

Generac generators available at co-op

Let's face it, severe weather happens. Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative's (LYREC) goal is to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. But when a major storm hits, power may be out for an extended period. Anyone who has experienced an extended power outage has likely mulled over the idea of buying a generator. But before you make a purchase, be sure you have all the facts.

The purchase and installation of a generator is an important and serious decision. Properly done, you gain peace of mind, knowing your family can ride out any outage with some degree of comfort. But an incorrectly implemented generator can become deadly to you, your family, your neighbors and your electric lineworkers.

When purchasing a generator, there are some decisions that need to be made. First, do you want to backup your entire home or just portions? The biggest drawback to a permanently installed standby generator is the cost. While the advantages are significant, it is a large expense. The table illustrates several characteristics of each alternative.

The next decision is sizing the generator to your home or business. Online tools, such as the "generator sizing guide" can help you determine what size generator you will need for your specific purpose. You can

also contact LYREC to help you determine the size that will work best for your needs.

The third consideration is how to integrate the generator into your home. Permanent models have dedicated switching devices that handle this chore, while portable models require you to remove them from storage, set them up, connect them and start them. Here is where the danger mentioned above comes into play. Improperly connected generators can easily backfeed into LYREC's grid. As electricity flows back into the lines, the transformers boost the voltage to lethal levels. Be sure to budget for a double-throw switch if the generator you purchase does not come with one. Contact

LYREC for rebate information on double-throw switches.


With generators, you get what you pay for. Cheap models are just that. They may last a couple of years, but after that, parts can be impossible to get. Go for engines with recognizable brand names. They may cost more, but it will certainly be worth it.

LYREC has partnered with Generac to be able to offer our members reliable generators. Several models are available, including portables and automatic whole-home generators. As a cooperative, LYREC can get competitive pricing and great warranties. If you are considering purchasing a generator, contact LYREC for more information. ■

Residential Generators

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

INSTALLATION TYPE	PRICE	OPERATION ¹	CAPACITY	LENGTH OF OPERATION ³
<i>permanent</i>	<i>expensive</i>	<i>automatic</i>	<i>whole house</i>	<i>can be indefinite</i>
<i>portable</i>	<i>more affordable</i>	<i>manual</i>	<i>typically partial ²</i>	<i>depends on fuel tank size</i>



¹ Permanent generators start upon loss of grid power. They also exercise themselves automatically.

² Frequently powered: refrigerator, pumps (well, sump, septic), furnace, some lights, stove.

³ Permanent generators use propane or natural gas, portable use gasoline. Permanent models offer significantly longer operating times.

Image of portable generator provided by SafeElectricity.org

Meet the new employee



Jeremy Reese

Jeremy Reese accepted the position of information technology technician at Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) in August.

Reese is originally from Iowa, but has lived in Sidney for the past 13 years. Prior to working for LYREC, Reese was employed with Mid-Rivers Communications as a

combination technician.

Reese has four children and three grandchildren. He enjoys softball, hunting, fishing, camping and many other outdoor activities. ■



Trustee **Colin Gartner** presents **Kylee Lambert** with the reserve champion senior small animal showman award during the Richland County Fair.



October is National Co-op Month.

Electric co-ops are proud to power more than 20 million American homes, businesses, farms and schools in 48 states.

Co-op trivia anyone?

Throughout October, Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) will be randomly posting trivia questions on Facebook and Instagram. The first person to answer correctly will win a prize. Join LYREC on Facebook and Instagram and help us celebrate Co-op Month.

WIN A TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO WASHINGTON, D.C! JUNE 20-26, 2020

Write a winning essay: How can electricity be used to save and improve lives, especially in developing nations?



Eligibility requirements to win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.:


- The student's parents or legal guardians must be served by LYREC.
- The student must be a high school sophomore or junior.

Non-LYREC Member - \$250 Cash Prize

- The student must be a high school sophomore or junior.
- The student must submit a non-member application and essay

The deadline is Nov. 29. Submit applications to jamip@lyrec.coop or LYREC, Attn: Jami Propp, P.O. Box 1047 Sidney, MT 59270.

LYREC
LOWER YELLOWSTONE
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**CHECK OUT THE ESSAY CONTEST
GUIDELINES AND DOWNLOAD AN
APPLICATION AT WWW.LYREC.COM.**

Best week of my life

BY GAGE BLOESSER

The 2019 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., was an experience of a lifetime for me. I was a little skeptical about going, but my family and friends never gave up encouraging me to apply. Everyone I talked to who had been on the Youth Tour told me the trip was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Thankfully, I earned the Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Co-op's delegate spot and realized they were correct.

Leading up to the trip, the leaders made sure I was well-informed and didn't forget to tell me about a single thing. By the time the trip rolled around, I knew every tiny detail about the trip. Besides informing you, the leaders spend one whole night before you leave for the trip to learn more about you and introduce you to the other delegates. This gave me a chance to make friends before we even left for the trip. By the time the night was over, I felt like every one of the kids going on the trip had been my friends for years.

I made friends from all over the states of Montana and North Dakota,

and keep in touch with them to this day. They were one of the many reasons this trip was so fun.

We saw and did so much on the trip. We hit every historical attraction, from the Lincoln Memorial to museums like the National Museum of the Marine Corps, the Holocaust Museum and more. We were also given the chance to take a break from the historical side of Washington, D.C., with a Washington Nationals baseball game, a riverboat cruise and a visit to the National Mall.

Some of my favorite things we got to do was tour the White House, question the state's representatives from Montana and North Dakota, and learn about the importance of electric co-ops to this nation. The activities mentioned above are just a few of the many highlights of the trip. If I told you about every single thing we did, you'd be reading forever. I can't even describe how much fun I had, while learning about our nation and electric co-ops. It was one of the best weeks of my life and I wish every high school student got to experience the Youth Tour. ■



3200 W. Holly - Sidney, MT 59270

Phone: 406-488-1602

Fax: 406-488-6524


Website: www.lyrec.com

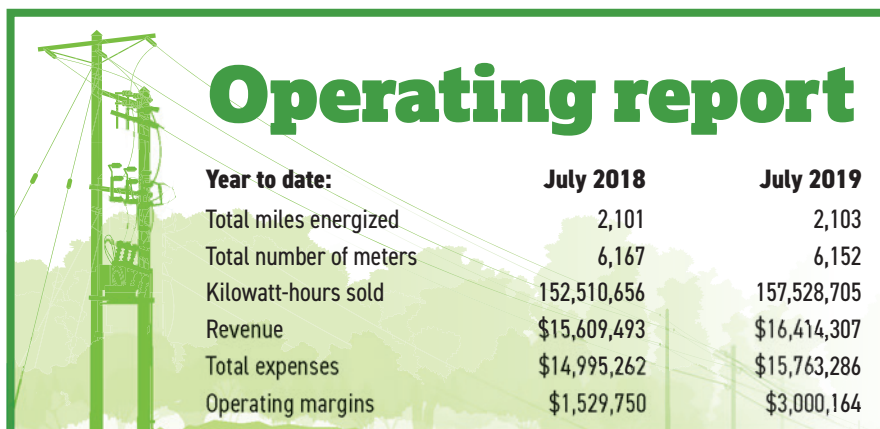
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 Corey Candee Chief Information Officer
 Jeremy Reese Information Technology Technician
 Edwin Gatzke Line Locator/Meter Reader
 Justin King Warehouse Supervisor

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Operating report

Year to date:	July 2018	July 2019
Total miles energized	2,101	2,103
Total number of meters	6,167	6,152
Kilowatt-hours sold	152,510,656	157,528,705
Revenue	\$15,609,493	\$16,414,307
Total expenses	\$14,995,262	\$15,763,286
Operating margins	\$1,529,750	\$3,000,164