

April 2015



PLUGGED IN WITH . . .

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

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# PREMA

For a Brighter Future

## 70TH ANNUAL MEETING



### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015

**ANNUAL MEETING  
PANHANDLE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP ASSN.  
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015 1:00 P.M.  
PREMA OFFICE IN ALLIANCE, NE**

#### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

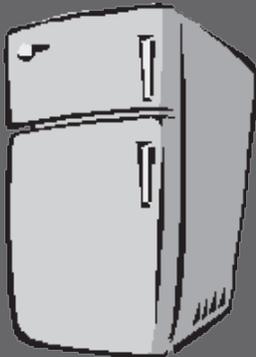
- \*\*\* ONE DIRECTOR FROM DISTRICT #1 \*\*\***
- \*\*\* ONE DIRECTOR FROM DISTRICT #2 \*\*\***
- \*\*\* ONE DIRECTOR ELECTED AT-LARGE \*\*\***

For your name to be placed on the ballot you must present a petition signed by any seven or more members from the district in which you reside. For the at-large position, a petition may be signed by any member within PREMA's service territory. Petition deadline is thirty-five days prior to the annual meeting date. Petitions and information on director duties and responsibilities are available at the PREMA office. You may also request to have this information mailed to you.

Article III, Meeting of Members and Article IV, Board of Directors, found in the Corporation Bylaws explaining the qualifications for director, and procedure for the annual meeting are available at the PREMA office.

**If you have any questions, please contact PREMA at 308-762-1311 or 1-800-585-4837.**

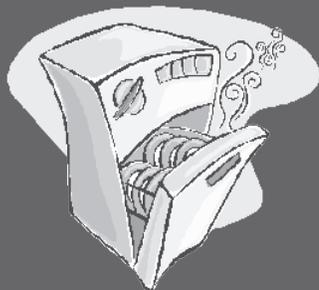
## REBATES



### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REBATES ON:

- REFRIGERATORS
- CLOTHES WASHERS
- DISHWASHERS
- HEAT PUMPS
- LED LIGHT BULBS
- ELECTRIC MOTORS
- WATER HEATERS

Contact Gina Briggs at the PREMA office if you have any questions  
308-762-1311



## EIGHT WAYS TO MAKE YOUR HOME MORE SUSTAINABLE

Adding energy-efficient features is among the most popular remodeling projects among homeowners.

In its latest Home Design Trends Survey, the American Institute of Architects identified eight environmentally friendly features that are most popular with homeowners. Here's how you can incorporate them into your home next time you want to spruce it up:

1. Replace your old incandescent light bulbs in fixtures on ceilings, walls and in table lamps with LED lights. If you replace the whole fixture, the lights are integrated, so you'll never have to change a bulb again.

2. Install a programmable thermostat, and then program it so it lowers the heat (or turns up the a/c) when you leave for work or go to sleep, and then moves the temperature back to normal for times when the family is awake and at home.

3. Choose new products that are low-maintenance. You'll use less electricity, water and cleaning chemicals if surfaces like countertops, floors and patios are easy

to sweep up or sponge off. You'll save paint and time if you choose composite products with a factory finish that never requires painting.

4. Invest in energy efficiency. Wasting electricity isn't the right thing to do for the environment, your family or your pocketbook. Energy-efficient kitchen appliances, double-pane windows and high-efficiency heating and air conditioning equipment can help you make the difference you want to make in the world.



5. Tankless water heaters may be appropriate in certain circumstances. Not only does this kind of water heater use less energy; it delivers hot water the second you turn on the spigot.

6. Buy Energy Star appliances when it's time to replace your old ones. Besides using less energy and lowering your electric

bill, newer appliances come with so many convenient gadgets that your old ones don't have.

7. Save water. The Environmental Protection Agency has a Water-Sense rating for plumbing fixtures like faucets, shower heads and toilets that indicate which ones use the least water. Water shortages are a concern worldwide; do your part to conserve it.

8. Reuse household materials and products instead of throwing them away. Or donate them to an organization like Habitat for Humanity, which can sell your used appliances and fixtures for money to help build homes for deserving families.

### REBATES:

1. *All rebates require a copy of the paid receipt.*
2. *All rebates must be requested within 180 days of installation/purchase.*
3. *All appliances must be Energy Star rated.*
4. *Energy Efficiency Credits are offered with the stipulation that no other credits, rebates or special rates/ discounts apply.*

## **TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP LOWER ENERGY BILLS**

Can't remember to turn the thermostat down at bedtime? Always forgetting to unplug your home's electronics before leaving on vacation?

Technology can come to your rescue.

Automatic thermostats and smartphone apps can "remember" for you—and lower your energy bills.

### **Consider:**

Installing a programmable thermostat that you can set just once so it will turn the heat down a few degrees (or the a/c up) at bedtime and after everyone leaves the house in the morning. Those hours of slightly lower temps can save you a bundle on your heating and cooling bills.

Investing in a new "learning" thermostat. These nifty devices collect data about your preferences every time you raise or lower your home's temperature. Then, it will start adjusting the thermostat accordingly—without being told to.

Switching to a wireless thermostat that allows you to change the temperature via your computer or smartphone.

Trying out an energy-management smartphone app. The free apps monitor your home's electricity use and share the info with easy-to-read graphics. The more you know about the way your family uses energy, the easier it is to change habits that waste it.

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## **PREMA's Statement of Non-Discrimination**

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

**PREMA is an equal opportunity provider and employer**

# LINEMAN APPRECIATION

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Board has designated the second Monday of each April as National Lineman Appreciation Day. In 2015 that means April 13th will represent an opportunity for co-ops to recognize the men and women who “keep the lights on”.

“Whereas linemen leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on;

Whereas linemen work 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain and repair the electric infrastructure;

Whereas linemen are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe for all after storms and accidents; and

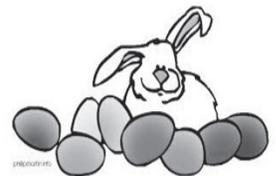
Whereas there would be no electric cooperatives without the brave men and women who comprise our corps of linemen;”

Therefore be it resolved that NRECA recognize the Second Monday of April of each year as National Lineman Appreciation Day and make available to recognize the contributions of these valuable men and women to America’s Electric Cooperatives.



## Notes From Load Management

Load Management is in place for the 2015 irrigation season. We have begun the process of checking all switches for those that have signed up. If you are the owner or operator of an irrigation service, on which a load control switch is installed, keep in mind you are responsible for making sure no one tampers with the load control switch. If you see a switch is damaged, has missing parts or if you have questions, please notify Tim Sherlock at the PREMA office at 308-762-1311.



Happy Easter



Serving Arthur, Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Garden, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Morrill, Sheridan and Sioux Counties



### PREMA

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### OPERATIONS AND STAFF

Ryan Reiber—General Manager  
Paul Grosz—Operations Manager  
Dale Knapp—Staking Engineer  
Jerry Mathistad—Office Manager

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Bryan Monahan—Hyannis  
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