



Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

THE ENERGIZER



People You Can Count On

www.steubenrec.com

May 2015

Know What's Below, Call Before You Dig

Planning a home improvement job? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck? WAIT! Here's what you need to know first. Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call—even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you

and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs. Calling 811 before every digging job gets your underground utility lines marked for **free** and helps prevent undesired consequences. Call 811 from anywhere in the country at least two working days but no more than 10 working days before any excavation starts (excluding holidays and week-ends) and your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. You can also still call 1-800-962-7962. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig, what type of work you will be doing and your affected local utilities companies will be noti-

fied about your intent to dig. In a few days, they'll send a locator to mark the approximate location of your underground lines, pipes and cables, so you'll know what's below—and be able to dig safely. Also look up and look out for overhead power lines. With the bigger equipment you're using, many backhoes, cranes and other equipment can reach some power lines. Please pre-mark the site of intended excavation in white. Remember, always call 811 before you start any digging project! You'll avoid injury, expense and a very inconvenient day in the dark.

Inside this issue:

Electrical Hazards	2
What is a Regulator and Recloser?	2
Did You Know? Facts about CFLs	2
Broadband Survey	3
May Is Electrical Safety Month	4
Please Do Not Out Signs on Poles	4
Keep Steuben Rural Electric Posted	4

*Office closed on:
May 25th and July 3rd*

Bath Office
9 Wilson Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
1-800-843-3414

Cherry Creek Office
5966 South Road
Cherry Creek, NY
14723
1-800-883-8236

Office Hours
7:30 to 4:00PM (M-F)

After Hour Outages
1-866-430-4293

Call Dig Safety New York Before You Dig - 811 or 1-800-962-7962

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The Dangers of Downed Power Lines

SREC reminds everyone, all downed power lines should be considered energized and dangerous. To avoid serious injury or even death stay clear of all downed power lines. Move at least 10 feet away from the line and anything touching it. The human body is a ready conduc-

tor of electricity. The proper way to move away from a line is to shuffle away with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. Do not attempt to move the line or anything in contact with it by using another object. If you see someone who is in direct or

indirect contact with the line, do not touch the person. You could become the next victim. Call 911 instead. All downed power lines or broken poles should be reported to SREC immediately at 1-800-843-3414 or 607-776-4161.

New Employee at SREC

Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative is pleased to introduce the newest employee of the Cooperative, Jennifer Hager. Jennifer has been hired as the Receptionist/Cashier. Jennifer earned an Associates degree in Human Services from Finger Lakes Community College and a Bachelors degree in Psychology from Keuka College. Jennifer former-

ly worked at Bath Central School and Heron Hill Winery. Jennifer lives in Bath with her boyfriend, Bryant and their beagle, Muzzy. Jennifer enjoys hunting, fishing and being outside with family and friends. Please join us in welcoming Jennifer to the Cooperative and wishing her a long and successful career.

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Flooding Provides Its Own Set Of Electrical Hazards

Keep your family safe during a flood. Heavy rains often cause flooding in lowland areas, homes and basements. Safe electricity reminds everyone to be alert to electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water, along with other potential hazards that create a serious danger of electrocution. Cleaning up and using water-damaged appliances also carry safety risks. Make sure children are aware of these hazards as well. The prospect of an electrical accident is probably not at the top of your mind when you're dealing with a flooded basement, room or even outdoors. But it's the first thing you should think of before you step foot

in the water. Safety measures to keep in mind include the following: Never step into a flooded basement or other room if water may be in contact with electrical outlets, appliances or cords. The water could be energized, and could shock or electrocute you. Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you can't reach your breaker box safely, call your electric utility to shut off power at the meter. Never use electric appliances or touch electric wires, switches or fuses when you're wet or

when you're standing in water. Keep electric tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from wet surfaces. Do not use electric yard tools if it's raining or the ground is wet. If an electrical appliance has been in contact with water, have a professional check it out before it is used. It may need to be repaired or replaced.

Source: Safe Electricity.org a part of the Energy Educational Council

What Is a Regulating Transformer (Regulator) and Recloser?

There are several devices in use on the SREC electric delivery system that control and protect the system against abnormal operation. Their primary function is to isolate the abnormal parts of the system, automatically. The regulating transformer (or regulator) is a transformer which has the ability to adjust the voltage of the primary distribution line and hence the delivered voltage to members automatically. Regulation is necessary as the power system's voltage levels vary on almost a continuing basis depending upon loading and system conditions. Through the use of an automated control system, regulators are set to maintain the delivered voltage to within certain limits, thus ensuring quality power deliver. Regulator locations are selected for points on the system where experi-

ence and planning has shown that voltage control is required to ensure power quality. Regulators are installed at all SREC substations and at key locations on the primary distribution system. The recloser senses short circuits and opens the line automatically to stop the flow of damaging electric currents caused by the short circuits. In doing so, reclosers isolate the faulted and sometimes damaged portions of the system, allowing for service to be continued in the undamaged portion of the system. The reclosers are set to open and close several times so that in the event of a temporary short circuit, such as a tree limb swiping the line or a

lightening strike, the abnormal portion of the system may be returned to normal service quickly and automatically. In the event of a damaged line, however, the recloser will stay open until SREC personnel are able to fix repairs that will again allow for service to be returned to normal. Reclosers are used by SREC out on the lines and also in all of our substation locations. Regulators and Reclosers are inspected monthly by SREC personnel to ensure proper operation.

Did you Know? Facts about Compact Fluorescent Bulbs

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Why use CFLs? They last up to 10 times longer than standard incandescent bulbs. They use 1/3 the energy of ordinary bulbs. They save an average of \$30 each or more in energy costs over their lifetime, change five bulbs to CFLs and save more than \$150! They fit in almost any fixture, for indoors or outdoors. They are convenient in hard-to-reach and high-use fixtures because of their long life. They generate 70 percent less heat than standard lighting, cutting home cooling costs. They provide the same amount of light (lumens) as standard in-

candescent bulbs, but use fewer watts of energy. They prevent more than 450 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions each over their life. To get the most energy savings, replace bulbs where lights are on the most, such as your family and living room, kitchen, dining room, and porch. Remember, CFLs work better in open fixtures that allow air flow. Matching the right type of CFL to the right kind of fixture helps ensure that it will perform properly and

last a long time. The following CFLs are now available for sale at the Bath and Cherry Creek offices. Members also receive a \$1.00 off the prices below. Now that's a SAVINGS!

14/60w Spring Lamp	\$1.49+tax
19/75w Spring Lamp	\$1.95+tax
23/100w Spring Lamp	\$2.09+tax

Are You Interested In Broadband Internet Service?

Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative continues to explore opportunities which bring added benefits and services to our membership within Steuben, Schuyler, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties. Management is in discussion of the possibility to extend broadband service to our members. This would target servicing SREC members who currently do not have access to broadband services (or who are under served). The feasibility of this initiative will be dependent upon securing grant money to offset the higher costs of building the service in the rural segments of these counties. It is essential for us to determine the number and locations of households in our membership which do not currently have adequate access to broadband services. Please take a moment to complete this important survey. If you are interested in having broadband services to your home or business, it is important that you complete and submit this survey by June 12, 2015.

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BROADBAND SURVEY

1. Choose one of the options below:

Broadband service is not available in my area/at my home

Broadband service is available in my area (DSL service from Verizon, Frontier, etc.) and offers less than 6 Mbps download speed.

2. This address is occupied as a: Residence Business Both

3. Does your household have a computer/tablet? Yes No If so, how many?

4. For what purpose is your computer(s) used? (check all that apply)

School

Business

General Use

5. The average broadband service generally costs between \$50-\$60 per month. Would you be interested in broadband service within these price ranges? Yes No

Comments:

Name: -----

Street Address: -----

City/State/Zip code: -----

Contact Phone Number: -----

E-mail Address: -----

Questions: Please contact Kristen Cleveland at 607-776-4161 or 1-800-843-3414

Return Instruction Options: Via Fax: 607-776-2293

Via Mail: SREC, 9 Wilson Ave, Bath, NY 14821, Attn: Kristen Cleveland

In Person: You can drop off the survey in person to the Bath or Cherry Creek Offices

May is Electrical Safety Month

Portable generators can provide a good, temporary source of power during a storm related outage; however, they can become deadly if improperly hooked up. A few simple cautions can keep you and your family safe.

- Do not connect a generator directly to home wiring without an appropriate transfer switch hooked up.
- Install generator to meet all electrical codes and make sure its properly grounded.
- Don't overload the generator or use in wet conditions.
- Keep small children away from the generator at all times.
- Never operate a generator inside, or in an enclosed or partially enclosed space.

Please Do Not Put Signs On Poles

Please be aware of the danger caused by attaching signs and other objects to utility poles. This time of year we see many signs advertising for garage sales, flyers for missing pets, or other types of signs stapled or nailed to utility poles. While we understand these are very worthwhile events, however, hanging a sign or mounting a satellite dish to a pole can create a danger to our lineman and may delay restoring service during outage events. SREC reminds our members these attachments are not allowed and we ask for your cooperation in advance.

Keep Steuben Rural Electric Posted

Just a reminder to SREC members. Please notify us if you have a change of home, business or cell phone number. It will enable us to contact you for important Cooperative information. Do we have your phone number on file? If not please be sure to contact our office, at 1-800-843-3414 or 607-776-4161 to update your account. During outages

or emergencies, this will help us serve you more efficiently. Very Important – Whether you are buying, selling or renting property on the SREC line, be sure to transfer the power. Don't assume that the party moving in will take the account out of your name. If your name is listed on the billing records, you are responsible for any charges that

may occur. Both parties need to call so pertinent information can be obtained and the transfer can take place. If you move out of the SREC area please remember to keep an updated address with the Cooperative. If the co-op needs to send you a capital credit check in the future we want to make sure you receive the funds you are owed.

The Trading Post

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For Sale

Trapping Supplies, Grandview Fur Center, Bill Bowdoin, Bradford, NY. Call 607-583-4600.

Hunting and Trapping Supplies, Animal Lures, Deer Lures, Baits, Cover Scents, Supply Catalog \$1.00. Bill Russ Trading Post Store, 25 William St, Addison NY 14801.

2007 Dodge Dually 8' Box. No Winters. Like NEW. From New Mexico. Fits several Dodge model years—\$800. Call 716-257-3913 and leave a message.

Free recliner sofa. 1986 Yamaha moped \$600. 1984 Coachman 5th Wheel Camper \$1800 or swap for Chevy 4x4 plow truck or tractor with loader. Miller Welder and generator on wheels \$600. Tow Bar \$100. Call 607-527-8891.

1978 Honda 750-4 Motorcycle which has been licensed and inspected—\$600 as is. Call 716-532-1324; if no answer, please leave call back number and message.

Wanted

Raw Fur and Deer Hides. Grandview Fur Center, Bill Bowdoin, Bradford, NY. Call 607-583-4600.

Miscellaneous

The Cala Lily Yarn Shop is open! Beautiful yarns, notions, and gift items, 10% off all regularly priced yarn to members with co-op connections card. Open Sept-June T/Th 4:30-8:00, Sat 10-3 and July-Aug T/Th 4:30-8:00, Weds/Sat 10-3. Call 716-397-9478.

Welder Hats, Soft Brim, Sleeves, Doo Rags, Fleece Neck Warmers and Hoods, Bulk Pricing and Free Shipping Available. Call 912-655-8336, or visit website: sewmanythings.vpweb.com

To advertise in the next issue of The Energizer, please mail, email or fax your ad by July 10, 2015 to:

Steuben REC, Inc.
9 Wilson Ave
Bath, NY 14810
Attention: Kristen Cleveland
kcleveland@steubenrec.com
Fax:: 607-776-2293

Is Your Account Number In This Issue?

Somewhere located in the body of this newsletter are five (5) account numbers. If you find your account number in this newsletter call the office within fifteen (15) days and your account will be credited \$10.00.

Marathon[®]

Heat your water with one of the best water heaters available today! Marathon efficiency saves you energy and your pocket book. Their durability eliminates you having to buy a new water heater every 10 years. Replace your current water heater with a Marathon water heater and receive a rebate of \$1 per rated gallon capacity (load control switch must be installed). Call our office at 607-776-4161 for prices! Available in 30, 50, 85 and 105 gallon sizes with a Lifetime Warranty!