

Cooperative Connections

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Lake Life**

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Stay Back and Stay Safe



John Lee, CEO

jlee@butteelectric.com

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, *USA Today* lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why for Butte Electric, safety is the No. 1 priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance – and your help!

Distractions can be deadly.

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews – and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize Butte Electric employees by their yellow reflective shirts that have their names and logo on the chest and the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local community.

Slow down and move over.

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us.



Our First Ever Butte Electric Block Party

July 18 • 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Heritage Park • Spearfish

Free BBQ • Games • Activities for the kids!

Butte Electric

Cooperative Connections

(ISSN 1531-1031)

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FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

Fireworks and the Fourth of July go hand-in-hand, and we want you to have a safe, fun-filled celebration! About two-thirds of all fireworks-related injuries occur between June 16 and July 16, so keep these safety tips in mind:

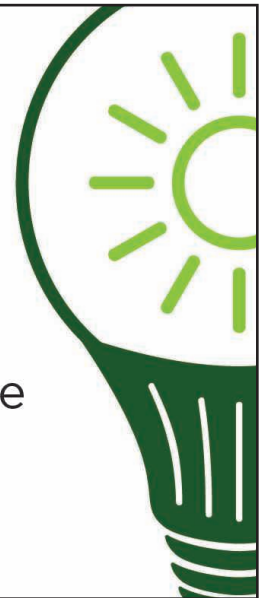


- ★ Make sure fireworks are legal in your community before using them.
- ★ Never buy professional-grade fireworks. They are not designed for safe consumer use.
- ★ Keep small children a safe distance from all fireworks including sparklers which can burn at temperatures in excess of 2,000 degrees.
- ★ Never reignite or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Keep a bucket of water or garden hose nearby to thoroughly soak duds before throwing them away.
- ★ Keep pets indoors and away from fireworks to avoid contact injuries or noise reactions.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When it's warm out, avoid using the oven. Try cooking on the stove, using the microwave or grilling outside instead.

Source: energy.gov



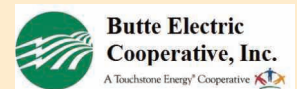
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Mission Statement

The mission of Butte Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to continually improve customer services; provide safe, reliable and competitively priced electricity; and continue to lead in developing our communities for the benefit of our members.



Electrical Safety Tips for the 4th of July

Well, it's summer and in just a few weeks the biggest holiday of the season arrives: The Fourth of July! As we prepare for backyard BBQs and poolside fun, there are some important things to remember to make sure it's a safe holiday.

Whether you are hosting or heading over to a neighbor's or relative's house to celebrate, we have a few safety tips to share with you so that your friends and family enjoy your time together and avoid accidents

Summer Poolside Electrical Safety Tips

Spending time in and around the pool is a big part of summer and celebration during the warmest months of the year. Regardless of whether you are hosting a get-together at your home or someone else's, make sure the chances for accidents are minimal by following these simple safety steps:

- Never run electrical cords over or alongside the pool. Water and electricity don't mix!
- If you are decorating the backyard, string party lights a minimum of three feet away from the pool or any water source.
- Store and activate fireworks as far away from the pool as possible.
- Never use a flotation device to support an electrical appliance (fan, etc.).
- Never cross the pool exit or towel storage area with electrical wires.
- Always use safety caps on electrical outlets near water.
- When possible, use GFCI outlets to protect yourself and your electrical appliances outdoors.

Electrical Power Line Safety Tips

Power lines run through neighborhoods and can even pass through overgrown trees. They're often the most dangerous when you don't even notice they're there because you either see them all of the time or they are covered by tree canopies. Stay mindful and remember these safety tips when you're spending time in the backyard or outdoor neighborhoods:

- Never let kids (or adults for that matter) climb trees that are near power lines.
- Make sure your trees are trimmed and out of the way of power lines running through your yard or near your home.
- Never attempt to touch a downed power line. If there is one in your yard, call the electric company immediately. There can still be current running through the line and an active line is highly dangerous.

Source: allstarelectrical.com

HERE'S WHAT
\$1 OF ELECTRICITY
WILL BUY YOU:



250 HOURS
OF BREWING COFFEE

KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Don't let your goat eat your extension cords."

Paige Oppelt, 8 years old

Paige is the daughter of Paul and Laura Oppelt, Goodwin, S.D. They are members of H-D Electric Cooperative, Clear Lake, S.D.

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

Delectable Desserts

Rhubarb Dump Cake

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 lb. rhubarb, cut into 1/4-inch slices | 1 (18.25 oz.) pkg. yellow cake mix |
| 1 cup white sugar | 1 cup water |
| 1 (3 oz.) pkg. strawberry gelatin | 1/4 cup margarine, melted |

Spread rhubarb evenly in bottom of a buttered 9x13-inch baking dish. Sprinkle sugar over rhubarb, followed by gelatin mix and finally the cake mix. Pour water and melted margarine over top. Do not stir. Bake at 350°F. for 45 minutes or until rhubarb is tender.

Jean Osterman, Wheaton, MN

Cherry-Pineapple Dessert

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple with juice | 1 cup coconut flakes |
| 1 (21 oz.) can cherry pie filling | 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts, if desired |
| 1 box yellow cake mix | 1 cup (2 sticks) butter |

Dump pineapple with juice and spread into bottom of pan. Top with cherry pie filling. Sprinkle top evenly with dry cake mix. Add coconut and chopped nuts. Slice butter over all. Bake at 350°F. for 35 to 40 minutes. Let cool before cutting.

Arlene BaanHofman, Corsica, SD

Mexican Cheese Cake (Sopapilla)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 2 (8 oz. each) cans refrigerated crescent rolls | 1-3/4 cups sugar, divided |
| 2 (8 oz. each) pkgs. cream cheese, softened | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| | 1/2 cup butter, melted |
| | 1 T. ground cinnamon |

In medium bowl, beat cream cheese and 1 cup sugar and vanilla. Unroll 1 can dough. Place in bottom of ungreased 9x13-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish. Stretch to cover bottom of dish, firmly pressing perforations to seal. Spread cream cheese mixture over dough. Unroll second can of dough. Firmly press perforations to seal. Carefully place on top of cream cheese layer. Pinch seams together. Mix remaining sugar with cinnamon; sprinkle evenly over all. Drizzle melted butter evenly over top. Bake at 350°F. for 30 to 35 minutes or until puffed and brown. Cool before cutting.

Clarice Roghair, Okaton, SD

Spiced Peanut Butter Caramel Pie

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1-3/4 cups graham cracker crumbs | 1/2 cup sugar |
| 1/2 tsp. ground ginger | 2 tsp. apple pie spice |
| 6 T. butter, melted | 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract |
| 2 (8 oz. each) pkg. Neufchâtel cheese, 1/3 less fat than cream cheese, softened | 2 cups thawed frozen light whipped topping |
| 1/2 cup peanut butter | 1/4 cup caramel dessert topping |
| | 1/2 cup chopped peanuts |

Mix crumbs and ginger in medium bowl. Stir in butter until well blended. Press crumb mixture evenly into bottom and up sides of lightly greased 9-inch pie plate. Bake at 350°F. for 10 minutes. Cool completely on wire rack. Beat cream cheese, peanut butter and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended and smooth. Beat in apple pie spice and vanilla until well mixed. Gently stir in whipped topping. Spoon into cooled crust. Drizzle with dessert topping. Using knife, gently swirl topping into pie until marbled. Sprinkle with peanuts. Refrigerate 4 hours or until set. Store leftover pie in refrigerator. Makes 12 servings.

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 401, Total Fat 25g, Sodium 380mg, Cholesterol 42mg, Carbohydrates 34g, Protein 10g, Dietary Fiber 1g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Ginger Snaps

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2 cups sugar | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1-1/2 cups butter | 2 tsp. cinnamon |
| 1/2 cup molasses | 1 tsp. cloves |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 tsp. nutmeg |
| 5 cups flour | 3 tsp. ginger |
| 3 tsp. soda | |

Mix in order listed. Roll into small balls the size of walnuts. Roll balls in sugar. Place 2 inches apart. Bake at 375°F. for 15 minutes.

Bonnie Weber, Aberdeen, SD

Please send your favorite vegetarian, garden produce and pasta recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3).

Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2019. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

Keeping Pets (and Energy Bills!) Comfortable



Pat Keegan

Collaborative Efficiency

We're taking a look at three common energy efficiency questions from pet owners.

This column was co-written by Pat Keegan and Brad Thiessen of Collaborative Efficiency. For more information on house pets and energy, please visit: www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips

We love our pets, and we love saving energy! This month, we're taking a look at three common energy efficiency questions from pet owners.

Q: We've thought about installing a pet door. Will this impact my energy bill?

A: Pet doors are convenient for pet owners and pets, but they can impact energy bills. A pet door that is poorly made or improperly installed will create unwanted drafts that increase energy bills and reduce the overall comfort level of your home. The wrong type of door may also be pushed open during high winds.

Consider installing a pet door that is certified by the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE) or has a double or triple flap. These types of pet doors can reduce energy loss and make life easier for you and your furry friends. The best solution may be a high-quality electronic door that is activated by a chip on your pet's collar.

It's difficult to undo a pet door installation, so before taking the leap, we suggest doing your homework. There may be other strategies that will give you and your pet some of the convenient benefits without the downsides.

Q: To save energy, we keep our home cool during winter nights and warm during summer days. How much "hot and cold" can our pup and tabby handle?

A: Cats and dogs can handle the cold better than humans. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which regulates facilities that house cats and dogs, requires these facilities to maintain temperatures above 50 F. Some exceptions are allowed for breeds accustomed to the cold or if some form of insulation for the animals is provided. Your pet's tolerance really depends on their breed and the thickness of their coat.

A report by the Purdue Center for Animal Science says that Siberian huskies can tolerate temperatures below freezing, but some short-haired dogs require temperatures of 59 F or higher. Older animals may require warmer temperatures than younger ones.

During summer, cats and dogs handle the heat in different ways. Cats clearly enjoy warmer temperatures than dogs, and they do a good job of reducing their activity level as temperatures climb. But both cats and dogs can get overheated. The USDA says that room temperatures in facilities housing dogs or cats should not exceed 85 F for more than 4 hours at a time.

Q: Is it okay if my cat or my dog sleeps in the garage overnight?

A: USDA rules suggest this should be fine if your garage temperature stays between 50° F and 85° F. Pets might be able to handle a lower temperature if they have a warm, insulated bed.

I do not recommend heating or cooling your garage for your pet. This could lead to extremely high energy bills, which makes sense because an uninsulated but heated garage could easily cost more to heat than a home. A better solution is a heated pet house, which you can purchase from multiple retailers. If you're willing to spend a little more, you can even find climate-controlled pet houses that include heating and cooling options.

You can also purchase heated beds for cats and dogs. Some beds use as little as 4 watts of electricity, so they won't drain your energy bill.

We hope these tips will be helpful as you work at saving energy while caring for your favorite furry friend!

S.D. Entities Create Partnership to Hire Cyber Intelligence Analyst

A South Dakota state government agency, a South Dakota university and a South Dakota city police department are joining together in a new partnership to fight the ever-increasing problem of cybercrime.

The state Department of Public Safety and the Sioux Falls Police Department will provide funding for a new cyber intelligence analyst working at the state Fusion Center in Sioux Falls. The analyst will also partner with cybersecurity efforts now being undertaken at Dakota State University in Madison.



Officials said the new staff member will focus on both incident response and incident prevention, using open-source cyber intelligence to help citizens, businesses, and law enforcement entities address cybercrime. At the Fusion Center, the analyst also will work with alongside federal agencies. This day-to-day contact will provide South Dakota with important insight and be a useful tool in the effort to help support and protect critical infrastructure.

“Businesses of all sizes, in cities and towns large or small, are targets of cybercriminals,” said Craig Price, Cabinet Secretary of the Department of

Public Safety. “This position will be a great asset to keep South Dakota citizens and businesses safer from the threat of cybercrime.”

Cybersecurity Ventures, a leading researcher in the global cyber economy, estimates that cybercrime will cost the world \$6 trillion annually, up from \$3 trillion in 2015. Police Chief Matt Burns of the Sioux Falls Police Department said this new analyst will give his department another resource to fight cybercrime.

“As one department, we can deal with many, but not all, of the cyber threats we see each year,” he said. “To have a dedicated person canvassing the Dark Web and the internet will be of great benefit to small and large businesses, as well as private citizens.”

The analyst also will be a welcome partner to the cybercrime security efforts being undertaken at Dakota State University.

“Methods used by cyber criminals are always changing, so the connection with the law enforcement technology and cyber research at Dakota State University will be an invaluable resource for the analyst to remain current with cyberattack techniques,” said Trevor Jones, the director of Digital Forensics Services at Dakota State’s DigForCE Lab.

Officials hope to have the position filled by July 1, 2019.

S.D. Century Farm & Ranch Recognition Deadline is Aug. 9

The South Dakota Farm Bureau (SDFB) and the South Dakota Department of Agriculture will again recognize and honor longstanding South Dakota families at the South Dakota State Fair.

South Dakota families having ownership of their farm or ranch for 100, 125 or 150 years have the opportunity to be honored on Thursday, Aug. 29, during the 2019 South Dakota State Fair in Huron.

To qualify as a South Dakota Century Farm or Ranch, a family must have retained continuous ownership of at least 80 acres of original farmland for 100 years or more. If the family ownership of land has reached 125 or 150 years, they may apply to be recognized as a Quasiquicentennial or a Sesquicentennial Farm or Ranch, respectively. Documentation of the original date of purchase must be included with the application.

Application forms are available online at www.sdfbf.org by clicking “Century Farms” or by calling the SDFB at 605-353-8052. The application deadline is Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Agriculture is a major contributor to South Dakota’s economy, generating \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 115,000 South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture’s mission is to promote, protect and preserve South Dakota agriculture for today and tomorrow. Visit us online at sdda.sd.gov or find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.





Elm Lake in northern Brown County has seen steady growth.
Photo by Ben Dunsmoor

LIVING THE LAKE LIFE

Scenic Views, Tranquil Living Inspire Many

Brenda Kleinjan & Ben Dunsmoor

brenda.kleinjan@sdrea.coop and
bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

Minnesota may be known as the Land of 10,000 Lakes, but for increasing number of South Dakotans are also making the connection to the water.

Some lakes in the Rushmore State have had developments associated with them for several decades while other lakes are relative new-comers to the year-round-home lake life.

Northern Electric Cooperative serves four major recreational lakes within Brown and Spink counties. The co-op serves nearly 1,000 lake-area homes and businesses at Elm Lake, Richmond Lake, Mina Lake, and Cottonwood Lake combined.

Elm Lake in northern Brown County has seen steady growth in popularity over the past 12 years. Elm Lake Association President Mike Jung says Elm Lake is not as busy as other lakes in the



Fishing is a popular pastime on many area lakes.
Photo by www.TravelSouthDakota.com

county and believes the quiet lifestyle is what is appealing to many people.

“I think the biggest thing up here is it’s so quiet all week long,” Jung said. “If you want to go fishing you can go a half mile down the lake and not have any jet skis near you.”

Mina Lake boasts the largest lake population within Northern Electric’s service territory. More than 400 homes and businesses are part of the small community between Aberdeen and Ipswich.

Mina Lake has been developing since the late 1930s when Julie Johnson’s grandfather built the first two cabins on the lake. Johnson currently lives at the lake and her family has been involved with developing the lake throughout her lifetime. She says the improvements in electric, water, and wastewater infrastructure has transformed the lake from a weekend destination to a full-time home for many residents.

“There are just a whole lot more people living out (at Mina Lake) all year long,” Johnson said.

Richmond Lake is also a popular place to

live, work, and play in Brown County. The 200-acre state-run Richmond Lake Recreation Area is open to campers, swimmers, and fishing enthusiasts. Nearly 300 homes and businesses are located around the Richmond Lake shoreline.

“I think the biggest thing up here is it’s so quiet all week long.”

Cottonwood Lake in Spink County serves as a Redfield-area retreat. More than 100 homes dot the shores of Cottonwood which is a busy spot for boating and fishing throughout the summer months.

Head to the south and one of the state’s largest lakes, Lake Poinsett, has been increasing in popularity over the years, with a growing number of year-round homes.

Settled into the southern part of Hamlin County and northern part of Brookings County, S.D. Highway 28 provides easy

access to the lake from Interstate 29 while U.S. Highway 81 provides a north-south corridor from Watertown to Madison and points south.

To the west, growth along Lake Oahe – the stretch of the Missouri River extending above the Oahe Dam at Pierre up into North Dakota – has also seen considerable growth.

And with that growth can be challenges.

“We’ve experienced it in the past, when the reservoir gets full, the hills shift on us and can tear our cable apart. It’s torn on us three times already,” said Cam Wal Electric Manager Terry Keller. The western boundary of the co-op’s area is formed by Lake Oahe in Campbell, Walworth and Potter counties.

Keller said that some of the areas have residents year-round, while others are occupied in the spring, summer and fall.

“We have a few that come stay a couple of weeks and then go home,” Keller said.

“Even with the challenges, the real growth we have is along the reservoir,” said Keller.



Lake Poinsett provides inspiring vistas for photographer Greg Latza.
Photo and Cover by ©Greg Latza



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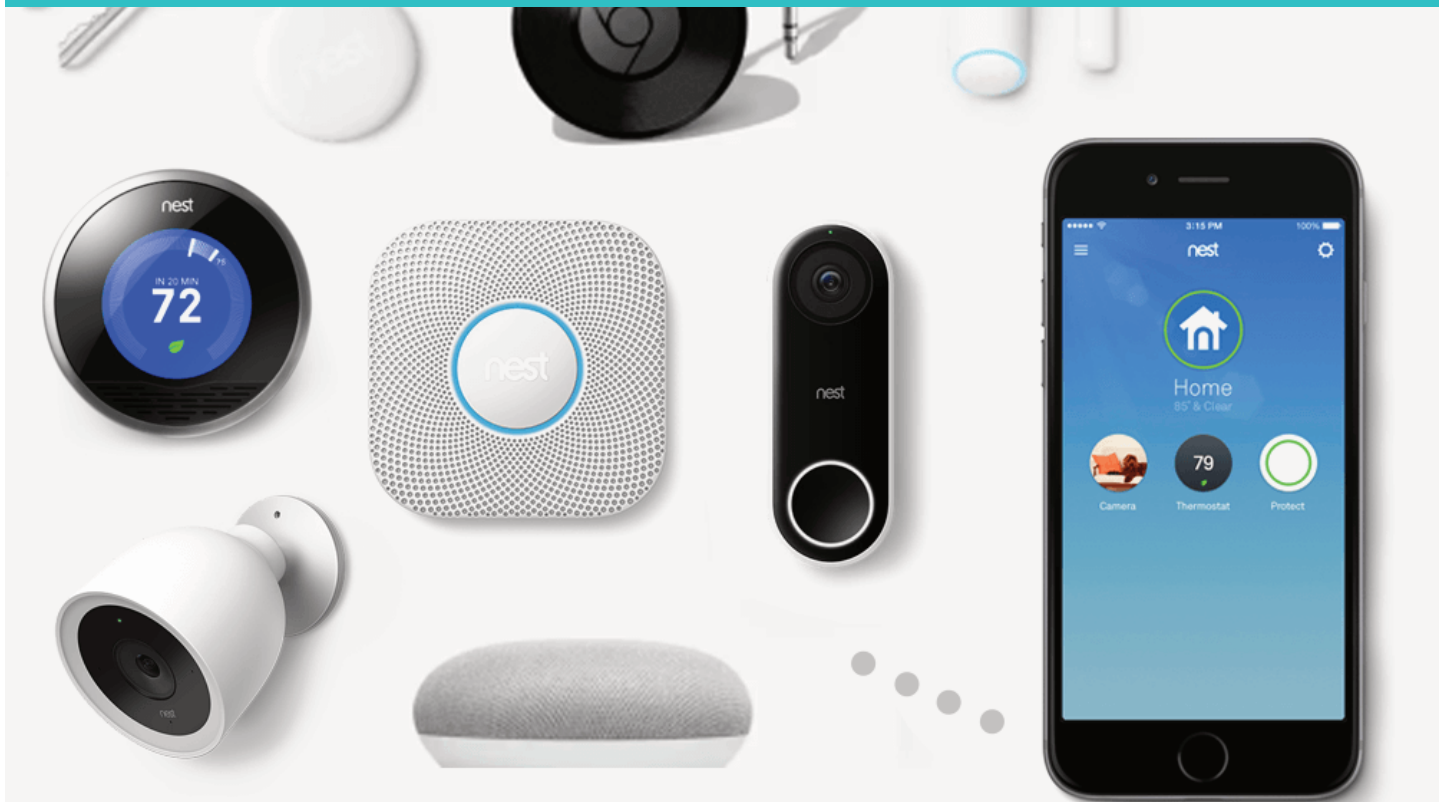
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Defining Degree Days

By Abby Berry

NRECA

Weather can have a major impact on energy bills and when the outdoor temperatures become extreme, your heating and cooling equipment works harder to keep your home comfortable.

Did you know the energy experts at Butte Electric use degree days to anticipate heating and cooling needs for you, our consumer-members?

Never heard of a degree day? Don't worry, you're not alone. Let's take a look at what degree days are and why they're important for electric utilities.

Degree days measure how cold or warm a location is by comparing the average of the high and low (mean) of the outdoor temperatures recorded in that location to the standard U.S. temperature, which is 65 F. The assumption is that we don't need heating or cooling to be comfortable when this is the outdoor temperature.

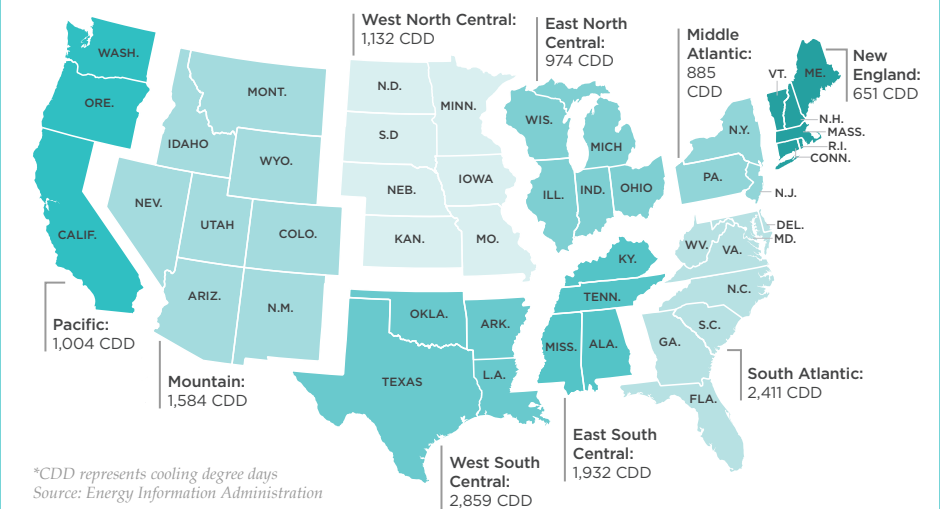
So, the more extreme the outdoor temperatures, the higher the number of degree days. And the higher the number of degree days, the higher the amount of energy used for space heating and cooling. Summer is in full swing, so let's look at cooling degree days.

Cooling degree days are a measurement of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. With summer temperatures rising, you'll likely require more cooling for your home or business, which results in more cooling degree days. Variations in electric bills often follow closely with degree days, which is why electric utilities use this data to anticipate future energy demand.

Degree days are tracked for a variety of reasons. Farmers can better plan the

U.S. COOLING DEGREE DAYS

Cooling degree days measure how hot the outdoor temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. The map below shows measurements of U.S. cooling degree days in 2018 by census region. Extreme outdoor temperatures bring a higher number of degree days, which results in higher energy use.



The map shown here includes data for cooling degree days (CDD), which are used to measure and compare outdoor temperatures over periods of time. For example, a day with a mean temperature of 80° F has 15 CDD (because the U.S. standard temperature is 65° F). If the next day has a mean temperature of 83° F, it has 18 CDD. So, the total for those two days is 33 CDD.

planting of crops and timing for pest control, and weather experts can better assess climate patterns.

To view degree days for our area, visit www.energystar.gov and search "degree days calculator."

If charts and data aren't your forte, no problem. Here are a few tips to help you save on energy bills this summer:

- Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your cooling costs will be. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 F when you're home and a higher setting for when you're away.
- Turn off ceiling fans when you leave a room.

- Close window coverings, like curtains and blinds, during the day to block sunlight.
- Use caulk and weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows.

If you have questions about your energy use or to learn more ways to save, give us a call or stop by our office. Butte Electric is here to help.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.

**Butte Electric Cooperative's offices
will be closed July 4 for Independence Day.
Have a Safe and Happy 4th!**

Seniors Staying in Shape

Fellowship, Competition All Part of Senior Games

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

For more than 35 years, South Dakota seniors have been gathering in fellowship and competition in the South Dakota Senior Games.

The state senior games will be held in September in Watertown, while regional competitions take place throughout the state from May through August. (Minnesota's Senior Games are Aug 1-4 in St. Cloud.)

The South Dakota games got their start in 1984 when the Division of Adult Services and Aging within the South Dakota Department of Social Services established the competition. The purpose was to encourage seniors to become involved in, as well as maintain, on-going physical exercise.

By 1996, state funding for the games was withdrawn, but the games continued on. A Senior Games board of directors was formed, comprised of participants from across the state. The non-profit establishes the rules and regulations for the games and provides financing and developing local, regional games as well as the state games which features 21 different sports.



Team and partner events as well as individual competitions are part of the 21 sports offered at the South Dakota Senior Games.

Since then, hundreds of South Dakotans aged 50 and up have been lacing up their sneakers and heading to the field, court or track to compete.

During the South Dakota Senior Games state competition, participants will compete in 21 different events within five-year age divisions (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94, 95-99 and 100+).

Every two years, a national event is scheduled and the state games are the qualifying event for the national stage.

The 2019 National Games were set for June 14-25 in Albuquerque, N.M.



SOUTH DAKOTA SENIOR GAMES



South Dakota Senior Games

Thursday, Sept. 5

- 7:30 a.m. – Golf and Shuffleboard
- 8:30 a.m. – Disc Golf and Bean Bag Toss
- 12:15 p.m. – Swimming
- 12:30 p.m. – 8-ball pool
- 2:30 p.m. – Bowling Mixed Doubles and Jump Rope
- 5 p.m. – Pickelball mixed doubles
- 5:30 p.m. – Table Tennis and Strength contests (Pull ups, timed plank, push ups, arm curls, timed wall sit, bench press reps)

Friday, Sept. 6

- 7:30 a.m. – Horseshoes
- 8 a.m. – Pickelball (Doubles and Singles)
- 8 a.m. – Cycling (5k, 10k, 20k, recumbent bikes)
- 9 a.m. – Bowling (Men's and women's singles)
- 12:15 p.m. – Track and Field
- 12:30 p.m. – Tennis and Badminton
- 2:30 p.m. – Volleyball
- 3 p.m. – Softball (Men's 60+)
- 6:30 p.m. – Banquet and Annual Awards Presentations

Saturday, Sept. 7

- 7 a.m. – 5k race walk and 5k power walk; 5k road race; 10k road race
- 7:30 a.m. – Track and Field
- 9 a.m. – Basketball shoot
- 11:30 a.m. – Picnic for athletes
- 1 p.m. – Three-on-Three Basketball
- 2 p.m. – Racquetball
- 2 p.m. – Mens Softball
- 3 p.m. – Womens Softball

Sunday, Sept. 8

- 8:15 a.m. – Archery
- 10 a.m. – Men's and Women's Softball Continues



Table tennis is one of 21 sports at the South Dakota Senior Games.

South Dakota Regional Senior Games

Sioux Falls	May 30- June 1	Nick Brady Sioux Falls Parks and Rec Phone: 978-6924
Northern Hills Senior Games, Spearfish	June 7-8	Brett Rauterkus – Spearfish Rec Center 722-1430
Madison Interlake Games	June 28-29	Bernie Schuurmans 270-3327
Aberdeen	July 11-13	Gene Morsching – Aberdeen Parks and Rec 626-7015
Black Hills Senior Games	July 24-27	Rapid City Parks and Rec – Kristi Lintz 394-4268
Brookings	July 26-27	Brookings Activities Center – Traci Saugstad 692-4492
Yankton	Aug. 3-4	Yankton Parks and Rec – Brittany Orr 668-5234
Huron	Aug. 9 – (Pickleball) Aug. 10 – Track and Field and other events.	Howard Bich – Call for information and Registration Form – 605-275-6891 or 605-491-0635 – Cell or LaRon Clock 605-353-8533
Watertown	Aug. 22-24	Watertown Parks & Rec – Andrew Magedanz

State Senior Games

Minnesota State Senior Games, St. Cloud	Aug. 1-4	Contact Info: Fritz Butkowski Phone: 320-762-2868 Web Site: Minnesota Senior Games http://mnseniorgames.com http://www.mnseniorgames.com/page/Schedule-of-Events-x-274-21-287.html
South Dakota State Games, Watertown	Sept. 5-8 (Online registration is Aug. 30. There is no on-site registration)	Howard Bich, Executive Director e-mail: sdsrgames@gmail.com or habich@sio.midco.net 605-491-0635



Today, while exploring and adventuring, you can also stay connected. Nature already provides energy that can power various on-the-go gadgets. Outdoors enthusiasts can harness power from the sun, wind and water to charge devices that make camping even better.

ELECTRICITY ON THE GO!

Maria Kavensky

NRECA

Everyone enjoys the great outdoors. The fresh air, getting in touch with nature and physical exercise are key highlights of camping. Today, while exploring and adventuring, you can also still stay connected. Although the great outdoors does not come equipped with ready-to-use electricity, nature already provides energy that can power various on-the-go gadgets. While spending time outside, you can harness power from the sun, wind and water to charge devices that can make your camping experience even better.

One example is a portable light powered by the sun, like BioLite's portable solar light. The device includes a built-in solar panel that can be placed on a backpack during the day. In about seven hours of charging in the sun, you can reach 50 hours of burn time from the small device. Just think, after a full day of exploring, you can relax in your tent and enjoy a new book. This product is just one of many by BioLite, which sells various products meant for off-grid households and recreational use of fuel-independent charging.

LuminAID offers a similar product, the PackLite Firefly USB, which is an inflatable lantern with five lighting modes. The device is compact, waterproof and portable in size for easy charging on the go. The Packlite Firefly USB needs about 10 hours of sunlight to fully charge.

If you want a smaller solar-powered gadget for lighting, try products like Davis Instruments LightCap. This



Who says you can't listen to your favorite songs in the great outdoors? LuminAID's Suncat Solar-Powered Speaker is waterproof, sandproof and ideal for use anywhere.
Photo Credit: LuminAID

cap fits any 2-inch water bottle, like those sold by Nalgene or Camelback, and it's extremely convenient since you don't need to worry about the gadget as long as you keep it on your water bottle. At night, the water bottle lights up from the cap shining through. A few different versions are available on Amazon for about \$30 or less.

To power all your USB-based devices, such as cell phones, speakers, camp lights or GoPros, you can walk around with a USB solar backpack. There are several varieties of backpacks available from different manufacturers, ranging in price from \$50 to more than \$200, and normally taking about four to six hours to fully charge.

For longer camping trips, there are portable showers that can be heated by the sun. The reservoir bag holds five gallons of water, which can be used for multiple showers, and warms up through a heat-locking material when left in the sun. These are convenient for camping but could also come in handy for emergencies

While spending time outside, you can harness power from the sun, wind and water to charge devices that can make your camping experience even better.

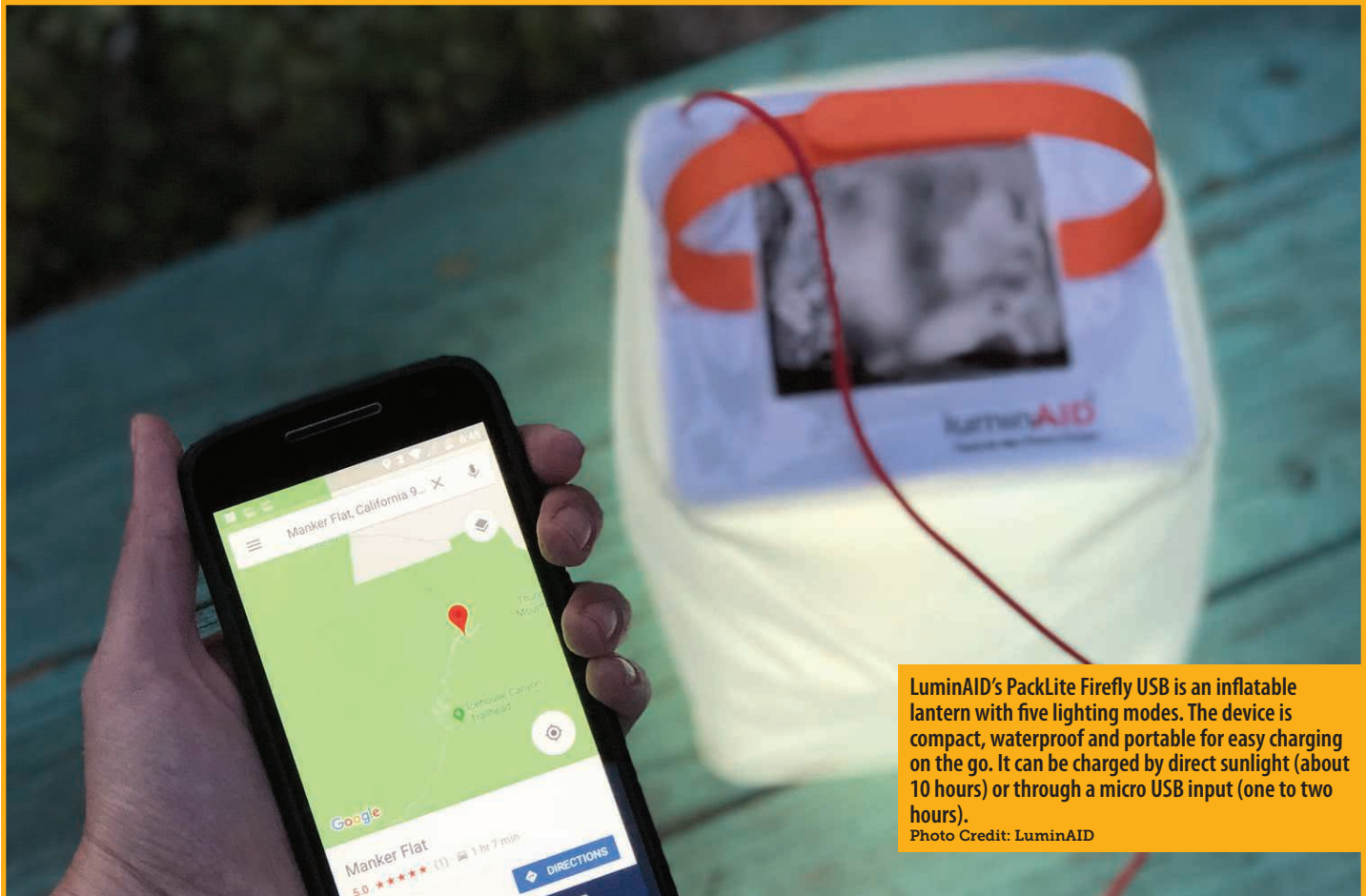
when hot water isn't accessible. Solar-powered portable showers are available from different manufacturers. Visit Amazon.com or check local retail stores like Walmart and Cabela's to review your options.

When the skies are cloudy or there's a lot of tree coverage, there are additional energy sources to be found in nature. Although less common, another way to charge your

USB devices is by using a small turbine by Waterlily that harnesses either wind or hydro energy. By letting the turbine run in the wind or in a fast-moving stream, you can charge any of your devices. Even when there isn't a strong gust or a fast stream, the turbine comes with a hand crank that generates power as well. Visit www.waterlilyturbine.com for more information.

Just five years ago, many of these gadgets were still prototypes, and now most of them are easily accessible to buy online. Thanks to these advances, we can enjoy the outdoors and stay connected while keeping a clean footprint.

Maria Kanevsky is a program manager for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.



LuminAID's PackLite Firefly USB is an inflatable lantern with five lighting modes. The device is compact, waterproof and portable for easy charging on the go. It can be charged by direct sunlight (about 10 hours) or through a micro USB input (one to two hours).

Photo Credit: LuminAID

June 27-30

Camaro Rally, Sturgis, SD,
605-720-0800

June 28-30

Annual Main Street Arts &
Crafts Festival, Hot Springs,
SD, 605-440-2738

June 30

Author Paul Hedren,
Rosebud, June 17, 1876:
Prelude to the Little Big Horn,
2 p.m., in partnership with
BHSU and Friends of Case
Library, Suggested Donation
\$5, Includes admission to
the museum, coffee and
cookies, High Plains Western
Heritage Center, Spearfish,
SD, 605-642-9378

July Tuesdays and Thursdays

Spirit of the American
Cowboy Supper and Show,
5:30 p.m. Supper, 6:15 p.m.
Show, Tickets: Supper and
Show: Adults: \$30/Kids under
12: \$15, Show only: \$15, High
Plains Western Heritage
Center, Spearfish, SD,
Reservations Required,
Eventbrite or 605-642-9378
info@westernheritagecenter.
com

July 2-7

100th Annual Black Hills
Roundup, Belle Fourche, SD,
605-723-2010

July 5-7, 12-14, 19-21

Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant,
De Smet, SD, 800-776-3594

July 6

Rivercity Rumble #4
Demolition Derby, 1 p.m.,
Chamberlain, SD,
605-220-9391

July 9-14

3 Wheeler Rally, Deadwood,
SD, 605-717-7174



June 21-23: Scavenger's Journey, A treasure trove event with antiques, rummages and more stretching from Mt. Vernon to Kadoka, SD, Contact Elaine Titze at 605-999-7287, www.scavengersjourney.com

Photo courtesy: Scavenger's Journey Committee

July 11-13

Annual Hot Harley Nights,
Sioux Falls, SD, 605-334-2721

July 11-13

Senior Games, Aberdeen, SD,
Contact Gene Morsching at
605-626-7015

July 13

Cruiser Car Show & Street
Fair, Rapid City, SD,
605-716-7979

July 17-20

Black Hills Corvette Classic,
Spearfish, SD, 605-759-4530

July 18-20

Senior Center Rummage Sale,
Thursday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
Saturday 8 a.m. to Noon,
Spearfish, SD, 605-642-2827

July 19-20

Gumbo Ridge Bronc Ride and
Ranch Rodeo, Murdo, SD,
605-669-3031

July 19-21

Annual Festival in the Park,
Spearfish, SD, 605-642-7973

July 20-11

Hills Alive, Rapid City, SD,
605-342-6822

July 23-27

Days of '76 Rodeo and
Parades, Deadwood, SD,
605-578-1876

July 24-27

Senior Games, Rapid City,
SD, Contact Kristi Lintz at
605-394-4268

July 26 -27

Meade County Fair and 4-H
Achievement Days, Meade
County Fair Barn and Sturgis
Brown High School, Activities
both days for all ages, Sturgis,
SD, 605-347-2436,
Meadecountyfairsd.com

July 27

Senior Citizen Center
Fundraising Breakfast, 7:30
to 10 a.m., Pancakes with
sausage or biscuits with
sausage gravy will be offered
with juice and coffee or tea.
Donation of \$5. Spearfish, SD,
605-642-2827

August 1

Spirit of the American
Cowboy Supper and Show,
5:30 p.m. Supper, 6:15 p.m.
Show, Tickets: Supper and
Show: Adults: \$30/Kids under
12: \$15, Show only: \$15, High
Plains Western Heritage
Center, Spearfish, SD,
Reservations Required,
Eventbrite or 605-642-9378
info@westernheritagecenter.
com

August 3-4

Senior Games, Yankton,
SD, Contact Brittany Orr at
605-668-5234

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