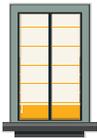


# CIRCUITS

NEWS FOR DAKOTA ELECTRIC MEMBERS

## Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy-efficiency tips!



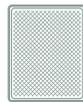
Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.



On hot days, avoid using the oven; cook on the stove, use a microwave or grill outside.



Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room. Fans cool people, not rooms.



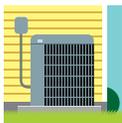
Replace disposable air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.



Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install, low maintenance and provide free electricity.



Install a programmable thermostat to easily adjust the temperature when you are sleeping or away from home.



Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment to maximize efficiency.



Seal cracks and openings to prevent warm air from leaking into your home.

### Want more tips?

#### Try Touchstone Energy's Home Energy Adventure

Users can test their energy efficiency skills and learn how to improve their home's energy efficiency, and ultimately save money. After each question, users receive energy savings tips that are customized specifically to their lifestyle and energy habits. Visit [adventure.touchstoneenergy.com](http://adventure.touchstoneenergy.com).



## Save even more with Energy Wise® rebates

### HVAC

- Cooling System Tuneup
- Quality-Installed Central A/C
- Ductless Air-Source Heat Pump (ASHP)
- Quality Installed ASHP
- Ground-Source Heat Pump
- And more

### Appliances

- Dehumidifier
- Refrigerator (must recycle old unit)
- Freezer (must recycle old unit)
- Working Refrigerator/Freezer (RECYCLING ONLY)
- Electric Water Heater
- Heat Pump Water Heater
- Electric Clothes Dryer

### Lighting

- LED Light Bulbs
- Residential LED Yard Light

### Swimming Pools

- Variable Speed Pool Pump
- ASHP Pool Heater

### Electric Vehicle Chargers

### Solar

To learn more, visit [dakotaelectric.com](http://dakotaelectric.com) > Programs & Rebates or call 651-463-6243.



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### Upcoming events

Board Meeting . . . . . June 28, 8:30 a.m.

June 2018



Dakota Electric Association® is a registered service mark of the cooperative.

# Achievements, financials, election results presented

Member-focused and a trusted source of energy information were two of the topics discussed at Dakota Electric Association's Annual Meeting on April 26.

President and CEO Greg Miller discussed the company's strategic plan and how the cooperative keeps its members' best interests in mind while adapting to the changing energy environment. He highlighted recent initiatives in solar energy, electric vehicles, grid-interactive water heaters and more.

"In 2017, Dakota Electric partnered with Schmitt & Sons in Lakeville to bring the first all-electric school bus to Minnesota," Miller said.

Miller reported the cooperative's electric rates declined slightly this year; customer satisfaction remains extremely high and new technology is coming that will help serve the membership even better. He also mentioned Dakota Electric's honor of receiving the 2017 Employer of Excellence Award in Dakota and Scott Counties.

Board Chair Jim Sheldon spoke about the privilege of serving the member-owners of Dakota Electric.

"I speak for the entire board when I tell you it is an honor and a privilege for everyone on the board to serve our members," he said, and then added, "The work is challenging and rewarding, and we all have learned so much over the years."

The board authorized the return of more than \$3.3 million in capital credits to the membership last December. Unclaimed capital credits are donated to local school districts for scholarships and specific educational programs or projects.

"We think we are doing the right thing by investing in our local students and future leaders," he said.

Board Treasurer David Jones gave an overview of the 2017 financials, which received a clean audit opinion from Dakota Electric's auditor.

Priti Patel, vice president and chief transmission officer for Great River Energy, brought an update from Dakota Electric's wholesale power supplier. She talked about Great River Energy's greener energy portfolio, meeting the state's renewable energy goal eight years early, and 2017 reliability that was the best on record.



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Thursday, July 26  
4-8 p.m.**

Join us for our annual  
**Member  
Appreciation Event**  
at the Minnesota Zoo!

*Watch for your ticket arriving in bills  
mailed between June 13 and July 5.*



## at annual meeting



Board Chair Jim Sheldon talked about how, as a cooperative, Dakota Electric returns the margins (profits) back to the membership. Last year, \$3.3 million was returned to members of the cooperative.



The membership re-elected all four incumbent directors at this year's annual meeting (L-R): Ken Danner (District 3), Judy Kimmes (District 4), Jerry Pittman (District 1) and Clay Van De Bogart (District 2).

### ELECTION RESULTS

#### District 1

Jerry Pitman (4,742 votes)

Curt DeCoux (2,500)

#### District 2

Clay Van De Bogart (6,796)

#### District 3

Ken Danner (5,035)

Douglas Bonar (2,154)

#### District 4

Judy Kimmes (6,875)

## Dakota Electric's board chair receives Legacy Award from the Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce



Jim Sheldon, retired attorney from the former Severson, Sheldon, Dougherty & Molenda Law Firm, received the Apple Valley Chamber's Legacy Award at its annual membership gala on May 4. The award recognizes a lifetime of achievement in having a positive impact on Apple Valley. Sheldon was recognized for his decades of work in helping build Apple Valley as its city attorney beginning in 1975, as well as his extensive work with Prince of Peace Church in Burnsville and years of work with numerous Rosemount and Apple Valley youth athletic boards and associations, as well as food shelves. Sheldon is currently chair of Dakota Electric's board of directors and has served on the board since 1994.

## Electric vehicle fast chargers coming to highways across the U.S.

ABB has been selected to supply its Terra HP charging stations as part of the biggest electric vehicle infrastructure project to date in the United States.

The chargers, which can refresh even the largest electric vehicle battery in under 15 minutes, were selected for deployment by Electrify America, which plans to place hundreds of charging stations within and around 17 metropolitan areas and along multiple nationwide highway corridors.

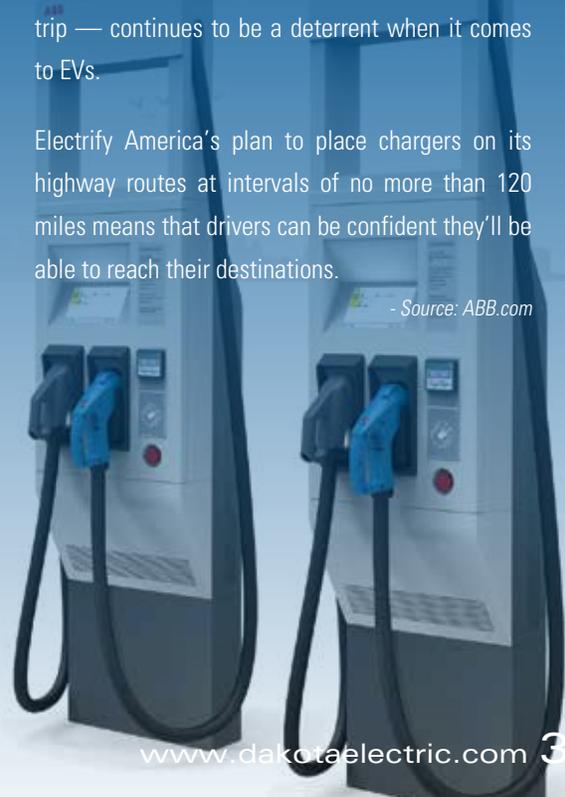
Creating a national network of fast charging stations — the EV equivalent of fueling stations — is considered crucial for widespread adoption of electric cars in the United States.

"These new charging systems are designed to provide an optimal driver experience — offering fast, convenient and reliable service whenever and wherever they need it," said Seth Cutler, chief engineer, Electrify America.

The ambitious effort will undoubtedly accelerate the adoption of EVs in the coming years. Nearly 200,000 EVs were sold in the U.S. in 2017. However, the country's charging infrastructure hasn't kept the pace required to spur mass adoption of electric transportation. Among some prospective consumers, "range anxiety" — wondering if they will find some place to recharge their batteries during a road trip — continues to be a deterrent when it comes to EVs.

Electrify America's plan to place chargers on its highway routes at intervals of no more than 120 miles means that drivers can be confident they'll be able to reach their destinations.

- Source: ABB.com



## Pole inspections to take place this summer

Utili-Tech, a pole inspection contractor hired by Dakota Electric Association, is conducting annual pole inspections in our service territory throughout July and August.

Areas included are Vermillion and Marshan townships. The pole inspector will be identified as a Utili-Tech employee, contracted by Dakota Electric to gather pole data as it relates to the above-ground distribution system.

The inspector will attempt to contact each member before performing inspections. The inspector will walk through backyards and private properties as well as use an ATV to access certain pole locations.

Please contact Dakota Electric at 651-463-6272 if you have questions or concerns about the pole inspection process in these areas.



## Out and about in the community

### GreenTouch

Approximately 100 Dakota Electric members volunteered their time on May 5 at Lebanon Hills Regional Park in Eagan as part of the 19th annual, statewide, Touchstone Energy® Green-Touch Day.

Volunteers of all ages planted native plants in the area near Holland Lake. Some planted trees and shrubs near the edge of the park, and others planted native species in a wetland area. The native species will provide a natural habitat for wildlife as well as a buffer between a residential area to the west and Cliff Road to the north.

Dakota Electric's effort to organize volunteers at the park is part of a larger, statewide program started by electric cooperatives in 2000. Since then, Green-Touch has attracted more than 9,300 volunteers statewide who have completed more than 33,000 volunteer hours benefitting Minnesota parks.



### Tree plantings & seedling donations

Each year Dakota Electric participates in several environmental activities related to Arbor Day and Earth Day. This year, the co-op donated more than 5,300 tree seedlings to local schools and community events in addition to participating in tree-planting ceremonies.



### Energy Trends Expo draws crowd

On May 10, Dakota Electric, along with Lakeville Friends of the Environment, hosted its fifth annual event for residential members interested in learning more about electric vehicles and new energy technologies.

The event was held at the Eagan Community Center, and included an EV car show, Minnesota's first all-electric school bus, vendor trade show and breakout sessions on energy-efficient home design and cold-climate air-source heat pumps.



# Do you participate in Energy Wise® off-peak programs?

## Understand your load control receiver

Members who participate in our Energy Wise® off-peak programs receive a special rate for allowing Dakota Electric to temporarily interrupt power to certain appliances when electricity use is especially high.

To temporarily interrupt power, Dakota Electric uses load control receivers like the one below, often located near your electric meter or central air conditioner. The light panel in the center of the load control receiver indicates what loads

Dakota Electric is controlling, and if the load control receiver is operating properly.

As the summer cooling season ramps up, those members participating in Cycled Air Conditioning® will have their central air conditioner condensers cycled on and off in 15-minute increments on days when electricity use is high and purchasing wholesale electricity is more expensive. In return, participating members receive a \$13 credit on their elec-

tric bill each June, July and August.

By understanding your load control receiver, you will know when your central air conditioner is being controlled. If you experience problems with your air conditioner, see below for helpful tips.

To learn more about your load control receiver or various Energy Wise off-peak programs, contact the Energy Experts® at 651-463-6243.



	1 <sup>st</sup> LED light	2 <sup>nd</sup> LED Light	3 <sup>rd</sup> LED Light	4 <sup>th</sup> LED Light	5 <sup>th</sup> LED Light
<b>Color</b>	●	●	●	● ●	○
<b>Indication</b>	When red light is glowing, connected load is being interrupted or cycled.	When red light is glowing, connected load is being interrupted or cycled.	When red light is glowing, connected load is being interrupted or cycled.	Glows continuously to indicate the load control receiver is getting Dakota Electric's signals.	Blinking red light or clear light indicates the load control receiver has power.

## Air conditioner problems?

If you experience air conditioning problems, please check the following items before calling Dakota Electric.

- ✓ Is your A/C circuit breaker or fuse and furnace switch on?
- ✓ Is your thermostat on "Cool" and calling for A/C?
- ✓ Are any lights on in the gray load control receiver box outside by your A/C unit?
  - If any of the red lights are on, wait 20 minutes. Dakota Electric could be in a peak demand period. If lights are still on after 20 minutes, call Dakota Electric at 651-463-6201.
  - If no lights are on, check your breaker or fuse. If these are okay and the lights still do not come on, call your A/C service technician or electrician.
- ✓ If the outdoor compressor runs but the house is not cool, was your house pre-cooled by 3 p.m.?
  - If no, wait for cycling to end. Your A/C unit will catch up with cooling. In the future, keep your A/C on during extended hot spells.
  - If yes, call your A/C service technician.



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Offer expires 6/30/18. Parts and refrigerant extra.



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--	--	--

\*In-Home Estimate Needed, Offer Expires June 30, 2018

WE KEEP THEM UP HERE FOR A REASON

STAY CLEAR OF DOWNED POWER LINES.  
A downed power line may not be a dead line. It could cause serious injury or death. Call 911 to report a downed line and keep others away until help arrives.

**DAKOTA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION**  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# Circuits Quick Clips

## Rosemount member wins TV from Dakota Electric!



Joel Hutchison of Rosemount is the lucky winner of a new Sharp 43" 4K UHD Roku TV. Dakota Electric sponsored the contest for any member who downloaded the outage app by April 30. The outage app provides convenient outage reporting and information right from your mobile device. It's quick, easy and free! For more information, visit [dakotaelectric.com/report-an-outage](http://dakotaelectric.com/report-an-outage).

## Wellspring Renewable Energy®

You can support renewable energy technologies by choosing to buy wind and/or solar energy.

Wellspring Renewable Energy is a voluntary program offered to members who want to do more to support renewable energy.

### OPTION 1

Purchase the same number of 100-kilowatt-hour blocks each month.

### OPTION 2

The number of blocks you purchase each month will fluctuate based on the amount of energy you use.

Visit [dakotaelectric.com/renewable-energy](http://dakotaelectric.com/renewable-energy) or call the Energy Experts® at 651-463-6243 for more information.



## Stay cool in the kitchen

Refreshingly easy recipe to save energy on hot days

### Mediterranean Tuna Salad

Total Time: 10 mins. Servings: 10

- 1 red bell pepper, finely chopped
- 1/2 red onion, finely chopped
- 1 cucumber, cut lengthwise and sliced
- 15 oz. albacore tuna (drained)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup chickpeas (garbanzo beans)
- 1/2 cup black olives, cut in half
- 1 bunch fresh parsley, chopped
- salt and black pepper
- 3 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- juice of 1 lemon
- zest of 1 lemon

Add red bell pepper, red onion, cucumber, albacore tuna, garlic, chickpeas, black olives and lemon zest in a large mixing bowl and mix. Drizzle olive oil, lemon juice and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Garnish with fresh parsley and serve cold. Enjoy!

*If you have a great summer recipe you'd like to share, send it to [twolfs@dakotaelectric.com](mailto:twolfs@dakotaelectric.com) and we may publish it in a future issue.*



## Board of Directors

### District 1

John (Jack) DeYoe  
David Jones, Treasurer  
Gerald F. Pittman, Vice Chair

### District 2

Janet L. Lekson, MREA Director  
Jim Sheldon, Chair  
Clay Van De Bogart, Great River  
Energy Director

### District 3

Kenneth H. Danner  
William F. Holton  
Margaret D. Schreiner, Great River  
Energy Director

### District 4

Paul Bakken  
Judy H. Kimmes  
Paul A. Trapp, Secretary



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Greg Miller, President & CEO  
Tanya Wolfs, Editor



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## Contact Us

Member service & drive-up window  
7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday - Friday  
651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409  
Minnesota Relay Service 711

Lobby 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday  
4300 220th Street West, Farmington, MN 55024

24-hour outage & emergency service  
651-463-6201 or 1-800-430-9722

Underground cable locations  
Gopher State One Call 811 or 651-454-0002 or  
1-800-252-1166

Tree trimming & street lights 651-463-6287

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Program information and offers in this newsletter  
are subject to change without notice.

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14.5 SEER	<del>\$480</del>	\$1,000
15 SEER	<del>\$500</del>	\$1,250
16+ SEER	<del>\$630</del>	\$2,000

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June 30, 2018.

