



**Corridor Energy  
Cooperative**

*Formerly Linn County REC*

# Corridor Connections

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR OUR MEMBERS



## Corridor Energy Is Here!

For more than 85 years, Linn County REC has proudly powered our communities — keeping the lights on and our neighborhoods connected. Over the decades, we've grown right alongside you — adapting, innovating, and finding new ways to deliver the safe, reliable energy you depend on every day. Now, we're taking the next step in that journey.

On December 8th, Linn County REC will officially become **Corridor Energy Cooperative**. This name better reflects who we are today and where we're headed — representing all our members across Eastern Iowa's corridor. More than 65% of our members live in urban areas, with over half residing in Johnson County, making "Corridor Energy" a name that connects us all.

Our new brand also enhances our ability to attract new businesses and industries to our area—creating opportunities that strengthen the local economy and help lower costs for all members.

"This rebrand positions us for the future," said CEO/General Manager Terry Sullivan. "Corridor Energy Cooperative reflects our members, our region, and our commitment to growth and innovation as we continue to build a stronger energy future together."

Our cooperative's mission remains unchanged. Our member-owned structure, rates, and dedication to our members will stay the same. Only the name is changing—our commitment is as strong as ever.

### What's Next

Members will see these new and upcoming updates:

- ✓ New logo on your bill statement.
- ✓ New website launching December 8th - giving members an even better online experience.
- ✓ Updated social media channels - be sure to check us out on Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

The transition to Corridor Energy Cooperative marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter. As we move forward, we remain committed to delivering the same safe, reliable service and support you've come to expect. We look forward to powering our communities - together.



## Is Your Contact Information Current?

It's essential to keep your contact details up to date so you receive timely notifications from us. Please make sure we have your current email address, phone number, and mailing address. Having accurate information helps us provide better customer service and communicate effectively—especially during outages or when we need to share important account updates.

Your phone number is directly linked to your service address in our outage management system for reporting and repairing outages. We also occasionally schedule planned outages to upgrade, repair, or replace equipment. When this happens, we notify affected members through automated phone messages—but you'll only receive these alerts if your phone number is verified.

### MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT NOTIFICATIONS

We don't want you to miss an important update! To make sure we have your most up-to-date contact information, and to manage how you receive account notifications, log in to the SmartHub app and go to:

**Settings > Contact Methods > Verified Contacts.**

Be sure to **verify your contact details** so you'll receive timely text and/or email reminders about your account and important service notifications.

### DON'T HAVE SMARTHUB YET?

Getting started is easy! Visit our website to download the SmartHub app for free.

If you have any questions about your account or need help updating your information, contact our Consumer Services department at 319-377-1587.



Snow and ice storms can lead to downed power lines and outages. Follow these tips to stay safe should you find yourself in the dark after a severe winter event:

- Never touch a fallen power line. Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged, even if they're not jumping or sparking. Call Corridor Energy to report it immediately.
- Use a safe alternate heating source, such as a fireplace or wood-burning stove, during a power outage.
- Never connect your portable generator directly to the home. This can result in deadly backfeed, which occurs when electricity is fed back through the electrical system onto powerlines, posing a hazard to line workers and others.
- Unplug sensitive electronic equipment and as many appliances as possible. This will prevent damage from a power surge that may occur during power restoration.

## Members can report an outage by:



**Phone:** Call toll free 1-888-271-6250. This number is for outages only. Calls answered 24 hours a day.



**Text:** Enroll here. Once enrolled, text "outage" to 55050 on your cell phone. We must have your cell phone number on file for this option.



**SmartHub App:** Download the FREE app in the Apple App store or Android Marketplace.



**Follow us on Facebook and our storm center at [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop) for outage updates.**





# Save Energy, Save Money With Our 2026 Rebates

As we look forward to 2026, Corridor Energy is excited to continue assisting our members in making smart, energy-efficient choices through our energy efficiency rebate program. While the program will largely remain the same, we have made two minor changes for the upcoming year; however, all other rebates will continue unchanged.

## Rebate Changes for 2026

- Air Source Heat Pump (electric and hybrid): \$300/unit.
- Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump (electric and hybrid): \$500/unit.

Visit [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop) to view our qualified Heat Pump Trade Ally Contractors and apply for specific rebates. Make sure to **submit your applications within 90 days** of your installation/invoice date to take advantage of these savings.

**PLEASE NOTE:** 2026 rebate forms will be available on our website after January 1, 2026. Rebates submitted after January 1, 2026, are subject to the 2026 rebate amount. Rebate amounts at or below \$500 will be credited to your bill. Please contact Member Services if you have questions about our rebate program.



## Federal Tax Credits Still Available till December 31, 2025

Homeowners can benefit from federal tax credits for energy efficiency upgrades until December 31, 2025. These credits cover up to 30% of the cost, up to a maximum of \$3,200.

Check for qualifying upgrades and ENERGY STAR® compliance at: [www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits](http://www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits).

# Home Lighting 101








We often grab whatever bulb or fixture looks good without considering how it will actually perform in the space. But with a little planning, you can make your home brighter, cozier, and more energy efficient.


When choosing bulbs for your home, don't just pay attention to watts –look at lumens. (Watts = energy consumed, and lumens = brightness) A helpful rule of thumb: higher lumens mean brighter light, while lower watts mean less energy consumed. Remember to check wattage ratings for fixtures and only install bulbs that meet the fixture's wattage safety requirements.

Careful selection of lumens for each space in your home makes all the difference. Choose bright, focused light for kitchens and workspaces and warm, softer light for bedrooms and living rooms. This balance not only improves comfort and function, but it can also help you save energy.

Take energy savings even further by installing dimmers instead of standard on/off switches or selecting smart bulbs that can be controlled via app or voice assistant.

Use this guide to create spaces that are welcoming and energy-efficient.

Home Lighting Guide 			
<small>The following information outlines recommendations for home lighting, however, additional options for bulbs, fixtures and spaces in your home may be available. Sources: Home Depot, Aico Lighting</small>			
Room/Area	Recommended Lumens	Fixture Types	Smart Tips
 Living Room	15-30 per sq. ft. 150 sq. ft. room 2,250 - 4,500 lumens	Ceiling fixtures, can lighting, lamps/ accent lighting	Use smart bulbs to adjust color temp and control remotely.
 Kitchen	30-40 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. room 3,000 - 4,000 lumens	Recessed ceiling lights or flush mounts	Smart switches can be used to control zones (dining vs. prep); undercabinet motion lights offer late-night illumination.
 Dining Room	10-20 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. room 1,000 - 2,000 lumens	Pendant or chandelier fixture	Smart, dimmable bulbs allow various levels of brightness for ambiance.
 Bedroom	10-20 per sq. ft. 120 sq. ft. room 1,200 - 2,400 lumens	Ceiling fixtures or recessed lighting	Motion sensors are great options for nighttime use.
 Bathroom	50-80 per sq. ft. 60 sq. ft. room 3,000 - 4,000 lumens	Over-vanity fixtures and/or recessed lighting	Cool LED bulbs provide brighter light for shaving, applying makeup, etc.
 Porch/ Home Entry	100-200 per sq. ft. 100 sq. ft. entry 10,000 - 20,800 lumens	Wall lanterns, ceiling mount and/or floodlights	Motion-activated flood lights and/or smart outdoor bulbs are energy efficient and boost home security.



## Deck The Halls SAFELY This Season

- Use only holiday lights that have been safety tested and have the UL label.
- Before using lights, check each strand for broken sockets, frayed cords, or faulty plugs.
- Don't string together more than three standard sized incandescent sets of lights or you could overload the circuit.
- Don't throw lights over tree branches that are near power lines and service connections.
- Lighted and electrical outdoor decorations should be plugged into ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected outlets.
- Never tack or nail through a strand of lights. Do not place cords under rugs or in high traffic areas.



### Cinnamon Bagel Bread Pudding

4 eggs  
3-1/2 cups 2% milk  
2-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
4 cinnamon crunch bagels, cut into 1" pieces (about 10 cups)  
1/4 cup butter, cubed  
1/2 cup packed brown sugar  
Confectioners' sugar, optional

In a large bowl, combine the eggs, milk and vanilla. Gently stir in bagels. Transfer to a greased 13-in. x 9-in. baking dish; let stand for 15 minutes or until bagels are softened. Meanwhile, place butter and brown sugar in a small saucepan; cook and stir over medium-low heat until sugar is melted. Pour over baking dish. Bake, uncovered, at 350° for 45-50 minutes or until the top is puffed and center is almost set. Let stand for 15 minutes. If desired, dust with confectioner sugar and serve warm.



# Happy Holidays

May your season be safe,  
merry and bright!

Our offices will be closed December 24, 25, and January 1.

Bill payment kiosks are available 24 hours a day at our Marion office and North Liberty operations center.

Calls are answered and crews are available 24/7.



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