



Electric farming equipment is an energy trend to watch

Our nation's farmers have worked for generations in fields across the country. They (4-21-55) have seen first-hand how farming equipment has improved over the decades to increase efficiency and to feed an ever-growing population.

A major new change for farming equipment is the trend of switching fossil fuel-powered farming equipment towards electric farming equipment. This trend builds on the idea of beneficial electrification, where switching to an electric end-use technology satisfies at least one of the following conditions without adversely affecting the others: saving consumers money over time, benefiting the environment, improving product quality or consumer quality of life and fostering a more robust and resilient grid.

Some farmers are making the switch to electric tractors as companies like John Deere, AgCo and other companies continue to perfect their own electric models. While electric tractors are more efficient, quieter and better for the environment than conventional diesel tractors, they lack the battery power that many farmers need

for a long day of working in the fields.

But the largest barrier of converting to electric technologies is the cost. Both the price of the electric technology itself and the wiring to connect it to the entire farm can be extremely costly. Even with savings on fuel costs over time, farmers will be reluctant to replace their farming equipment because of high initial costs. However, there are federal and local government programs that can help to lessen the upfront costs for farmers.

The availability of other electric farming technologies is much less common, such as grain dryers, thermal electric storage systems and heat pumps. Many of these electric technologies are still in the early stages of commercialization and have not fully entered the agricultural market. Despite these challenges, there are opportunities (28-13-33) for expansion, especially for electric tractors and other electric farm vehicles which are used on many different types of farms. With more time and investment, electric farming equipment will likely become more widespread in the coming years.

Energy saving tip

Clothes dryers make up a large portion of your appliance energy consumption. Clean the lint filter after each cycle, and scrub the filter with a toothbrush once a month to remove film and increase air circulation.

Mark your calendar

Sept. 25. **Electric bills due**

Sept. 28. **Donate blood drive**
(See details on page 3)

Oct. 6. **Grab-N-Go Drive Thru**
(Worthington; see details on page 3)

Oct. 8. **Grab-N-Go Drive Thru**
(Slayton; see details on page 3)

Protecting you against identity theft

In order to ensure the privacy and accuracy of member information and to reduce the incidence of identity theft, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) enacted an "Identity Theft Red Flag Rule". This rule requires all businesses that obtain and maintain confidential information to implement an identity theft prevention program. As a member, you may be asked to provide additional information and identification when you make inquiries regarding your service or account. We understand that this can be a bit of an inconvenience, but the rule is in place for your protection. Please understand that these procedures will help protect your identity.



Manager's Message



Blood Drive and
Grab-N-Go Drive Thru Meals



7,500 kVa transformer
installed at new substation



A word from your General Manager **Adam Tromblay**

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

September 22, 2020

Visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org to register to vote or to help your community get **#VoteReady**.

We are proud to be a part of the local community

We like the word local.

We like it because it's the nearby hardware store where we can get what we need. It's where we meet friends for coffee. It's the shop where they look us in the eye and smile. It's a word of warmth that makes us feel known.

Local also means your electric cooperative. It's as local as you and your neighbors because you own it. It's grown and changed with you, probably starting before you were even born. And it changes to help out with what's going on in your (506-37-135) community, like bringing electricity to farmsteads over 80 years ago.

That local heritage for electric cooperatives started in the 1930s with neighborly visits, often on horseback from one

farm to the next, talking about the lights they could see in the city but didn't have themselves. They weren't likely to get those modern conveniences because no company saw a profit in stringing wires to power a few light bulbs in a remote farmhouse except electric cooperatives.

Now that we're all faced with the fallout from the effects of COVID-19, electric cooperatives are again on the job as the virus changes everything from the national economy to how we say hello to our neighbors.

Locally, your cooperative has socially distanced our line crews and a portion of our office personnel, along with meeting by Zoom for our board meetings. In April, we offered a conference call annual meeting and even though we haven't been able to participate in person at any

community events this year, our hearts are still a part of each of the communities we serve. That is why we want to contribute with a blood drive and a drive thru member appreciation event.

Be sure to participate in our blood drive on September 28 and our Grab-N-Go Drive Thru meal on October 6 or 8. Farmers and farm families are encouraged to come. How convenient! No meal to prepare that evening. Just drive by and receive your Grab-N-Go bag (see page 3 for more details).

The world keeps changing, and we will continue to adapt. Each cooperative's approach may differ, but we will do whatever it takes to adapt in ways that make the most sense for the people in our community. That's what it means to be a local electric cooperative.



September Auto Pay winner

Darcy Kashmarek

Take a minute to sign up for Auto Pay and you may win a \$25 bill credit. A winner is chosen each month.



Find your location number and win a \$10 credit

If you find your location number (as it appears on your monthly electric bill) in this issue, you will receive a \$10 credit.

BE THE DIFFERENCE DONATE BLOOD



Participating members receive a FREE gift!

WE WILL... GIVE HOPE, GIVE LIFE GIVE BLOOD

COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK
THE LIFE BLOOD OF NORTH CAROLINA

Join us Monday, September 28

22636 U.S. Hwy. 59 - Worthington

Call Amy at 800-776-0517 to set up an appointment and for more information

- You must be at least 17 years old (16 years old with signed parent/legal guardian consent form, see website www.cbblifeblood.org for form).
- Weight at least 110 pounds.
- Be in general good health. You can't have a cold, fever, flu or sore throat.
- Make sure you eat a good meal prior to donating and drink plenty of water!
- Please bring a valid I.D. with you (driver's license, student I.D., state I.D., etc.)

We're celebrating Co-op Month in a BIG way

Grab-N-Go DRIVE THRU

Member Appreciation Days

October 6

4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

22636 U.S. Hwy. 59 - Worthington

October 8

4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

1505 20th Street - Slayton

Grab-N-Go Meals

Members can drive up and pick up a to-go meal (pork burger, chips, cookie and beverage) distributed by a cooperative employee.

Prizes

Bring the registration slip below for a chance to win a \$25 credit on your bill. Drawings will take place following the member appreciation events.



This is a great opportunity for farmers. Pick up your Grab-N-Go bags to take to the field!

Please bring this form filled out to Member Appreciation Days on October 6 or 8

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Location No.: _____

Phone No.: _____

This form allows your entry to NCE's Grab-N-Go Drive Thru and your eligibility for a prize.

Transformer installed at new substation near Lismore



On Monday, August 24, a 7,500 kVa transformer weighing 67,000 pounds was installed at the new Lismore Substation located near Highway 91. It took 6.5 minutes to place the (20-14-28) transformer on the cement pad. Transformers are used to step electric voltage up or down before it makes its way to its final destination. The installation of the new substation is only one example of Nobles Cooperative Electric's commitment to providing reliable power to its members.

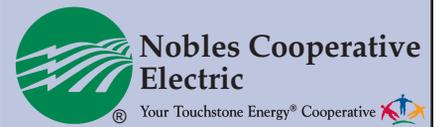
Country Cupboard Taco Salad

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 lb. hamburger | 1 can red kidney beans (drained) |
| 1 pkg. taco seasoning mix | 1 small can sliced black olives |
| 1 pkg. coleslaw | 1/2 lb. grated sharp cheddar cheese |
| 4 tomatoes, cut up | 1 bag taco chips |
| 1 onion, chopped | |

Brown hamburger in taco mix (except 1 T.). Cool. Add coleslaw, tomatoes, onion, kidney beans, black olives and cheese to cooled hamburger mixture. Make the dressing (1 c. mayonnaise, 1 T. taco mix reserved from earlier and 2 tsp. sugar) and add to salad. Refrigerate at least 4 hours. Add crushed chips right before serving or chips can be kept separate for each person to add their own, that way the salad will keep for a couple of days.

Send your favorite recipe with **pork** in it (14-26-30) to Nobles Cooperative Electric, ATTN: Tracey, P.O. Box 788, Worthington, MN 56187-0788. Entries must include your name, address, telephone number and NCE location number. All entries must be received by September 25. The winning recipe will be featured in the next edition of *Current Matters* and the winner will receive a **\$10 credit** on their electric bill.

Peggy Gust
Luverne



Official monthly publication

22636 U.S. Hwy. 59
P.O. Box 788
Worthington, MN 56187-0788
Phone: 507-372-7331,
507-836-6107 or 800-776-0517

Website

www.noblesce.coop

Email address

nce@noblesce.com

Summer office hours

7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday
May 1 - September 30

24-Hour outage service

800-776-0517

Gopher State One-Call

800-252-1166 or 811

Electrical inspectors

Murray County
Randal Maha - 507-274-5261
Nobles County
Adam Feste - 507-690-2741

General Manager

Adam Tromblay

Board of Directors

Ronald Schwartau, President - 734-3052*
Lee York, V. President - 879-3497*
Cindy Hokeness, Sec./Treas. - 478-4965*
Bruce Barber, Director - 329-2991*
Jerry Beckering, Director - 227-4074*
Gary Clarke, Director - 605-201-1903
Gary Sieve, Director - 926-5455*
**Telephone prefix 507*

Next Board Meeting

October 13, 2020

This cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

