



Meeker Cooperative PIONEER

November 2011

All of us at Meeker Co-op wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!



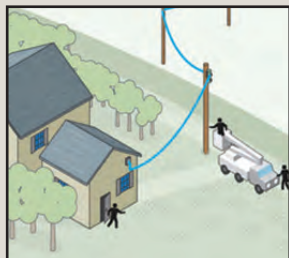
Answers to outage questions

2



What goes into a house move?

3



How is your power restored after an outage?

4

Official publication of

Meeker Cooperative
Light and Power Association

www.meeker.coop

Have a Happy (Energy-Efficient) Holiday Season

By Brian Sloboda

Don't let a higher-than-normal January electric bill be the last gift of the season. With a few simple tricks you can still celebrate and save money at the same time.

Brightest House on the Block

Start with energy-efficient lighting, namely light-emitting diodes (LEDs). While a string of traditional incandescent mini-

lights uses 36 watts of power, LEDs only consume 5 watts and last up to 10 times longer. LEDs are typically made of plastic and will not break. Plus, many are brighter than traditional mini-lights.

Unlike traditional incandescent bulbs, LEDs use computer chips to create light. They do, however, cost two to three times what traditional lights costs and depending on the quality

of the manufacturing process, you may not receive the type of light that you hoped for. A good rule of thumb: cheaper is not always better. When looking for LEDs, shop for quality brand lights with the ENERGY STAR label.

All holiday lights, whether LED or incandescent, should be placed on a timer. Simple timers

Energy Efficient Holidays

Continued on Page 7

Join us for our Coffee with the Co-op events!

Please join us for coffee, treats and conversation!

Tuesday, December 13

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Meeker Cooperative

Wednesday, December 14

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Triple R Grill
Kimball

Bring your family to see the Department 56® Snow Village!

Neil Brodin and Danielle Rogers of Brodin Studios, Litchfield, will once again display Isabelle Rogers' extensive and beautiful Department 56® Snow Village in our lobby area. Isabelle's collection represents more than 30 years of collecting. You'll enjoy seeing the numerous eras represented in this amazing look at American life through the years. Make plans to see this amazing collection during Meeker Co-op's normal business hours:



8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, December 12 through January 6.

or stop in for our "Coffee with the Co-op" Tuesday, December 13, and you can enjoy it then. Neil Brodin says this year will feature an expanded design as new houses and buildings are added to the collection.



Recycle your old incandescent holiday light strings at Meeker Co-op's front Lobby!

Recycling Association of Minnesota will strip the old strings into many different parts that can be used again! Recycling is smart, responsible and easy!



Fast and Furious

Last month I reported results from the recent Outage Survey that we sent to members affected by the July 1 storm. I mentioned that we received many written comments (mostly praise and thanks) for the hard work and quick restoration of electricity by the crews. We also received a few questions. This month I thought it would be good to address a few of the most common questions we received from the survey responses. Hopefully it will help to address issues that members had during the July outage as well as for fellow members who may have had similar questions during past outages.

The most asked questions were

“My neighbor never lost power,” or “My neighbor had his power restored but I was still out...why?”

Although every situation is unique, I'll try and cover some of the most general reasons. First, some neighbors are bound to be fed from different substations. At some point you may very well have one side of the road (or two adjacent neighbors) fed from different substations. During the July storm, we lost transmission service to three substations. Members fed from those substations were out until the transmission service to the substations was reenergized. In some cases, we were able to back-feed the substation or certain feeders or lines which provided electricity to members on those lines.

Secondly, not every member is fed from the same line going down the road. For example, we may have a three-phase feeder line coming from a substation that consists of three different energized lines. Our linemen and engineers call them A, B and C phase of the same line. If you

are a residential homeowner, you have single-phase service. That means you are only drawing power from one of those three lines. Electric “loads” are split as evenly as possible across all three phases. Your service could be fed from A phase and your neighbor's fed from B phase and another neighbor's from C phase. Often, only one line is without power while the other two phases still have power.

Or perhaps a tree on the line caused a line fuse to blow. This would affect everyone down-line from the fuse while your neighbors “up-line” would still have power. Another reason may be that your transformer blew a fuse, which affected only your power. This could be caused by something in the line or a lightning strike, etc. One item of note is that even if you don't see anything in the line, an object or animal could have blown the fuse and then fallen away.

“Why couldn't the Co-op tell us how long we were going to be without power?”

I know that during an outage questions come up such as, “Should I remove food from my refrigerator/freezer?” “What about the operation of my sump pump?” “What plans do I need to make to water or feed livestock, milk cows, or provide for ventilation in a building containing livestock?” “What plans do I need to make for my own or my family's needs such as cooking, bathing and, of course, using the toilet?”

If you are operating a business, you want to know whether to postpone employees from coming in or send them home until power is restored.

Often, we don't know exactly where the problem is. Even after we discover the source of the outage, it's difficult to set a

realistic timeframe for repair. For example, during the July 1 storm, we didn't get a clear indication from Xcel Energy when they expected to have their transmission lines restored. Although we did have a little better indication from Great River Energy, it still was out of our hands and, to some extent, a guessing game.

With outages so widespread across our system and crews working on many different lines in many areas of our system, it was nearly impossible to give a time estimate that would be accurate enough for all of our members out of power. If we had made an optimistic general announcement that power would be restored in one day, many members would have planned accordingly and been hugely disappointed and upset (rightly so) when power was restored three days later. Conversely, if we made a general proclamation that your power would be out for three days and you purchased a generator, removed all your food or moved into a hotel only to have your power restored quickly, you would be equally upset for having had to spend money unnecessarily.

In an effort to keep you informed, I made periodic announcements on the Litchfield and Hutchinson radio stations concerning the status of our repair efforts, including in which areas we were concentrating our repair work. We updated our website regularly and provided the Cooperative Response Center (our after-hours call center) with up-to-date information on our progress so they could pass it along if need be. I realize there are challenges with using these communication outlets when you have no power. So unless you have a smart phone with internet capabilities or batteries for your radio, you couldn't take advantage of these regular updates.

To further inform members, a couple of office employees and I made specific tours of some of the most damaged areas and talked to many of you. While we made supply runs to line crews, we stopped to alert and inform members of our approximate time of restoration. However, as I personally experienced, even a generic statement of “We hope to have electricity in your area restored by the end of the day” can come back to you in an earful when a member whose power wasn't restored then tells you, “You said it would be back on by the end of the day!”

The bottom line is that with any outage it is always tough to answer this question. With damage as extensive and widespread as what occurred from the July storm, it is difficult to reach each and every member to report specific restoration progress.

The next set of questions really had to do with safety in some way or form. These questions included items such as:

“Electric lines were down in my yard or lying on the road, or I couldn't tell if the downed lines were energized and I wasn't sure what to do.”

First and foremost, stay away from downed power lines. Treat all power lines — whether they are hanging or downed — as if they are energized. This storm was particularly dangerous, not only because of all the lines that went down,

Fast and Furious Cont. on Page 6

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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.”

House moves... What role does the Cooperative play?



The former boarding house that stood on the lot at 201 Sibley Avenue South, Litchfield, moved through town at a snail's pace.



The mammoth building takes a long time to negotiate a turn before coming to rest for the first night just south of Highway 1.

On Monday, October 17, the mammoth victorian boarding house that for years occupied the city lot at 201 Sibley Avenue South in Litchfield, rolled onto the street at a snail's pace. Pulled by a Mack truck, the house-laden trailer ever so slowly pointed south for the beginning of a long trip to its final resting place in Willmar.

It took 7-1/2 hours to move from it's original spot to where it spent it's first night in the city of Litchfield. During that time it moved a total of 1.6 miles. The slow progress was due in part to the numbers of branches that had to be cut out of the way and the careful process of keeping the house level on the trailer, despite changing road contours. It took eight more hours over the next two days to move the house 14.7 miles to Kandiyohi Power Cooperative's service area.

Litchfield residents and Ripley Elementary School children lined Sibley Avenue to watch the slowest parade they've ever seen; police cars with lights both led and followed the procession that included utility trucks, moving company personnel and one of the largest buildings to be moved within city limits. Everyone moved in concert to prepare the way, clear trees and turn light poles, cut utility lines, remove signs and slowly negotiate turns. As painstaking as moving day is, there's also a lot of detail and coordination that is required just to prepare for the move.

"We had to coordinate with the highway patrol, the moving company, the owner and with our power supplier Great River Energy (GRE) on the timing of the move," said Steve Johnson, Meeker Co-op's operations manager. "Because high-voltage transmission lines had to be cut, we had to make sure that GRE and Xcel had the time to backfeed the power through other lines and be there to cut and splice their wires as the house moved through that area."

Johnson calculated the electric line crossings the house would move through while in Meeker Co-op's service territory. Each line crossing must be moved, either by lifting the wires over the house as it passes through, or by cutting and splicing the wires.

"We like to be notified at least two weeks in advance of a house move so we have time to plan and map the route. We work with all the entities involved to help them plan the simplest path through our service area to minimize traffic problems and line cuts," said Johnson



Students at Ripley Elementary School excitedly lined the playground to watch the house pass by.



The suspension system adjusts to varying road contours to keep the house level and avoid cracking of interior walls during the move.

"Because of the size of the house, we couldn't lift the lines high enough to let the house pass under, so we had to cut and splice the lines."

A total of 18 single-phase crossings were calculated. Each single-phase crossing contains two wires that have to be cut and spliced back together for a total of 36 wire cuts. One crew goes ahead to cut the lines and one crew follows behind the house to splice the lines back together.

"Each time a line is cut and spliced back together, it slightly degrades the line and causes a small amount of line loss of power," Johnson said. "That's an ongoing cost to the Co-op."

Johnson coordinated the timing of high-voltage transmission line cuts/repairs to make sure there was no waiting around for GRE crews from the metro area to arrive. Location #40-06-101



Litchfield City Utility personnel trimmed a number of branches to allow the house to pass on Sibley Avenue.

"That one high-voltage transmission line crossing involves back-feeding all that power and then cutting/repairing four wires. It's a big deal to reroute high-voltage power."

Cutting wires to let a house pass through the service area means that members are going to be without power. While the outage isn't a long one, Meeker Co-op works with the Cooperative Response Center (CRC) to call each member who will be affected by the outage to let them know they will be without power. They also call everyone who is on the "please notify" list, such as those on oxygen or other medically necessary devices that require electricity. In addition, they notify farmers with livestock in confinement buildings and farmers who have grain dryers running so they can get their grain augers cleaned out before the power is cut.

Other challenges that come with a house move may include the necessity to move rural mail boxes and traffic signs and then repair or replace them. This is the responsibility of the moving company in concert with the highway patrol.

House moves are part of the job that utilities and rural electric cooperatives don't look forward to. This one house move required more than 60 employee hours from seven Meeker Co-op employees and one contractor. While crews work on a move, they are taken away from their primary duties of repairing and maintaining our members' electric lines. However, when a house is scheduled to move through our system, we are required by law to assist in that move. Johnson said it's a responsibility that he and his crews take seriously.

"It is always our goal to make a house move as safe, quick and painless as possible for our members."

Power restoration is a logical process to get the power on quickly and safely

One of the major causes of power outages is damage from fallen trees—usually the result of bad weather. According to the Rel-Tech Group, about 80% of major grid failures from 1965 to 2009 in the United States and Canada were attributed to extreme

weather, including summer and winter storms; hurricanes, and heat waves. High winds, lightning strikes, and ice can knock down trees and power lines, causing either localized or widespread outages.

So what happens when the lights go out?

Your Cooperative's goal is to restore power to the greatest number of customers in the shortest amount of time. A detailed plan helps the Co-op prioritize what to do, which includes communicating to restoration crews and the members to improve efficiency and maintain safety.

In general, the following steps occur:

1. If a storm is approaching, local repair crews are put on standby so they can respond quickly to problems.
2. The first priority is to repair downed transmission lines because these high-voltage lines (between 32,500 and 115,000 volts) supply power from a generating plant to one or more distribution substations and serve thousands of members.
3. Substations (electrical facilities that contain equipment for switching or regulating the voltage of electricity) are repaired next. There are about a dozen of these substations, each serving hundreds or thousands of members.
4. Main distribution lines are 7,200-volt lines along roadways that carry power from the substation. Each line may serve dozens or hundreds of members. When the problem causing the outage is corrected at this stage, all customers served by the distribution line will have power restored.
5. Tap lines are electric feeder lines with limited capacity that run from a main distribution or feeder line to transformer poles or underground transformers outside of buildings. Because these lines serve only a few customers, they have lower priority. Even if these lines are repaired, the member will still

be without power until the main line is repaired.

6. Individual service lines run from the transformer to a building's meter. If this line is damaged, it may explain why your neighbor has power and you do not. This type of damage has the lowest priority since the line only serves one customer.

Tips for Customers

There are a variety of things a customer can do to minimize the impact of a power outage before, during, and after the event:

- Always have a backup generator ready in case of an outage.
- If you see a downed line, stay away from it and call 911 or the Co-op immediately. If a power line contacts your car, stay in the vehicle and keep others away. Never drive over downed power lines.

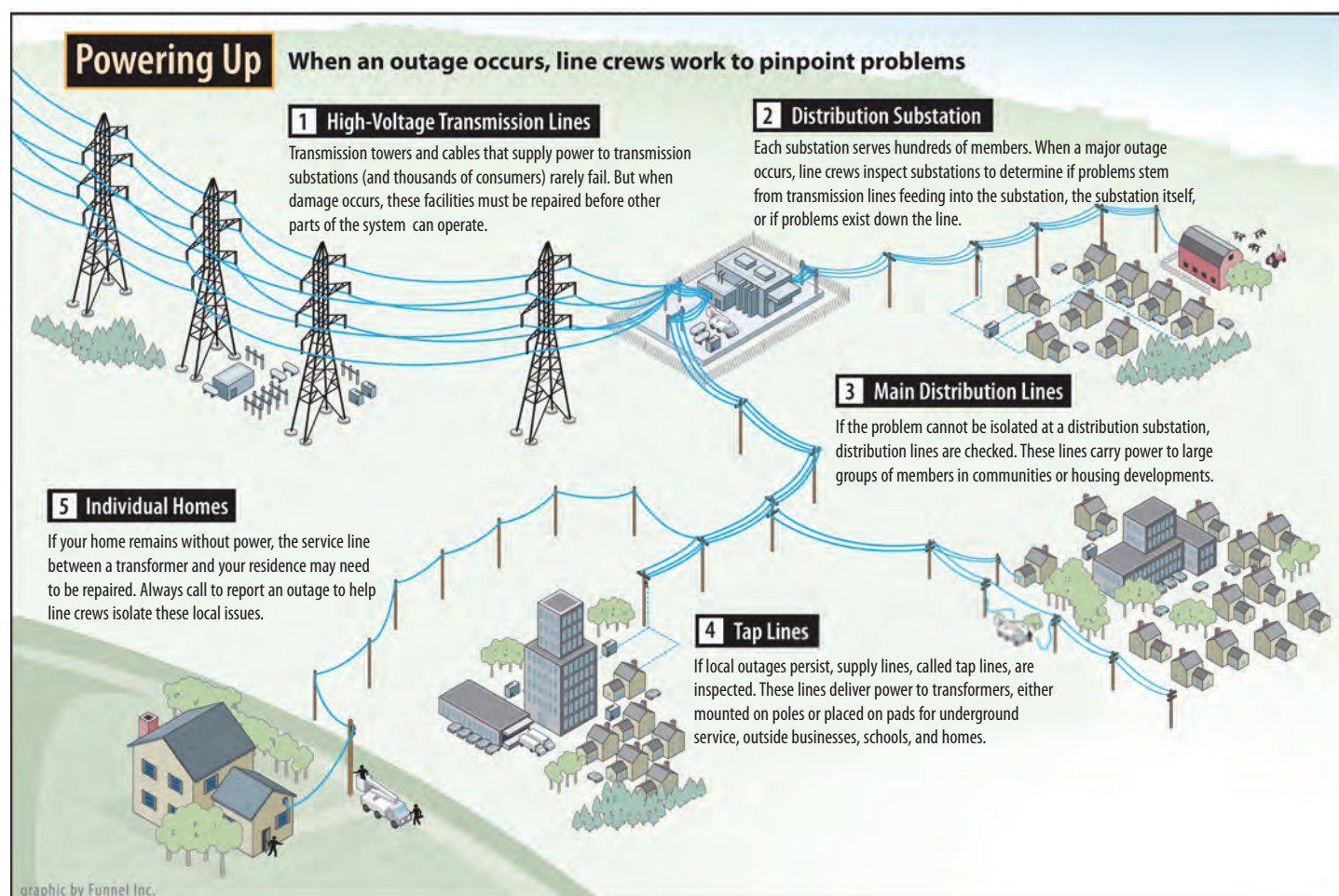
- Call as soon as you are aware of the outage. Member calls help repair crews locate damage. Provide the location number, account number or address.
- Damage to meters or other facility equipment may require repair before reconnection to the grid.
- Crews may be working in your area. Slow down and give the line crews plenty of room when you see orange safety cones or other safety barriers present.

The future of outage handling

Cooperatives and other utilities are keeping an eye on what is termed "smart grids", which combine smart devices, automation, and applications that adapt in real time to help improve a cooperative's response time to power outages as well as power reliability.

According to one estimate, smart grids could decrease power interruptions by more than 75% by 2020. Outages resulting from equipment problems will be prevented before they occur. In the case of an outage, smart grids will alert the Co-op to exactly which homes and businesses are out of service before a customer has to call. Before dispatching crews, specialized software will automatically reroute power to isolate damage. Crews will be sent to the exact location with the help of geospatial information systems (GIS), similar to Google maps. Power will be restored more quickly and efficiently than ever before.

Source: Tech Resources, Inc.



Protect your septic system from freezing

All it takes is one cold snap and a lack of snow cover to put the freeze on your drainfield or mound septic system. A frozen septic system is not only inconvenient and problematic, it can be expensive.

If you suspect your system is having problems (slow drains, liquid surfacing in the yard), you should take immediate action with the help of a septic system professional to remedy the problem before winter sets in. If your system is currently working fine, now is the time to take steps to reduce your chances of a frozen system.

Fall is a good time to prepare your septic system for winter cold. Following these steps can go a long way to preventing a real headache when the winter winds howl:

1 Add a layer of mulch (straw, leaves, hay or other loose material) 8-12 inches deep over the pipes, tank and soil treatment system for extra insulation. This is especially important during a milder winter when snowfall may be less. Added insulation is particularly important if you've had a new system installed and vegetative cover hasn't been established. Letting grass grow longer in the late fall also helps add insulation and hold snow in place.

2 Keep off the snow. Snow serves as an insulating blanket over the septic tank and soil treatment area by reducing the loss of

heat from the sewage and the geo-thermal heat from the soil. However, compacted snow doesn't insulate as well. Automobile, snowmobile, ATV, livestock and human foot traffic over the sewer pipes, tank and drainfield should be avoided. This type of traffic not only compacts the snow but also sends the frost deeper into the ground.

3 Keep the lid on. Open and uncapped riser or inspection pipes and manholes allow cold air into the system. All risers, inspection pipes and manholes should have covers, and possibly additional rigid foam insulation.

4 Check for proper alignment. Pipes that don't have proper fall (change of elevation) or pipes that settle or sag after installation can cause sewage to collect and freeze in low spots. Make sure all sewage drains out of the pipes.

5 Plan for extended leaves. When homes or cabins are unoccupied for long periods of time, sewage isn't entering the system in sufficient amounts to maintain temperature above freezing. Perhaps someone could visit occasionally and use sufficient quantities of water to keep the system operating. Better yet, pump out your tank before leaving.

Remember, preventing freeze-up is easier and less expensive than thawing out or repairing a frozen septic system.

INDUSTRY News

Wet conditions lead to messy mining

If you've ever tried to dig a hole in wet soil, you know that a little water can make for a lot more work. You dig and dig, but dirt always finds its way back into the hole.

Workers are facing a similar situation at Falkirk Mine, the fuel source of Great River Energy's largest power plant, Coal Creek Station. Record precipitation has led to immense flooding across much of North Dakota and saturated soil to the point that mining has slowed. Not only does the soil have more moisture, there's also more soil (called overburden).

Heavy rain and deeper overburden means more fuel, workers and tires — and higher costs. Although these cost increases are significant, Coal Creek Station still provides some of the most cost-effective electricity in the region. It's most significant advantage is location. The plant was sited close to the coal reserves of the Falkirk Mine, which minimizes fuel transportation costs. Great River Energy is exploring new ways to overcome the latest challenge so that its members continue to receive reliable, affordable power.

~Great River News

Electric heat cheapest heat this winter

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the cost of heating with natural gas, propane and oil are all expected to increase primarily due to higher fuel prices.

"The number of households heating with electricity is expected to increase by 1.7 percent from last winter," EIA said. "About 80 percent of the increase occurs in the South, where heat pumps are popular." The winter will not be as kind to those heating with natural gas, propane or oil, with household heating expenditures expected to rise by 3 percent, 7 percent and 8 percent, respectively.

Approximately half of all U.S. households use natural gas as a heating fuel, according to EIA, and the increase in costs represents a 4-percent increase in fuel prices and a 1-percent decrease in expected consumption. Five percent of U.S. households heat with propane, and specific fuel price increases are expected to vary widely across regions. For the 6 percent of households heating with oil, high fuel costs—the highest average winter price on record—will drive up average winter heating costs by \$193, according to EIA.

Residential heating oil prices are expected to average \$3.71 per gallon this winter, 33 cents per gallon higher than last winter.

-CFC Solutions News Bulletin

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Fast and Furious

Continued from Page 2

but in the manner that we lost power. Generally, when an outage happens power is lost one line at a time (or in sections) leading back to the substation. As we discussed earlier, a tree branch or animal might fall into the lines tripping the fuse and shutting off power. In this July storm, we lost power to the substations first because of the transmission lines going down to the south of us. This meant that when the storm hit our service area and branches and trees fell into the power lines, the power was already out so no fuses on those lines "blew". When the substations were re-energized, power flowed through those lines until a fuse somewhere "blew" shutting off the power. If anyone was touching (or was in close proximity) to those lines, electrical burns or fatalities would have been likely.

As for lines in the road, please stay in your vehicle and never try to move them out of the way. Please do not drive over them. They can easily cause your vehicle to be energized. If you find downed lines on the road (or anywhere for that matter) please call Meeker Cooperative, emergency or other safety personnel.

We also had a few questions about proper operation of generators. Since we periodically cover the safe and proper operation of generators in the *Pioneer*, I'll skip those questions for now.

Although our electrical distribution system is a complicated route of power lines, there is a process that we follow to locate and restore outages that brings power to the most people in the shortest possible time (See Outage Restoration on Page 4).

I assure you we worked "fast and furious" to restore your power. Unfortunately, with an outage this wide-spread, we simply could not restore everyone at once. Thanks for your patience and support.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Did You Know?

Approximately every 36 hours an employee is killed by coming in contact with electricity in some shape or form.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Charlene Jerpseth of Kimball submitted this month's winning recipe request for favorite Cranberry recipe...**Fresh Cranberry Bars!** She'll receive a \$10 credit on her electric bill.

For December, submit your favorite Cream Cheese recipe!

Fresh Cranberry Bars

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 eggs | 1/2 cup plus 2 Tbsp butter |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | (melted) |
| 2-1/2 cups sugar | 3 cups fresh whole |
| 6 Tbsp. water | cranberries |
| 2-1/4 cup flour | Walnuts (optional) |

Mix the eggs, vanilla, sugar and water and beat well. Add the flour and butter and mix well. Fold in the whole cranberries and walnuts. Transfer to a greased 9 x 13 cake pan and bake 40-45 minutes at 375°. When cool, top with a powdered sugar frosting.

Please send in your favorite

Dessert Bar Recipe by December 1, to:
Meeker Cooperative, ATTN: Becky Sorenson,
P.O. Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355-0068

mn brighterideas.com

This year, switch your old incandescent holiday bulbs to LEDs and show your holiday spirit in a whole new, energy-wise light. You're saving money. And you're being smarter with the power that makes your very merry display possible. Shine on.

Visit MNBrighterIdeas.com to enter for your chance to win a \$500 energy credit.

\$2 OFF

INSTANTLY on all ENERGY STAR® qualified LED holiday string sets at participating Target® stores. Discount taken at register. For store locations, visit MNBrighterIdeas.com. Offer valid November 13 - November 26, 2011.

Make The SWITCH

Another bright idea from your local cooperative.

New Event for Co-op Members

The Church Basement Ladies are at it again in this new comedy **"A Mighty Fortress is our Basement"**

Join us for a day of fun and laughs at the Plymouth Playhouse
Wednesday, February 1 for the 1 p.m. show

\$49 includes bus transportation, lunch and show tickets.
Deadline Monday, January 9, 2012

Great Holiday Gift for mom and dad!

Meeker Cooperative Church Basement Ladies Trip, February 1, 2012

Phone: _____

Name(s): _____

Account Number: _____

of reservations: _____ @ \$49 = \$ _____

Make checks payable to Meeker Cooperative. Clip and send this form and payment to:
Meeker Cooperative, P.O. Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355

Energy efficient holiday...

Prevent energy vampires

Continued from Page 1

cost \$20 and can be set to turn on at sunset and off after a set number of hours. It's usually best to have lights on only from sunset until bedtime.

Giving Energy Efficiency

Many electronic gifts are "energy vampires" sucking electricity 24 hours a day, even when switched off. Cell phone chargers, computers, video game consoles, and any device that comes with a large square plug, are likely energy vampires.

When possible, unplug electronics that are not being used, or plug them into a smart power strip. A smart power strip controls the flow of electricity to specific devices plugged into it. For example, it may cut the flow of electricity to unused devices such as DVD players, video game consoles, and stereo systems, while allowing TVs and satellite or cable boxes to remain operational. To keep your home entertainment center running lean, look for ENERGY STAR-rated televisions and ask satellite or cable providers for energy-efficient boxes. Location #24-25-106

Top 10 Energy Saving Tips for a Happy Holiday Season



Plug all those new toys into smart power strips—they'll turn off power to some items while keeping others, such as a cable box and TV, running.

Source: Bits Ltd.

10. Shop for ENERGY STAR-rated appliances and compact fluorescent lightbulbs
9. Skip the electronics and get kids board games
8. Do not preheat your oven when cooking large pieces of meat
7. Lower thermostats and replace HVAC filters every 30 days
6. Check windows and doors for leaks and seal them
5. Install timers on outdoor lighting displays
4. Decorate with LEDs
3. Adjust power settings on video game consoles to the power-saving feature
2. Vanquish energy vampires with a smart power strip
1. Cook foods in the microwave whenever possible, instead of the oven. Just don't forget they're in there!

Brian Sloboda is a program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network, a service of the Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

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The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance effort is the General Manager. Any individual or specific class of individuals who feel this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or the Administrator, Rural Development Utilities Program, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

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Editor: Becky Sorenson, Meeker Cooperative, PO Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355
Managing Editor: Becky Sorenson, Meeker Cooperative, PO Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355
10. **Owner:** Meeker Cooperative, PO Box 68, Litchfield, MN 55355
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13. **Publication Title:** Meeker Pioneer
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| | Avg. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months | Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation | | |
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| (2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof copies and exchange copies) | 7,630 | 7,686 |
| c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation | 7,630 | 7,686 |
| d. Free Distribution by Mail | 0 | 0 |
| e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail | 40 | 40 |
| f. Total Free Distribution | 40 | 40 |
| g. Total Distribution | 7,670 | 7,726 |
| h. Copies Not Distributed | 30 | 30 |
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16. **Publication of Statement of Ownership:** Publication required. Will be printed in the November 2011 issue of this publication.

17. **Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner:** Becky Sorenson, **Date:** 10/10/11

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

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 **December 1** to be included in the December issue. Thank you!

Please run this ad in the next Pioneer

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Please check ad category

____ Giveaway

____ For Rent

____ For Sale

____ Wanted

____ Services

Remember to limit your ad to nine words!

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

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

For Sale - Miscellaneous

- Black walnut, for wood carving. 320-693-4118.
- Trailer home, 80'x16', reasonably-priced, very good cond. 320-693-3851.
- Bar stools, black metal w/back, cushioned seats, brand new/never used. \$50/set of 4. 218-232-5523.
- Norman Rockwell collector mugs, 14k. gold rim, two sets of 4, new in box. 320-699-0160.
- Antique light on tap neon beer sign, window-mount. \$30. 320-212-5939.
- Cherry curio, 5-shelf, 13"x31-1/4"x76-1/2". \$250. 320-444-6357.
- Couch, blue/mauve small floral, oak trim on top & arms, w/skirt. 320-857-2736.
- Jazzy power chair, cond. \$300/BO. 320-587-1096.
- Defiance fireplace insert, 23-1/2" high x 26" wide x 33" depth. \$50. 320-693-6632/ 320-221-3119.
- 1971 Arctic Cat, 292 Kawasaki engine, 784 mi., mint. 320-276-8310.
- 1971 AMF-Deluxe, 500 Hirth engine, loaded, low mi. 320-276-8310.
- Littlest Pet Shop: pets, cases, 3 play centers. \$75. 320-275-9431.
- Kids' Craftsman tool bench w/tools. \$30. 320-275-9431.

- Graco 3-in-1: doll stroller/infant seat/playpen. \$30. 320-275-9431.
- Deck, 8'x12', great for seasonal site, exc. cond. \$500/BO. 320-857-2543.
- 10 acres, wooded/building/hunting/creek/tar road, Eden Valley. \$45,000. 320-453-6736.
- Fresh beef, quarters or halves, cut/wrapped/frozen. 320-593-1924/320-221-2649.
- 1970 SkiDoo 400 TNT snowmobile, drive shaft bad, runs. \$100. 320-857-9407.
- Amana elec. oven, self-cleaning, white. \$50. 320-583-9918/320-583-1477 leave mess.
- Playground wave slide, 10'. \$100. 320-693-7514.
- Jogging stroller, 2-child. \$100. 320-693-7514.
- Cabin, 1BR, newly-remodeled, Howard Lake. \$105,000. 320-275-4887.
- Antique spinning wheel, Lk Manuella, reasonable price. 952-467-3273.
- Lot on Rice Lake channel, 75' on water. 320-253-6616.
- Hunting wear: blaze orange coat, size 44; coveralls, size L; caps, lg & med. \$40. 320-276-8669 leave mess.
- Water heater, elec., 60-gal., new. \$200. 320-223-8680.
- Bi-fold doors, almost new. \$10 ea. 320-223-8680.
- Ludwig drum set. 320-398-5420.

- Danby refrigerator, apartment-size, black & silver. 320-398-5420.
- PSE Coyote recurve, 60" w/6-slot quiver, camouflage, 50# @ 28". \$150 firm. 320-693-2134.
- 2008 Harley Davidson Road King Classic, 14K mi., exc. cond. \$15,800. 320-221-1957.
- Northern Leader wood stove, used one year, bought 1983. 320-276-8358.
- Round table, 4 padded chairs, extra leaf. \$75. 320-693-2235.
- Wooden dollhouse & furniture, hand-crafted. \$75. 320-275-5585.
- Toy tractors, 1:64 scale. \$40/set of 4. 320-275-5585.
- Not too late~lakeshore rip-rap & boulders, delivery/placement avail. 320-582-0229.
- Boat trailer & 4.5hp Johnson motor; good cond. \$300. 320-398-2048.
- Bedspread, hand-crocheted; and afghan, both full-size. 320-693-7653.
- Dog house, large. 320-693-7653.
- Spear house, 4'x5', alum., good cond. \$150. 612-597-5980.
- Wood stove, w/tools, pipe, sweep. \$350/BO. 952-457-4957.
- Band saw, dry horizontal, 14" vise opening. \$400/BO. 320-221-2191.
- Engine block cooker/parts washer, 52"L x 28" W. \$300. 320-221-2191.
- Frabill fish house, 2-man flip over, never been used. \$275. 320-275-4090.
- Pedal pontoon, alum., needs repair. \$100. 320-275-2415.
- Alto saxophone, new mouthpiece, exc. playing cond. \$350. 320-275-9947.
- Shingles: 23 bundles, Cottage Rod/CertainTeed/Landmark Plus. \$600. 320-275-9951.

- Buggy/buckboard, exc. cond. \$700. 320-693-6278.
- Cabin on Big Swan Lake by Dassel, to be moved. Best offer. 507-766-0895.
- Laser hand auger. \$20. 320-221-2559.
- Jiffy model 30 gas auger. \$150. 320-221-2559.
- Drop-leaf table w/4 chairs. \$100. 320-693-8315.
- Coronado freezer chest, 15 cu. ft. \$50. 320-761-1334.
- Hunter humidifier, sized for med. to large room, like new. \$25. 320-761-1334.
- Oak table w/4 chairs. \$60. 320-761-1334.
- Jiffy gas auger, 8". \$125. 320-693-2051.
- Maytag dishwasher, built-in, black, used 3 yrs. \$175. 320-693-2051.
- Country home w/buildings, 4.5 acres, 9 mi. South Litch, beautiful/well-caredfor. 320-693-2707.
- Fish house, 5x10, crank-up, wheels/bunk/lights/heater/4-hole. \$1800. 320-275-9934.
- Gander Mountain pop-up fish house, 1-person, like new. 320-693-8492.
- Exide Edge battery, #16B, new in box. 320-693-8492.
- Fishing equipment, assorted summer/winter. 320-693-8492.
- NordicTrak rowing exercise machine. \$400/BO. 320-453-3891.
- Accentra/Harmon wood pellet stove, cast-iron, dark brown, good for family room. 320-693-3062.
- HP Photosmart M22 digital camera, 4.1MP, 6X zoom, carry case, memory card. \$25. 320-693-8273.
- Deer head & shoulder mount, 10-pt., exc. cond. \$90. 320-693-8273.
- Tasco telescope, 700mm, tripod, accessories, lens & caps. \$20. 320-693-8273.
- Craftsman riding mower, 42" snow blower, chainS/weights, 38" deck, good cond. \$700/BO. 320-221-1676.
- Location #29-32-101
- Bobcat flatbed tractor trailer, w/loader & excavator, collectible, new/boxed. \$30. 320-857-2480.

For Sale - Agricultural

- Grey geese, spring-hatched. 320-693-7302.
- Farmall M w/loader & chains, new clutch & battery, good tires, runs good. 320-693-7311.
- 1957 Farmall 450 gas, wide-front w/loader, live PTO, very good cond. 320-234-6225.
- Straw bales, small squares. 320-398-6455.
- Ford tractor, Jubilee w/hydro loader. \$4750. 320-764-6671.
- Alfalfa grass hay, small square bales, no rain. \$3.75/bale. 320-693-2054.
- Packer, 5', pull-type. \$200. 320-764-6671.

- White 588 plow, 5/18. 320-877-7373.
- 20 roosters, young, Goldstar breed. 320-212-3160.
- 10 layer hens, good soup chickens. 320-212-3160.
- Bales: grass alfalfa, dry grass straw & corn stalk. 320-693-2766.
- White Muscovy ducks. 320-693-2766.
- Hay/grass/alfalfa, no rain, small square bales. 320-398-2655.
- Allis Chalmers WD narrow front, power steering, 7' International rear-mount mower. \$2195. 320-453-3007.

For Sale - Automotive

- 1980 Oldsmobile Delta 88, V8 5.0 auto., new battery/brake lines, trailer hitch. \$1400. 320-693-6291.
- 2005 Mercury Monterey minivan, 42K mi., must-see. \$9200. 320-420-5520.
- 1993 Chevrolet short bus, 1-ton, 5.7 liter V8, runs great. \$2700/BO. 612-298-8772.
- 1969 Chevrolet C60, new tires, flat bed w/hoist, new carb, 76K mi. 320-582-0229.
- 1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo, straight 6 engine. 320-212-3160.
- 2009 Chevrolet Silverado LT, ext. cab, safety handling, ext. pkgs., 84K mi., very nice. \$18,999. 320-212-9010.
- Trailer tires, 8", 12", & 13"; also 16" pickup truck tires. 320-693-2766.
- 1998 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, CD, leather seats, 120K mi., very nice. 320-974-8482.
- 1997 Ford Expedition, V8, 4WD, high mi., runs great. \$2600. 507-228-8594.
- 2002 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport, 144K mi. \$3800. 320-293-8769.

Wanted

- TV antenna & tower. 320-693-4118.
- Snow plow to fit Jeep, 6-1/2', good cond. 320-693-7311.
- Tractor tire rim, 30+ inches. 320-241-3485.
- Guitars or amplifiers, related equipment, any cond. 320-275-5144.
- Canoe, 15' aluminum. 320-587-3153.
- Started bull calves. 320-398-7276.
- Pickup or van, need not run. 320-398-7276.
- Youth saddle, 13". 320-243-3361.
- Composting toilet, new or used. 320-693-8330.
- Combine tire, 18.4-26, must be in good shape. 320-877-7373.
- Internal parts for Siegler or oil burner. 320-693-7653.

Giveaway

- Butternut tree for furniture-making. 320-583-2743.

- Deck spindles, 66 pieces, 44"L treated lumber. 320-583-2743.
- Hard wood, mostly oak and ash, you cut & clean up. 320-693-3867.

Services

- Guitar lessons for beginners. \$8/half hr. or \$14/hr. 320-295-3288.
- Git 'R Done Handyman Services, LLC~free est. 320-492-8264.
- Snow blowing, any size job. 320-333-3702.
- Bruce Anderson Masonry~concrete and masonry. 320-243-4340.
- Bunn Construction Services, LLC~brick/stone/chimney repairs/retaining walls. 952-212-7779.
- Welding/fabrication/installation of stainless aluminum & steel. 320-764-2861.
- Perfect Paint, LLC~paint, stain, wallpaper, window cleaning, power washing. 320-275-9173.
- Complete selection window coverings, sales & professional installation. 320-693-2074.
- Complete lawn/snow maint., comm./res., fall cleanup/snow removal, fully ins., Litch only. 320-699-0082.
- Gary Finken's Painting~all interior/exterior finishes, exp. & insured. 612-965-8690/ 320-593-6879.
- Bev's Beauty Salon~hair & tanning, Litch. 320-593-8163.
- Serenity Choice Homecare ~nursing/HHA/homemakers/companions. 320-398-8335.
- Larry's Barber & Style~213 N Sibley-Litch, Tues-Sat 8-5:30. 320-693-2421.
- Mr Dirt~excavating/landscaping/hauling, trees; also indoor carpentry & more. 320-894-7013.

- TreeMaster~trimming and removal. 320-693-8315.
- Location #32-01-101
- Peterson Furniture Service ~stripping/refinishing/gluing/caning, hardware avail. 320-693-6004.
- Joe Kelly Construction~for all your concrete needs. 320-286-6394.
- Mending and alterations. 320-221-1673.

For Rent

- Shed, large storage, rural Litchfield, boats/campers/etc. 320-267-7611.
- Log cabin, Lake Superior view-Silver Bay, snowmobiling. \$175/night. 320-693-2094.
- Storage for boats & RVs, Lake Manuella. \$5/ft. 320-221-1676.

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 December 1, you will have \$10 credited to your account! Good Luck!

