

Sun River Electric Cooperative

Ripples



Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516
Web site: www.sunriverelectric.coop
After Hours & Weekend Dispatch:
 406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

Be sure to check your breakers before reporting outages.

DECEMBER 2011

Rate outlook for 2012

By Scott Odegard,
 General Manager

Sun River's power supplier, Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative (Central) has announced that their wholesale rate will increase from \$0.0412 per KWH to \$0.0457 per KWH, effective Jan. 1, 2012.

This is an increase of about 10.9 percent over the rate set in January of 2010. Central's rate increase is the result of a rate increase by one of their suppliers, Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin) and the expiration of the supply contract with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

With the loss of BPA power, Central now has contracts with two suppliers, Basin and the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). Basin has coal, natural gas and wind generation,

and WAPA has hydropower.

Central's wholesale rate stability has meant that we have been able to keep our retail rates stable, as well. Our last retail rate increase was in January of 2010 and was driven largely by a Central rate increase.

But now, we will have to raise our retail rates to cover the increased wholesale power costs as well as generally higher prices for the things we must buy.

We expect that we will have to raise our retail rates, overall, by about 5.5 percent, or perhaps a little less. We are working on the 2012 tariffs now, and will provide additional information in next month's *Ripples* and on our website at www.sunriverelectric.coop.

Future rates (past 2012) are hard to predict. As with any business, we are not immune from increases in costs for the things we must buy such as poles, wire, fuel, and, of course, wholesale power. The electric industry is very vulnerable to game changing events, such as carbon emission or other regulations that might be mandated by the federal government.

Absent these types of game-changing events, I expect that electric rates will continue to increase at about the rate of inflation.

As always, if you have questions, please give me a call at 467-2526 or stop by the office.



Co-op Connections Card Corner

Spotlighting these businesses

Mills Ford (Fairfield)

Oil Change and Filter - \$27.95 (more for pickups and diesels) includes free tire rotation and every 6th oil change is FREE. 10 percent discount on parts and service for jobs over \$50.

300 Main St,
 Fairfield, MT, 59436,
 406-467-2511.

Shop Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon. through Fri.
 Business Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon. through Fri.
 Saturdays: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Teton Lumber Company (Choteau)

Present your Co-op

Connections Card and receive a 10 percent discount on lumber products and hardware items. This offer cannot be added to other discounts.
 4046 Hwy. 89,
 Choteau, MT, 59422,
 406-466-2228.

Vandolah Chiropractic Clinic (Fairfield)

\$5 off on an initial exam or on a scheduled treatment.
 423 Main,
 Fairfield, MT, 59436,
 406-467-2294.

Business Hours: 8 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

Show your card at these businesses for valuable discounts – Each month we will spotlight different businesses

Board of Trustees

Officers

John Burgmaier, President406-463-2522
 Randy Parker, Vice President406-467-2974
 Roberta Rohrer, Secretary/Treasurer406-278-5673

Trustees

Darell Stott406-466-2504
 Leonard Sivumaki406-264-5482
 Robert Pasha406-733-2028
 Richard Artz406-562-3229
 Manager, Scott Odegard406-467-2527

Swap Column

FOR SALE: Mini Chopper electric motorcycle, 20 mph for 20 miles with one charge, excellent Christmas gift, brand new, retails for \$1,500, asking \$695. Jay Ratliff, 590-2810.

FOR SALE: 9 rolls of new garden fence, 40 in x 50 ft; older high pressure washer; basement slider window, 48 in x 48 in; window well; turning clothes line. Paul Barrett, 467-2831.

FOR SALE: Almond 25 cu ft side by side Amana refrigerator, with ice maker. Harold Gaarder, 467-2645. 276604

FOR SALE: Snowblower, like new, Ariens 13 hp, 7 speed, headlight, electric or pull start, \$1,050 obo. Chuck McCaffrey, 736-5785.

FOR SALE: Atlas 48 in flat-way lathe, quick change gear box, with milling attachment, all in good shape, \$1,500; Hy-Hog dog kennel, \$200. Joe Irvin, 278-5291.

FOR SALE: 2 adult pure-bred St Bernards, 1 female, 1 male, 3 yrs old, spayed/neutered, current shots & micro-chipped, great with kids & house trained, \$300

obo. Connie Anderson, 868-3424.

WANTED: 8 ft snow bucket for loader tractor; tractor chains fitting 13.6x38 tires. Dick Gasvoda, 467-2655.

FREE TO RIGHT HOME: 28 yr old AQHA Sorrel gelding, gentle for kids. Tom McInerney, 467-2072.

FOR SALE: Various Powder River panels & gates, will sell for half the price of new, call for inventory of items; Arctic Cat 300 4x4 Independent suspension 4 wheeler; 16 ft Load King seed & fertilizer hopper; Melrose cultivator. Call for more info & prices. Silvernale, 450-3270.

FOR SALE: Arrow wood stove; set of Norcrest china; fuel tanks with stands; gas hot water heater; cattle chute; misc furniture. Richard Johnson 469-2223.

FOR SALE: Round bale feeder, \$250; 1982 Ford 1/2 ton 4x4 flatbed, \$700. Bob Schumacher, 590-5960.

FOR SALE: Thanos Flavor oven (new wave), cookbooks included, \$45; weed burner, \$20; 12 ft combination telescopic pruner/lopper \$15. Steve Miller, 264-5321.

FOR SALE: 38 in lawn sweep, \$100; 2 golf pull-carts, \$25; heavy duty fireplace log grate, \$15; antique brushed brass fireplace frame with glass doors, 29 in x 40 1/2 in, \$20; Rockwell model 34-345 10 in table saw, \$100; 22 in Patton 3 spd fan, \$15; 80+ rods, new 12 1/2 gage, 2 pnt, 4 in spacing barbed wire, \$45; A O Smith, 180A welder with charger, \$50; owned small acetylene & oxygen tanks with cart, \$40. Harvey Bremer, 467-2480.

FOR SALE: 1994 Ford F250, with round bale bed, low mileage; 1994 Case IH tractor, 5250 with front wheel assist loader and grapple, low hours; Wheat Heart heavy hitter post driver, used very little; 3 yard pull type hydraulic scraper. Lewis Carroll, 264-5499.

FOR SALE: Old potbelly stove from the old depot, Summit heavy cannon upright stove, #20. Harold Simmes, 965-3061, evenings.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE RIPPLES SWAP COLUMN, PLEASE CONTACT SUN RIVER ELECTRIC AT 1-800-452-7516 OR 467-2527 OR E-MAIL KATHY AT kscott@sunriverelectric.coop, BY THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. THANKS.



Eggnog Pie

1/4 cup cold water
1 (.25 ounce) package unflavored gelatin
1 cup milk
3/4 cup white sugar
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1/4 cup rum
1 cup whipping cream
1 (9 inch) pie shell, baked
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

In a small bowl, let gelatin dissolve into water; set aside. Combine milk and 1/2 of the sugar in a small glass bowl. Microwave for 3 minutes or until milk begins to boil. In a medium bowl, stir gelatin mixture into the heated milk and sugar; gradually whisk in eggs using a wire whisk. Microwave mixture stirring with whisk after each minute until it thickens. Remove from microwave and pour in rum. Keep mixture refrigerated until it begins to set being sure to stir it occasionally as it chills. In a medium bowl, whip cream until soft peaks form; beat in remaining 1/2 of sugar. Set aside 1/2 cup of this mixture for garnish; keep refrigerated. Fold remaining whipped cream into microwaved mixture and pour into pie crust. Cover and refrigerate for 2 to 3 hours. Serve with reserved whipped cream and a dusting of nutmeg. (recipe: allrecipes.com)

Hidden numbers

If you find your account number hidden in this issue it is worth a \$30 credit on your next statement. If the number is not claimed, the credit will increase by \$10 each month until someone finds their number. There is one number hidden in every issue. Give us a call if you are the lucky consumer:

406-467-2527 or 1-800-452-7516

Reminder: Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee.

