



March 2023

## THE WHEAT BELT CONNECTION

### NEBRASKA RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP

July 9 - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
High school students, grades 9-11  
Camp Comeca, Cozad, NE

#### No, it's not just another camp

I bet right now you are thinking that this is the zillionth camp flyer you have seen and that this camp is just like all the rest. It costs a bunch, you won't know anyone there, it's going to be awkward, and you won't get anything out of going,

#### Think Again!

It's **FREE**, you are going to make life-long friends, and learn about the electric industry through interesting workshops, fascinating demonstrations and presentations by regional experts addressing the many issues affecting the rural electric program. There's also swimming, sports, a banquet and a dance. A tour to the Gerald Gentleman Power Station and the Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power Plant provide for a first-hand look at the process of generating electricity.

#### Why Should I ATTEND?

Now that you know this isn't just another camp, you may be asking yourself, "should I go?"

You should if you have:

- Leadership potential
- An awesome personality
- A strong academic record
- An interest in meeting new people

### APPLY TODAY!

*To be eligible for this year's camp you must:*

- currently be in the 9th, 10th, or 11th grade
- be sponsored by a Nebraska Rural Electric Association member-system
- complete the application form and return it to Wheat Belt PPD. (Visit [wheatbelt.com](http://wheatbelt.com) or contact our office for a registration form.)

**Forms must be in our office by May 15, 2023.**



## LUCKY DRAWING



Congratulations to Norma Bixenmann, our January "Lucky Draw Winner"!

Norma has resided at Lake McConaughy in the Cedar View area since 1990 and is a self employed house painter.

Norma and her late husband, Mike, have a blended family of five kids, 13 grand kids and several great-grand kids.

In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, crafts, and traveling.

Norma received a \$50 credit on her account for her prompt payment. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid a \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 16th of the month.

For your convenience, we offer several payment options. Please give us a call at 308-254-5871, or visit [wheatbelt.com](http://wheatbelt.com), and select the Customer Engagement page for more information.



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*Editor - Kelli Chaon*

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## THINGS TO CHECK WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

- Are the breakers on the pole in the "on" position? If on flip off and back on.
- Check the breakers in your home breaker box.
- Check with your neighbors. This indicates single or multiple outages.
- Report any broken poles, wrapped lines or flashes. These normally indicate a problem with the line. Wheat Belt is responsible for the lines up to your meter.
- Call Wheat Belt with your name, meter or account number. If the line is busy, keep calling as this probably means a widespread outage. Especially during winter and storm situations, there are many single outages as well as multiple outages.

Phone: (800) 261-7114 • (308) 254-5871

### Generators

Wheat Belt will provide a double-throw (disconnect) switch for generators. All generators are required to have a double-throw for the protection of our linemen. The double-throw is located on your meter pole. You will be required to wire from the generator to the double-throw.



Welcome To The Wheat Belt Team

**Cory Lundgren**

Apprentice Lineman

#### Hired:

December 2022

#### Places he has lived:

Sidney, NE and Lincoln, NE.

#### Family:

Wife - Ashley

Kids - Kolton (15), Adrianna (12) and Adalynn (6).

#### Work History:

Equipment Operator at General Excavating (Lincoln).

Equipment Operator at Nienhueser Construction (Sidney).

Apprentice Lineman at the City of Sidney.

#### Hobbies:

Camping with family and friends.

Boating & jet skiing at lakes all over the area.

Motocross.

#### What Cory likes most about his job:

Working outside.

Variety of work (different job at different area everyday).

Working together as a team to complete the task.

# Moe's

Brian (Moe) Moffat

## Heating

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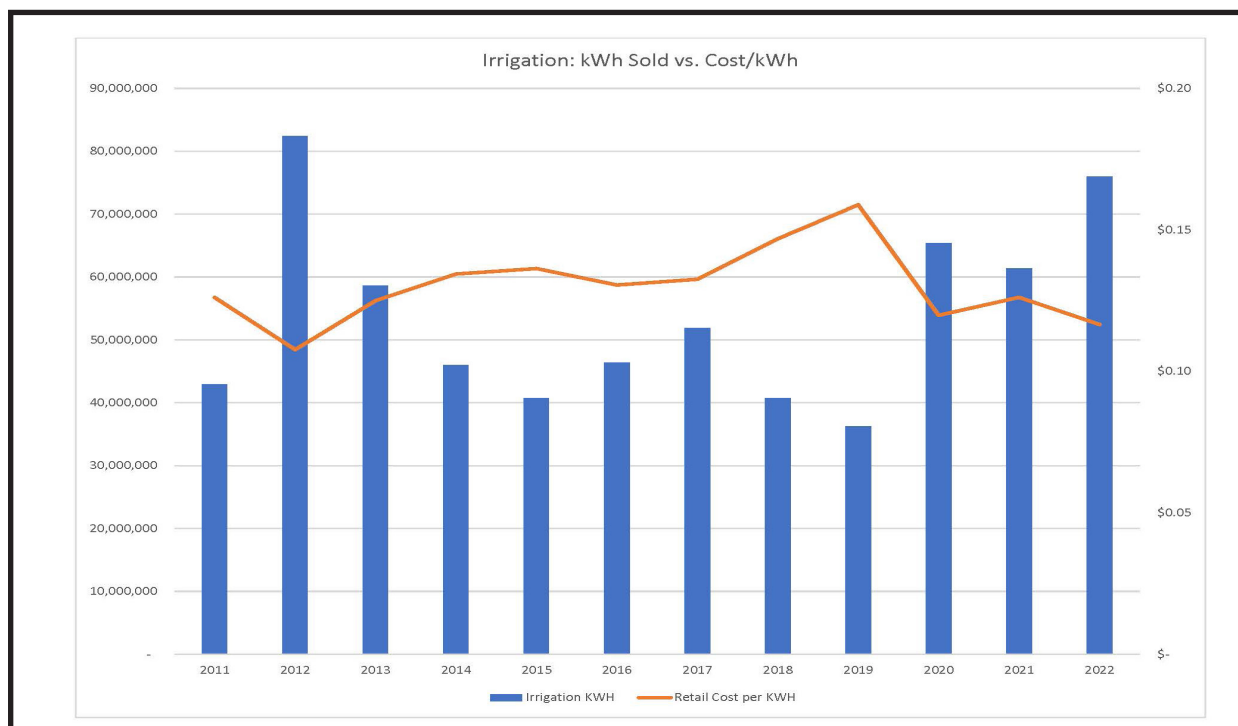


# Wheat Belt Irrigation Rates

LACEY GULBRANSON  
General Manager/CEO



Did you know irrigation kWh sales are equivalent to one third of all kWh sales at Wheat Belt? Over the past 12 years, farmers have paid between 10.8 cents/kWh and 15.9 cents/kWh on an annualized basis. In the wet years, kWh usage is down and in the dry years kWh usage is up. Looking at this from a cost/kWh the opposite occurs, when kWh usage is up the cost/kWh goes down, and when kWh usage goes down the cost/kWh goes up. You can see this in the graph provided.



Wheat Belt understands that rising costs in the macro-economy have a negative effect on expense management for homes, farms/ranches, and all businesses. The 2023 irrigation rates have all moved to Time-of-Use. Does this mean irrigators are required to manage watering days/times? Not at all, Wheat Belt's rates allow the consumer to manage when and how you water. You can lower your cost to irrigate if you manage watering times/days according to the Time of Use rate.

For more information please contact our office. Additionally, be on the lookout for a mailer regarding Wheat Belt hosted irrigation meetings.



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1744 Illinois  
Sidney NE 69162  
308-254-6127 or 800-303-6127





## ELECTRONICS EFFICIENCY WORD SEARCH

Did you know there are ways you can reduce your electronics energy use?

Read the energy-saving tips below, then find and circle the bolded words in the puzzle.



B J C M G S N A M O R S W U L  
R A F O D V T L L P D I O S W  
E B T E M V C E U X S Y W D G  
C B P T D P O W E R S T R I P  
H Y G M E T U A U Y H Z P U Z  
A R P Q E R U T L R N Z N U Y  
R F I H L V I C E Q V P C E S  
G T D F F W K E M R L B N H O  
E B H W C F Q W S U K Y N Z M  
A Q I L I F K N G L O I K B A  
B S R E G R A H C E N O H P C  
L N O Y O V I M A I V I R X T  
E V S U A I L K O L U Y N F C  
Y H V K S L F G T R I P B T G  
P O W E R M A N A G E M E N T

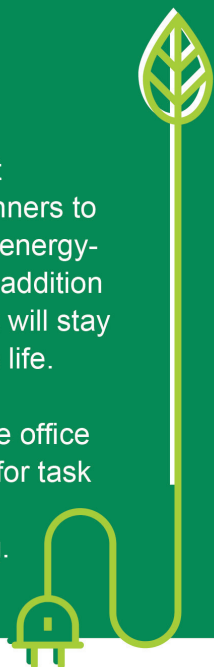


- Use a **power strip** with an on/off switch when powering multiple electronics to easily manage energy use.
- **Unplug** electronic products that consume energy even when they're not in use, like **phone chargers**.
- For devices that require **batteries**, use **rechargeable** ones, which are more cost-effective and environmentally friendly.
- Use the sleep or **power management** mode on your **computer** to save on energy costs.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



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P 308.254.5871 | T 800.261.7114 | F 308.254.2384

wheatbelt@wheatbelt.com

## Our Mission

Deliver electricity safely, reliably and efficiently.