



# Chimney Rock News

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[www.crppd.com](http://www.crppd.com)

March, 2016

## ***Fly Drones Safely***

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a drone? Drones were one of the hottest gifts under the Christmas tree in December. Drones are unmanned aircraft systems that are increasingly being used both recreationally and professionally. As a result there is an increasing need to ensure that these crafts are flown safely and within regulations.

If a drone flies into a power line, it could cause power outages. It could also result in downed lines, which pose a dangerous electrical safety hazard. The falling debris could also endanger public safety.

Touching a downed line or anything it has fallen on, like a fence or a tree limb, could get you injured or even killed. Stay away, and instruct others to do the same. If you come across downed power lines, call 911 to notify emergency personnel and the utility immediately.

The federal government announced in December 2015 that it now requires individual hobbyists who own drones that weigh more than 0.55 pounds to register with the Federal Aviation Administration. Failure to register these drones could result in expensive civil and criminal fines as well as prison time. For more information on drone registration, go to [www.faa.gov/uas/](http://www.faa.gov/uas/) registration.

When flying a drone keep these safety guidelines in mind:

- \*Before flying the drone, check it for damage. Do not fly a damaged drone.
- \*Never fly drones higher than 400 feet.
- \*Do not fly the drone beyond your line of sight.
- \*Do not fly near airports, manned aircraft, stadiums, or people.
- \*Do not fly for commercial purposes unless specifically authorized by the FAA.
- \*Do not fly in bad weather conditions, such as low visibility or high winds.

## **Energy Efficiency Credits**

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, Energy Star appliances and LED lights. Efficiency Credits are available on new installations only. Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits from Tri-State G & T are:

- \*Electric water heaters- \$50-\$75/unit
- \*Heat pumps \$100-\$150/ton
- \*Electric irrigation motors  
10-500 hp \$8/hp
- \*2 Ton or larger Energy Star air conditioners-\$100-\$150/unit
- \*Energy Star Appliances  
refrig or freezer - \$30  
Clothes washer - \$30-\$40  
Clothes dryer - \$30  
dishwasher - \$20
- \*LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$10 per lamp (must be at least 500 lumens)

Chimney Rock also contributes to some of the credit.

Please contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at 586-1824.

Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors.

Safe – Efficient – Electric

## ***Top Five Energy Users In Your Home***

While most homeowners would like to be more energy efficient and save money, often it feels overwhelming because many people don't know where to start. How can the average family use less energy, lower their utility bill and still meet their daily energy needs? To help jump start your effort, it is useful to know what the top energy users are in your home. With this knowledge, you can choose a path that works best for your family.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Agency, the top five energy users in U.S. homes are:

1. Space cooling
2. Space heating
3. Water heating
4. Lighting
5. Refrigeration



Together, home heating and cooling uses the most energy and take the biggest bite out of your energy budget. On the bright side, there are ways you can achieve at least 10 percent savings by taking a few simple low-cost or no-cost steps.

- \*During cold weather, set your thermostat to 68 degrees.
- \*During warm weather, the recommended indoor temperature is 78 degrees.
- \*Cleaning the filters of your HVAC system can cut costs from five to 15 percent.
- \*Clean the coils around your electric baseboard heater to maintain maximum efficiency.
- \*Caulk and weather-strip around windows and doors to prevent heat from escaping to the outdoors.

No matter what time of year it is, proper use of a programmable thermostat can save you 10 percent on your monthly utility bill.

Take a quick look at the lighting in your home. If you still use incandescent lighting, your light bulbs are operating at only 25 percent energy efficiency. Replacing your home's five most frequently used bulbs with Energy Star-certified LEDs can save you \$75 per year. Another easy way to save is to always turn lights off in rooms that are not being used.

Just as it is energy-wise to insulate your roof, wall or floor, it also pays to wrap your hot water heater with an insulating blanket. This is all the more critical if you have an older unit. Make sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. For additional efficiency and savings, insulate exposed hot water lines and drain one or two gallons of water from the bottom of your tank annually to prevent sediment build-up.

If your refrigerator was purchased before 2001 chances are it uses 40 percent more energy than a new Energy Star model. If you are considering an appliance update, a new Energy Star refrigerator uses at least 15 percent less energy than non-qualified models and 20 percent less energy than required by current federal standards. Regardless of the age of your refrigerator, there are additional steps you can take to save energy and money. For example don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends temperatures of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and 0 degrees for separate freezers.

## **CRPPD Lineman Receives Certificate of Completion**



Lineman Justin McAllister received his Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship as a Line Installer Repairer.

In order to receive this certificate Justin had to complete 4 years of schooling, and 2,000 hours of on the job training. He is now registered with the U.S. Department of Labor as a Journeyman. Congratulations Justin!

## **Festival of Hope Fundraiser**

Our power supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, have donated Chimney Rock PPD a VIZIO 40" LED smart tv. We are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win this tv with all proceeds going to the Festival of Hope.

Tickets are \$1 each for 6 for \$5 and can be purchased in our office or from any employee of Chimney Rock PPD. The drawing will be held on May 13th. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please call our office.

*Our Office will be Closed  
Friday, March 25th  
for Good Friday  
Happy Easter*



## **St. Patrick's Day Mint Shakes**

1 pint vanilla ice cream

1/4 cup whole milk

1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract

1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

3 or 4 drops of green liquid food coloring

Whipped cream and green sanding sugar for garnish

Blend the ice cream, milk, peppermint extract and vanilla in blender until smooth.

Pour into one or two serving glasses and garnish with whipped cream and sanding sugar.

Daylight Savings  
Time begins  
March 13th. Set  
your clocks  
ahead one hour.



## ***Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month***

CONSIDER PURCHASING RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES-AND AN ENERGY STAR CHARGER FOR THEM - WHICH ARE MORE COST EFFECTIVE THAN DISPOSABLE BATTERIES. IN THE U.S. ALONE, MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT BATTERY CHARGERS COULD SAVE FAMILIES MORE THAN \$170 MILLION ANNUALLY. *SOURCE: ENERGY.GOV*

## **Irrigation Account Changes....**

Irrigation facility fees will bill out the end of April. If you have purchased new land, or are no longer farming a piece of ground that has an irrigation billing, please let our office know so we can get the billing information changed.



## ***Director Elections***

There will be two directors elected to the Chimney Rock Public Power District's Board of Directors in the November 2016 General Election. The incumbent directors are Gary Kniss and Kevin Stuart.

If you would like to run for Chimney Rock's Board of Directors you need to follow these guidelines:

- 1) You must have service with Chimney Rock Public Power.
- 2) Incumbent directors are required to file as candidates by July 15th. All other candidates are required to file for office by August 1st.
- 3) A filing fee of \$10 is required, payable to the Secretary of State. File nomination papers, voter registration certificate and completed Statement of Financial Interest with the Secretary of State prior to your filing deadline; you must make sure there is enough time allowed for mailing the filings to the Secretary of State. The Statement of Financial Interest must also be filed with the County Clerk or Election Commission.

**Chimney Rock  
Public Power District  
128 W 8th St.  
P O Box 608  
Bayard, NE 69334**

### **Board of Directors**

President  
Gary Kniss

Vice-President  
Kevin Stuart

Secretary/Treasurer  
Richard Kildow

Larry Fiscus

Travis Petersen

Stan Propp

### **Staff**

Shauna Abbott

Chris Cox

Tina Douglas

Alvin Harimon

Ron Hubbard

DJ Kearns

Justin McAllister

Scot Ouder Kirk

Diana Reich

Brandon Wyckoff

Kande Zuber

**During normal office hours  
and after hours call:  
(308) 586-1824 or  
(877) 773-6300**

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