Energy Information Administration report. For example, transportation costs from the Powder River Basin, the nation's most important source of low-emissions coal, have reached as much as 59 percent of affected utilities' total delivered costs, EIA said. That's important, the agency added, because coal-based electric generating units get nearly three-quarters of their coal by freight rail.

Overall, revenue per ton-mile for railroads increased a shade less than 40 percent, with most of the rise occurring between 2007 and 2008. The price tag associated with Powder River Basin shipments to Wisconsin utilities rose by 57 percent. Similarly, coal shipments from the Powder River Basin to points in Missouri increased nearly 43 percent, according to EIA.

~Electric Co-op Today

AAA to provide electric car help

For decades, AAA has been helping stranded drivers by jump-starting batteries and bringing gasoline. Now that electric cars are gaining a foothold in America's driveways, it is making changes to help folks who get stranded when their cars run out of juice. The auto club now has its first roadside assistance trucks equipped to provide a charge. Members will get 10 to 15 minutes of charge time. AAA said that will be adequate to drive the car up to 15 miles to a charging station. Starting later this summer, the initial fleet will hit the streets of metropolitan Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Ore., Knoxville, Tenn., and Tampa, Fla.

AAA, which has 52 million members, unveiled the first truck July 19 at an electric vehicle conference in Raleigh, N.C. That truck runs on a lithium-ion battery pack. The auto club said other trucks will use generators powered by alternative fuels and other power sources.

~Electric Co-op Today

IF IT'S
WET OUT
TAKE IT
INSIDE

IT'S ALL PART OF THE JOB

Electricity and water don't mix. We know it's best to get the job done, but if it's raining, has recently rained or is otherwise damp around where you intend to work, the best thing to do is just wait. It's not procrastinating, it's doing things right.

Meeker
Cooperative
Light and Power Association

McLeod
COOPERATIVE POWER

Office closed Labor Day



Meeker Co-op's office will be closed Monday, September 5, in observance of Labor Day. Emergency and outage dispatchers are on duty 24 hours a day and can be reached by calling our regular office numbers:

693-3231 or 800-232-6257

Burning garbage in the backyard

We've been doing it for generations, so what's the big deal now?



The answer is that garbage has changed in the last 50 years. Today's garbage contains plastics and other synthetics that release a hazardous mixture of carcinogens and other toxics (such as lead, mercury, and arsenic) when burned. Backyard garbage burning, whether done in a traditional burn barrel, wood stove or fire-pit, is far more harmful to our health and environment than previously thought. Even seemingly harmless items like paper, mail, packaging and cardboard boxes used for frozen pizzas and vegetables can give off toxic emissions.

This pollution not only increases the health risk to those exposed to the smoke, which can increase the risk of heart disease and cause rashes, nausea and headaches, but also produces toxic substances, including dioxin, a cancer-causing pollutant. The U.S. EPA has determined that one burn barrel (from an average family of four) can produce as much or more dioxin as a full-scale municipal waste incinerator burning 200 tons per day. Backyard garbage is now the single largest source of uncontrolled airborne dioxin emissions in the United States; more than all other known sources combined. In addition, backyard garbage contributes to nearly half of all the wildfires in Minnesota each year. Location #16-11-102

Regardless of whether it is legal or illegal, the most important thing to understand are the risks associated with backyard garbage burning and to change behavior. Most counties in Minnesota have set up comprehensive waste and recycling collection programs and drop-off sites to properly manage our garbage but there are still parts of the state that don't offer convenient options for all rural residents. That is why the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is working with our local units of government and other interested groups to close those gaps and educate people about the real dangers posed by backyard burning. For more information, including links to waste-hauling services, drop-sites, and recycling options, go to www.pca.state.mn.us/burnbarrel.

Lucille Kraemer of Glencoe submitted this month's winning recipe request for favorite Frozen Desserts! Lucille will receive a \$10 credit on her electric bill.

For September, submit your favorite Apple recipe!

Dreamsickle Dessert

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1-1/2 cup crushed Ritz crackers | 1/4 cup lemon juice |
| 4 Tbsp. powdered sugar | 2 eggs |
| 7 Tbsp. butter, melted | 1 cup sugar |
| 2 qts. softened vanilla ice cream | 6 Tbsp. butter |
| 1 qt. softened orange sherbet | |

Mix crackers, powdered sugar, and 7 Tbsp. butter together and press into a 9 X 13 pan. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes. Cool. Spread the vanilla ice cream over the crust. Freeze. Spread with softened sherbet. Freeze. Mix the remaining ingredients together and cook until thick. Cool and spread this glaze on top of the sherbet layer. Freeze until time to serve. Enjoy!

Please send in your favorite Apple Recipe by September 1, to: Meeker Cooperative, ATTN: Becky Sorenson, P.O. Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355-0068

Meeker Cooperative holds recycling event August 24-25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Meeker will hold its annual recycling event at its Litchfield headquarters. This is the same recycling event we have held every year for Residential, Commercial and Industrial members.

See below for items that qualify and pricing, which is 15% off normal recycling costs!

| <u>Lamp Type</u> | <u>Recycling cost</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Fluorescent Tubes 4 ft & under | \$0.60 |
| Fluorescent Tubes 5 ft & over | \$0.80 |
| U-shape & circular | \$0.80 |
| High intensity (HIDs) | \$2.00 |
| Ballast (non-PCB) | \$0.80/lb |
| Ballast (PCB) | \$1.30/lb |
| Pick-up Charge | \$50.00* |

* No Pickup charges for billings \$150.00 or greater.

C & I customers may also recycle electronics as in the past. Call for more information and price sheet.

COMPACT FLUORESCENT RECYCLING IS FREE YEAR-ROUND IN MEEKER COOPERATIVE'S OFFICE LOBBY
1725 U.S. Highway 12 E., Litchfield, MN

Use your Co-op Connections card/key fob to get discounts at DC Parts

DC Parts, on Highway 12 just West of Dassel, is a full-service parts shop for auto, commercial and ag-related vehicles. It's complete inventory of parts, accessories and vehicle-care products fills a needed niche in the Dassel-Cokato area. Location #19-02-301

Co-owners of the business are Mark Pollmann, Marty Hendrickson and Mark Hendrickson. Their philosophy is "where there's a need, we'll provide the service." DC Parts started out supplying parts to Mark Hendrickson's other business, Kingston Auto, which does machining and auto repair.

However, the trio provides more to the Dassel area than auto parts and service. They also provide the Hustler brand of lawn mowers, rental U-Haul vehicles, they operate a vehicle

consignment sales yard, they fill propane tanks and run four over-the-road delivery semi-trucks that deliver for companies such as Sparboe and First District throughout the country.

"Where we see an opportunity, we try it," said Mark Pollmann.

Their newest venture is a full-service truck repair shop for all sizes, makes and models of trucks.



Operating as an Auto Value franchise out of St. Cloud, DC Parts can get the parts that they need quickly, and they deliver.

"It's all about taking care of the customer," Pollmann said.

Across all their businesses, they employ two counter people, one secretary, one truck dispatcher, three mechanics at the truck shop, and four semi-truck drivers.



Dave Klopp (left), DC Parts manager; Mark Pollmann, co-owner; and Nick Hendrickson, counter sales and parts delivery. Friendly, knowledgeable and customer-oriented service carries through all their business enterprises.

"I've been in the auto business my whole life in retail sales, parts and in a dealership," said Pollmann. "This is just another part of the business."

DC Parts is offering a 10% Discount on parts sales with the Co-op Connections Card (some exclusions

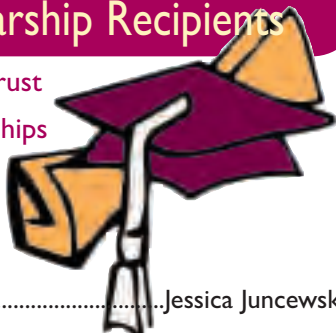
apply). They are open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

Stop by and bring your Co-op Connections card!



Operation Round Up 2010-2011 Scholarship Recipients

The Meeker Cooperative Electric Trust Board distributed ten \$500 scholarships to the following students for the 2010-2011 school year:



- Dassel-Cokato High SchoolJessica Junczewski
- Litchfield Senior High SchoolAshlee Lundberg
- Paynesville High SchoolCameron Kalkbrenner
- ACGC Senior High SchoolGlenn Nelsen and Martin Peterson
- Eden Valley-Watkins High SchoolKayla Dockendorf
- Kimball Area High SchoolCrystal Lahr
- Hutchinson High SchoolShelby Leske
- BOLD High SchoolNo eligible student

Sales tax exemption for electric heat

Minnesota residents are eligible for a sales tax exemption on their electric bill from November through April each year if electricity is the primary source of heat in their home. To apply for sales tax exemption, call 320-693-3231 or toll-free 1-800-232-6257 between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or pick up an application at Meeker Cooperative's office. If you have applied in the past, there is no need to reapply as your exemption will be automatically granted until we are notified of a change in your heating system.

more than just water is slipping through your fingers

Your home wastes more water than you might realize and that's costing you money. There is something you can do to take control of your water usage and energy costs.

FOR JUST \$10 Get your Energy Saving Water Kit from Meeker Cooperative through December 31, 2011. Order your kit at mnbrighterideas.com and use promo code: MEE679 or fill out and mail the order form below.

mnbrighterideas.com

What's inside your \$10 Energy Saving Water Kit (\$40 retail value)

- The Earth™ Massage Showerhead
- Kitchen Swivel Aerator
- Two Bathroom Faucet Aerators
- Hot Water Temperature Card
- Plumber's Tape

In order to receive this Energy Saving Water Kit at the special discount price, you must be a cooperative member and you must use electricity to heat your water.

YES / NO I'm a member of Meeker Cooperative.
YES / NO I heat my water with electricity.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ ALT PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Place your completed order form and a \$10 check or money order, payable to Niagara Conservation Corp., in an envelope and mail to:
Niagara Conservation Corp.
Attn: Great River Energy Kit Offer
Post Office Box 501
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
Allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

Pioneer Ads Free want ad service for members.

Please limit your ad to nine words. Use the coupon printed below or available at Meeker Cooperative's front desk to submit your ad. Ads will be printed for one month only. Please submit a new ad if you want it published more than one month. Include your name and address, which will be used for identification purposes only. Ads must be received by **September 1** to be included in the September issue. Thank you!

Please run this ad in the next Pioneer

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Remember to limit your ad to nine words!

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____
4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____
7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

Please check ad category

- ____ Giveaway
____ For Rent
____ For Sale
____ Wanted
____ Services

Clip and Send to: Meeker Cooperative, P.O. Box 68,
Litchfield, MN 55355, ATTN: Cheryl Anderson

For Sale - Miscellaneous

- Evenflo car seat w/base, used for one infant, great shape/very clean. \$45. 320-291-0446.
- Jensen stereo speaker, works great. \$40. 320-291-0446.
- Toddler bed frame, wooden, no mattress. \$25. 320-291-0446.
- Cherry curio, 5-shelf, 13"x31-1/4"x76-1/2". \$250. 320-444-6357.
- Video poker 25¢ machine. \$800. 651-592-0183.
- Coffee table, 17"x35", round, solid oak, med. brown, beautiful. \$50. 320-296-6692.
- 1964 Zenith console stereo radio, makes beautiful TV stand. \$75. 320-296-6692.
- Teacup Chihuahua puppies. 320-453-2415.
- 1986 VW 2-horse trailer, bumper-pull tandem axle. 320-857-2507.
- Black dirt & boulders for lakeshore rip-rap. 320-582-0229.
- Dell V305 scanner/copier/printer, Bluetooth, needs ink. \$40BO. 218-232-5523.
- Lot on Union Lake, wooded, 150' lakeshore, price reduced. 320-894-1084.
- Girls' bike, 19", purple, exc. cond. \$25. 320-234-6085/651-283-7458.
- Department 56 collectibles, too many to list. 320-420-1185.
- Exide Edge battery, #16-B, new. 320-693-8492.

- Lot on Lake Ailie, new clubhouse, sewer. \$120,000. 320-420-3074.
- Cabin, 2BR, 180' lakeshore, garage, Clear Lake. \$149,900. 763-232-9395.
- Cabela's model 400 case tumbler, like new. \$65. 320-693-8492.
- Crestliner, 14', 25hp Evinrude, trailer, trolling motor, depth finder. 320-693-8492.
- Kennel, 6'x12', w/large Igloo doghouse. \$150. 320-275-7500.
- Sheetrock, 4'x12'x5/8", 23 sheets. \$2 ea. 320-275-7500.
- Toy trucker & farmer magazines, all in holders, large collection. 320-275-9394.
- Amana microwave, 1100-watt, w/cart, like new. \$100. 320-453-7177.
- Craftsman radial arm saw & table saw, nice cond. 320-693-2707.
- 2002 Mercury 5hp motor, 3-gal., auxiliary tank. \$695. 320-275-2950.
- KingPin hitch for 5th-wheel camper and equalizer hitch. 320-979-1325.
- Baldwin upright piano, perfect cond! \$1000/BO. 320-857-9467.
- Percussion Plus black drum set. \$125. 320-693-8115.
- Alumacraft fishing boat, 12'. \$150. 320-693-3877.
- Mercury motor, 2.2hp, like new. \$250. 320-693-3877.
- AKC yellow labs, females-\$400/males-\$300. 612-756-4080/320-894-8328.

- Post hole digger, w/12" auger, like new. \$425. 320-693-7734.
- Allside window, double-hung, solid vinyl, 3-panel, 121-1/2"x61-1/2", new, Litch. \$350. 612-875-9624.
- Gas sign, old, w/changeable numbers; milker w/attachments. 320-398-5563.
- Kenmore water heater, gas, 40-gal., never used. \$75. 952-944-3211.
- Fresh beef, quarters or halves, cut/wrapped/frozen. 320-593-1924/320-221-2649.
- 1999 TrailsWest gooseneck 3-horse trailer, w/weekend pkg. 320-693-6668.
- Texas Instruments 83 graphing calculator. \$30. 320-310-7188.
- Cabin, 2BR, 85' shoreline, motivated seller, Lake Louisa. \$150,000 neg. 952-835-7292.
- Kitchen table w/6 chairs, wooden-look. \$75. 320-693-6764 after 4pm.
- Frigidaire refrigerator, full-size, black, dent in door, brand new. \$100. 320-693-8665 after 3pm.
- Microwave stand, light oak, on wheels, very nice. \$65. 320-493-0940.
- Flotec sump pump, 3/4hp, never used/still in box. \$150. 320-493-0940.
- Roll-a-dock; pontoon lift; Seahawk paddle boat. 320-587-3390.
- Dock, 32' rolling steel, 8' wide end. \$300. 320-693-8096/320-221-2731.
- Mitsubishi TV, 35", color, w/stand, great TV for Wii. 320-693-8096/320-221-2731.
- La-Z-Boy recliner rocker, hunter green, good cond. \$25/BO. 320-693-8096/320-221-2731.
- Huff Causeway ladies' bike, 26", 6-speed, ridden less than 2 mi. \$100. 320-275-4090.
- Fuel tank, 325-gal., w/stand. \$50. 320-587-6601.
- 1987 Friendship mobile home, 14x69, updated, to be moved. \$14,500/BO. 320-275-9760.
- Fast Track II exerciser, slightly used. \$100. 320-398-8395.

- American Harvest Jet Stream oven, expander rings/vert. roaster/jerky press, like new. \$35. 320-398-8395.
- Teeter Babe bouncy chair, '64 S&H green stamps purchase, new vinyl seat/back. \$13. 320-398-8395.
- GE Smartwater water unit, hot and cold, never used. \$65. 952-938-8269.
- SportCraft TX200 treadmill. \$50. 320-693-8315.
- Drop-leaf table w/4 chairs. \$100. 320-693-8315.
- Craftsman table saw, 10", w/stand. 320-243-4381.
- Amana oven, elec., self-cleaning, white, works great. 320-583-1477/320-583-9918.
- Black Hills spruce, potted, 10"-13"-\$5; 14"-18"-\$8. 320-857-2883.
- Cement buggy, 3-wheel, Wisconsin engine, hauls 1/2-yd. airplane tires. \$500. 320-275-2493.
- Dining chairs, sturdy oak, 2 capt + 4 match set, varnished, med. oak color, nice. \$150. 320-420-5520.
- Perennials: large sedum and hosta plants; also have lilies. 320-420-5520.
- Bow fishing kit: AMS reel to compound bow, 2-yr. use, 70# draw wt. \$150. 320-223-3352.
- White lawn tractor, 12hp, hydrostatic, 38", runs great. \$250. 320-296-6692.
- Coffee table, round solid oak, beautiful cond. \$50. 320-296-6692.
- Beef quarters or halves. \$1.75/lb. hanging wt. 320-693-2766.
- Dressers & recliners-\$50 ea.; dinette-\$75; and more for moving sale. 320-764-6186 / 320-764-2803.

For Sale - Agricultural

- John Deere 6600 diesel combine, for parts. 320-221-1984.
- Grass hay, round bales. 320-974-8469.
- Three throw racks, metal, w/running gear. 320-275-2842.
- 3 mini donkeys, must stay together, SW Litch. 612-655-8448.
- Wide front for International tractor. \$725. 320-764-6671.
- Plow, 3 pt. \$550. 320-764-6671.
- Plow, 3-pt, 2-way. \$450. 320-764-6671.
- Bobcat snow bucket, 6'. \$400. 320-583-3131.
- John Deere hay rake. \$500. 320-583-3131.
- Farm wagon, wide-stance, 2-way hydraulic hoist. 320-974-8743.
- 1948 Nash Ambassador, straight, solid, running, easy restore. 320-974-8743.
- Case disk, 10', repaired. \$200. 320-693-9132.
- Ten neck straps for calves or goats. \$1.50 ea. 320-764-2286.
- Steel building, 12'x22', w/heater. 320-221-1984.

- White Rock chickens, hens lay brown eggs. \$5 ea. 320-693-2054.
- Allis Chalmers Gleaner combine, w/gas D19 engine, soybean & pickup heads. 320-693-2766.
- Grass-alfalfa mix hay bales, small squares, no rain. 320-693-2766.
- John Deere 317, new 18hp Honda. 952-250-7109.
- Three gravity boxes, from 300- to 400-bushel, on heavy-duty gear. 320-453-3007.
- Allis Chalmers WD, wide front. Best offer. 320-453-3007.
- New Idea side rake, many new teeth. \$425. 320-453-3007.

For Sale - Automotive

- 2002 Itasca motor home, Class A, 35', loaded, 2 slides. \$50,000. 651-592-0183.
- 1969 Chevrolet C60, new tires, flat bed w/hoist, new carb, 76K mi. 320-582-0229.
- 1962 Corvair 700, non-running, little rust. \$800/BO. 320-398-5385.
- 2007 Chrysler Aspen truck, black, leather heated seat, 45K mi., mint cond. \$23,000. 320-493-0940.
- 2010 Ford Fusion SE, gray, 60K mi., clean. \$14,500. 320-857-2425.

Wanted

- 9' disc bine, good cond. 320-293-1395.
- Two pearl guinea hens. 320-693-2054.
- Guitars or amplifiers, cash paid, any cond. 320-275-5144.
- Bowling balls for craft project. 320-237-1361.
- Wooden skis, cross-country or downhill. 320-267-3924 eves.
- Property to lease, for archery deer hunting. 612-327-3091.
- Choke cherries/cranberries/wild berries/grapes, will pick. 320-974-3040.
- Four tires, P215-65R-15, with or w/o rims, good cond. 952-447-4428 eves.
- Antenna; elec. dryer; elec. stove; refrigerator. 320-693-8793.
- Window air conditioner, 16,000-22,000 BTU. 952-934-2166.

Giveaway

- John Grisham 'The Summons', 6-cass. audio book set. 218-232-5523.
- Suitcase on wheels, grey/black tweed, matching toiletry bag, good cond. 218-232-5523.
- Ping-pong table, good cond. 320-693-8330.
- Tortoise shell cat, spayed, declawed, all items go with her to good home. 320-693-7695.

Services

- Joe Kelly Construction~for all your concrete needs. 320-286-6394.

- Guitar lessons for beginners. \$10/half hr. or \$20/hr. 320-295-3288.
- Will do cleaning, weekly/bi-weekly, within 25 mi. of Watkins. 320-764-2156.
- Serenity Choice Homecare~nursing/HHA/homemaker/companions. 320-398-8335.
- Perfect Paint, LLC~paint, stain, wallpaper, window cleaning, power washing. 320-275-9173.
- J Austin Construction~pole buildings, concrete, steel/shingle roofing, lic. & insured. 320-492-6364.
- Andrew Gilbertson Construction, LLC~carpentry & concrete, lic. #20631493. 320-221-3148.
- Bunn Construction Services, LLC~brick/stone/chimney repairs/retaining walls. 952-212-7779.
- Welding/fabrication/installation of stainless aluminum & steel. 320-764-2861.
- Handyman — yardwork/pruning/tree trim/painting/deck staining/skid loader/cabin maint. 320-492-8264.

- Custom Hunter Douglas window coverings, priced right. 320-693-2074.
- Location #11-12-315
- Larry's Barber & Style~master barber, 213 N Sibley-Litch, Tues-Sat 8-5:30. 320-693-2421.
- Kotila Excavating~field drain tiling, designer/installer of septic's/driveways/basements. 612-619-3962.
- TreeMaster trimming and removal. 320-693-8315.
- Concrete countertops, over existing countertops. \$19/sq. ft. 320-420-6900.
- Complete lawn maint., comm./res., weekly mowing, fertilization, brush trim, fully ins. 320-699-0082.
- Handyman work, garden tilling, lawn mowing. 320-275-3518.
- Peterson Furniture Service~stripping/refinishing/gluing/caning, hardware avail. 320-693-6004.
- Custom-built homes, financing/contracting/designing, since 1977. 320-693-7993/800-247-8426.

For Rent

- Sportsman Park-Lake Washington, 100 seating, patio, kitchen, landing. 320-275-9109.
- House, 3BR on 10-acre Hobby farm, horse-ready. \$1000/mo. 320-693-4803.
- Shed, large storage, rural Litchfield, boats/campers/etc. 320-267-7611.
- Log cabin-Tettegouche State Park, Lake Superior. \$175/night or \$1200/week. 320-693-2094.
- Space for winter vehicle storage, indoor. 320-275-3413.

Find your location number

Win \$10 credit on your next bill!

Four location numbers have been hidden within this Pioneer. If you find your number and claim it by calling Meeker Cooperative by September 1, you will have \$10 credited to your account! Good Luck!

