



Rebate Program Changes for 2022

One of the ways Linn County REC promotes the efficient use of energy is through our energy efficiency rebate program. Starting January 1st 2022, some of our current rebates will end as we move to the available options listed below. These options will help our membership save energy.

Rebates Removed

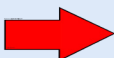
Central Air Conditioner

Rebate: \$100



Electric Resistance Water Heater

Rebate: \$75



Electric Dryer

Rebate: \$20



Available Options

Central Hybrid Air-Source Heat Pump

Rebate: \$350-\$500 per ton

- Provides efficient electric heating and cooling
- Works with propane and natural gas furnaces
- Allows for more flexibility based on fuel cost
- Eligible for discounted electric heating rates

Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater

Rebate: \$650

- Wi-Fi enabled for more control of when and how long the unit is running
- Up to 60% reduction in energy usage

Hybrid Heat Pump Dryer

Rebate: \$150

- Up to 50% reduction in energy usage
- Ventless
- Must be paired with ENERGY STAR washer



Know Your Energy Use with SmartHub

Did you know that you can view your energy usage from your desktop or mobile device? Through detailed graphs on our SmartHub app, you can monitor your daily consumption 24/7 and see how it is trending over time. You can even download your data into a spreadsheet file with the easy green button feature.

Download the SmartHub app for free! It's available in the Apple App Store or Google Play Marketplace - or by scanning the QR codes below.

Once downloaded, select Linn County REC as your electric provider. Enter your current username and password or create an account. To learn more about SmartHub, watch our introduction video at www.linncountyrec.com.



ANDROID



iOS

The following rebates are ending for 2022 due to general market acceptance and cost effectiveness:

- Outdoor LED lighting
- Weatherization
- Appliance recycling

Our 2022 agriculture and commercial rebates will focus on custom rebates and less on equipment rebates for new technologies and equipment.

All 2021 rebates must be installed, submitted and postmarked to Linn County REC by December 20, 2021. For a complete list of our current rebates, visit linncountyrec.com.

Stake Energy Vampires with Smart Strips



In an average home, 5 percent to 8 percent of electric use stems from “energy vampires”— devices that use power even when turned off. Smart power strips help you unplug energy-draining devices when not in use easily.

There are typically three different types of outlets on a smart strip:



The blue outlet serves as a control plug (ideal for a TV or computer).



Devices plugged into red outlets stay on—electricity to these receptacles never cuts off, making them perfect for satellite boxes and other items that need constant power.



Remaining outlets, often green or neutral in color, are sensitive to current flowing through the blue outlet. Turning off a device plugged into the blue outlet cuts power to items connected to these outlets.

Smart strips are available online or at specialty electronic retailers and generally cost \$20 or more depending on their size.



October is National Co-op Month.



Electric cooperatives are led by the community, for the community.

Electric cooperatives are community focused organizations that work to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable and safe energy. October is National Co-op Month, which is the perfect time to highlight the many ways electric cooperatives are unique:

Cooperatives are locally governed

We are led by consumers like you who understand and listen to the community while looking out for the long-term needs of their members. Members elect fellow members to represent them on the board of directors every September at our annual meeting.

Cooperatives belong to the communities they serve

Electric cooperatives operate at cost. Profits that exceed the amount needed to operate the cooperative are shared back with you, our members. The credit is reflected on your September bill statement and is based upon your usage. In 2021, \$250,000 was credited back to members who had service with us in 2020. Linn County REC has returned over \$2,000,000 in credits since its incorporation in 1938.

Cooperatives were built by the communities they serve

While there are many similarities between cooperatives, they all make their own business decisions independently. No two cooperatives are exactly alike. That's because every cooperative is shaped over time by the community it serves, each with specific needs. What might be a sound decision for one co-op, with a relatively small number of members spread out over an extremely rural area, might not work for another that has a larger number of members in a more urban setting.

We give our members a voice, and we are local—living and working alongside those in the communities we serve. That's the cooperative difference. Learn more at www.linncountyrec.com.



LINN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Tree Planting This Fall? Plan Ahead Before You Plant

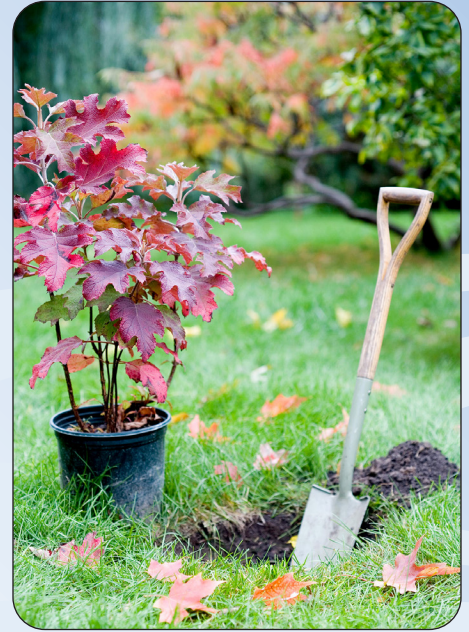
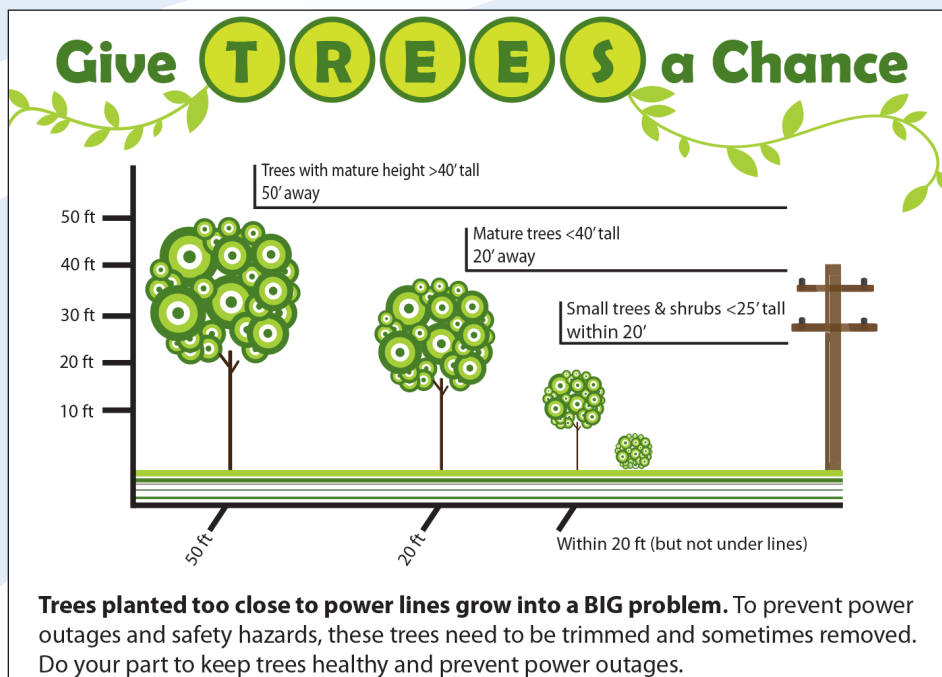
Once the weather cools off after summer but the soil is still warm enough for root development, it's the perfect time to plant trees and shrubs.

Carefully positioned trees can reduce a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling by up to 25%. The Department Of Energy has determined that proper placement of only three trees on your property can save an average household between \$100 and \$250 in yearly energy costs.

If planting trees and shrubs are part of your landscaping projects this fall, don't plant under or near power lines. Trees interfering with power lines are one of the top reasons for power outages. Storms and winds can also cause branches to rub on power lines causing blinking lights in your home.

Before you plant a tree, consider the tree's mature height. Take the mature height of the tree and plant it that distance from the power line. If limbs grow into the proximity of power lines, Linn County REC may trim the tree to prevent damage to the line and eliminate potential hazards and outages. We will not trim beyond what is necessary to ensure public safety and reliability of service. For more information on proper tree placement and our vegetation management program, visit www.linncountyrec.com.

Planting the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard, especially to power lines. Use this tree guide to make sure your tree is planted at a safe distance away from power lines.



5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.

2-3

3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Iowa Home Energy Assistance Program Guidelines Released

The 2021 - 2022 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, Dial 2-1-1, or visit humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply to contact your local community action agency, or write to: LIHEAP, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Capitol Complex, Des Moines, IA 50319.

WHEN TO APPLY: Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled: Oct. 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022. All other households: Nov. 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022

WHAT TO TAKE:

- **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 19 and over) Depending upon your household income type,

income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.

- **Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members** (documentation required)
- **Most recent heat bill**
- **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS: Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30 day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME: This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS: Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

Income Maximums	
Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$25,760
2	\$34,840
3	\$43,920
4	\$53,000
5	\$62,080
6	\$71,160
7	\$80,240
8	\$89,320

Note: For households with more than eight members, add \$9,080 for each additional member.

FIP RECIPIENTS: Please bring your current DHS Notice of Decision or contact your local office for acceptable document information.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

Bacon, Egg & Cheese Biscuit Sandwich



- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 Tbsp butter, melted | 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese |
| 9 eggs | 1 cup heavy cream |
| ½ tsp salt | ½ tsp dry mustard |
| ¼ tsp rubbed sage | ¼ tsp black pepper |
| ¼ tsp red pepper flakes | 9 slices cooked bacon |
| 9 precooked old fashioned biscuits | |

Preheat oven to 350°F. Pour melted butter into an 8×8" baking dish. Cover bottom of pan with shredded cheese. Whisk together eggs, heavy cream, salt, dry mustard, black pepper and red pepper flakes. Pour egg mixture over cheese. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, until top of casserole puffs up and is golden brown. Cool 15 minutes.

Cut egg casserole into 9 squares. Fill each biscuit with a slice of egg casserole and top with bacon. Can assemble biscuit sandwiches, wrap each in foil and reheat at 350°F for 10 minutes later.



Donate To The RECare Consumer Contribution Fund To Help Others

RECare is a crisis fund available for our low income members to help pay their electric bills and to weatherize their homes. When you give to RECare, your donation goes directly to families in need throughout our community. All funds are distributed by a local community action agency, there are no administrative costs and donations are tax deductible.

If you'd like to make a contribution to RECare, sign up through SmartHub on our website or make a notation on your bill stub. The amount can be a one-time pledge or can be included with the monthly net amount on your bill. Discontinue your pledge at any time by contacting our office.



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WWW.LINNCOUNTYREC.COM

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