



FALL RIVER FLASHES

April 2024

Committed to safely and economically provide reliable energy and other services which bring value to its membership.



LOOK FOR YOUR PATRONAGE CAPITAL SUMMARY

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, your summary of Patronage Capital earnings will be arriving in your mailbox this month! This summary represents your share of the excess "margins" generated in 2023, plus amounts earned previously. Unlike for-profit businesses that generate profit, any excess revenue collected by Fall River, called margins, are paid back to our owner-members on a twenty-year cycle. All Patronage Capital amounts earned are based on the amount of electricity you use.

Your Patronage Capital summary does not represent funds that can be cashed out at this time or applied to your present monthly statement.



USE CAUTION WHEN BURNING DITCHES & FIELDS

Many property owners will burn ditches in the spring to clear dried weeds and overgrown grasses. Use extra caution around power poles to avoid pole damage. If you damage a pole, you can be responsible for the cost to repair or replace, which can run into thousands of dollars. Have water and/or a shovel handy to put out fires near power poles.

Remember too that some power poles carry fiber optic cables that can melt under the extreme heat a ditch fire can cause. Damage to fiber cables can result in tens of thousands of dollars in repairs that the property owner would be responsible to pay. Always practice safety!

Don't Miss The Fun & FREE Prizes At This Year's Energy Expo!

Fall River Electric Cooperative's Energy Expo is coming up on June 8 and will be a wonderful opportunity to gather your family for a free breakfast, receive a free gift, and have the kids enjoy some fun science, engineering, and

attend, including a FREE insulated backpack cooler ideal for those outdoor adventures this summer. There is also a FREE breakfast of hotcakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, hash browns, and your favorite beverage, bucket truck rides and a climbing wall for the kids, and even more FREE prizes at the business meeting where one lucky owner-member will receive a FREE \$1,000 energy credit certificate. Sign up for Operation RoundUp in the Member Services booth for a chance to win a \$200 gift card.



technology experiments inside many of the booths. Plus every child will receive a free school backpack for participating.

This year, Fall River Electric is celebrating its 85th anniversary...a little over 85 years ago, your Cooperative was created by a small group of rural families that desired the convenience that electricity could bring to their homes and their farms. Just as in 1938, you will have the opportunity to elect three board members to represent you in planning for the future of Fall River Electric Cooperative. Even more exciting are the FREE prizes to be given away to the first three hundred members who



This is a community gathering where neighbors can meet new neighbors or catch up with old acquaintances. Our lives are busier than ever and more of our "connections" are made on social media. This year's annual event is a time to interact with each other in face-to-face connection, but it is also a time to learn more about the electric utility YOU own.

If you have never attended Fall River Electric's annual meeting, we urge you to take the morning of June 8, 2024, to join your neighbors and fellow co-op owners...even better, bring your neighbors along. Breakfast starts at 8am, the expo opens at 7:30am and the business meeting at 10am at Teton High School in Driggs, Idaho. Fall River Electric's staff, management and board look forward to seeing you at YOUR annual event on June 8.

Call Before You Dig – Look Up Before You Move It

Before you start your spring landscaping or construction project, be sure you locate any underground utilities such as buried power lines, gas and water lines, and communication cables because if you dig them up, you will be responsible for the cost of the repair. Digging up power or gas lines can also be extremely dangerous.

A FREE locate service is available by calling 8-1-1. Call two days before you plan to dig to have all the buried utilities located.

Farm operations are in full swing, too. When moving equipment like grain augers or tillage

equipment or handling sprinkler pipes or moving pivots, LOOK UP! Make sure you have the proper clearance to overhead power lines. When you disc or till, watch out for power poles and their guy wires.

Let us be safe as we get out in our fields and yards this spring season!



Know what's below. Call before you dig.



RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Where Service Matters

800-632-5726
208-652-7431

ASHTON

1150 North 3400 East
Ashton, ID 83420

DRIGGS

1605 N Highway 33
Driggs, ID 83422

WEST YELLOWSTONE

436 Madison Ave
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

All Our Offices Are Open

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

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CEO/General Manager



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Want your Fall River *FLASHES* faster? Click www.fallriverelectric.com and then select the tab "My Cooperative" followed by the drop-down menu "Fall River Electric Newsletter."

Keep up to date, including on power outage information, by "liking" Fall River Electric on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fallriverrec.

April Celebrations: Earth Day & Arbor Day

Earth Day is an event observed annually on April 22. It is a day held to promote environmental awareness and is celebrated in more than 193 countries.

The history of Earth Day dates to 1970 when it was first celebrated. Senator Gaylord Nelson founded it to promote ecology and respect for life on our planet, as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water, and soil pollution.

Earth Day is followed quickly by Arbor Day, which is celebrated on Friday, April 26. Arbor Day was first celebrated in Nebraska in the 1870s when pioneer families from the east, who had settled in the Midwest, desired to plant trees.

Why Trees? Whether in the 1870s or today, trees absorb excess and harmful CO₂s from our atmosphere. In fact, in a single year, an acre of mature trees absorbs the same amount of CO₂ produced by driving the average gas-powered car 26,000 miles.

Trees help us breathe clean air. Trees absorb odors and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.

The Idaho Forest Products Commission is offering FREE tree seedlings at several local nurseries, Idaho Department of Lands in Idaho Falls, and Idaho State Parks. So, let us all join together this spring and plant a tree in your yard or neighborhood park.



Take Safety Home: Choking Prevention

A conscious (awake) person who has only a partly blocked airway may at first be able to cough and breathe on their own. The person may wheeze when trying to breathe. They may be able to cough up the object on their own.

If the person's airway becomes completely blocked, their cough will get weaker. They will not be able to talk or breathe at all, and they may start to turn blue. They may grab their own throat with their thumb and fingers to show you that they cannot breathe.

The first thing to do when someone is choking is to find out if the person is okay by asking loudly, "Are you OK? Can you breathe?"

If the person nods, "No," do the Heimlich maneuver using the steps below:

1. Stand behind the person and wrap your arms around their waist.
2. Make a fist with one hand.
3. Place the thumb side of your fist against the middle of the person's belly, just above their belly button. Do not put your fist on their ribs or



the small bone in the center of the chest where the ribs meet.

4. Put your other hand over your fist. Press your fist into the person's belly with a quick upward thrust.

5. Continue to repeat the thrusts until the object comes out of the airway.

If you want to learn more about the Heimlich maneuver or CPR, you can take a class and become certified. Check your local community for classes.

