



HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC NEWS & VIEWS

Feb 2021



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hillcountyelectric.coop



Craig Gates
General Manager/CEO

CEO February Message

Electric cooperatives, including Hill County Electric (HCE), have a unique place in our country's history. Because we are a cooperative, our business model makes us different from other utilities. HCE follows seven cooperative

principles including honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness, and commitment to the communities we serve.

HCE and other electric cooperatives spread the American dream by bringing electricity to rural areas when there were no other options as for-profit companies considered it too costly to provide service in rural areas. While those living in cities benefited from power, rural Americans banded together across the country to bring electricity to their rural homes and communities. Another shining example of our country's strength in numbers.

Our story is not different from most cooperatives around the country. Farmers, ranchers, and others living in rural areas banded together to provide services needed in

their local communities. Imagine how different our communities would look without our local credit unions, telecommunications, and ag services cooperatives.

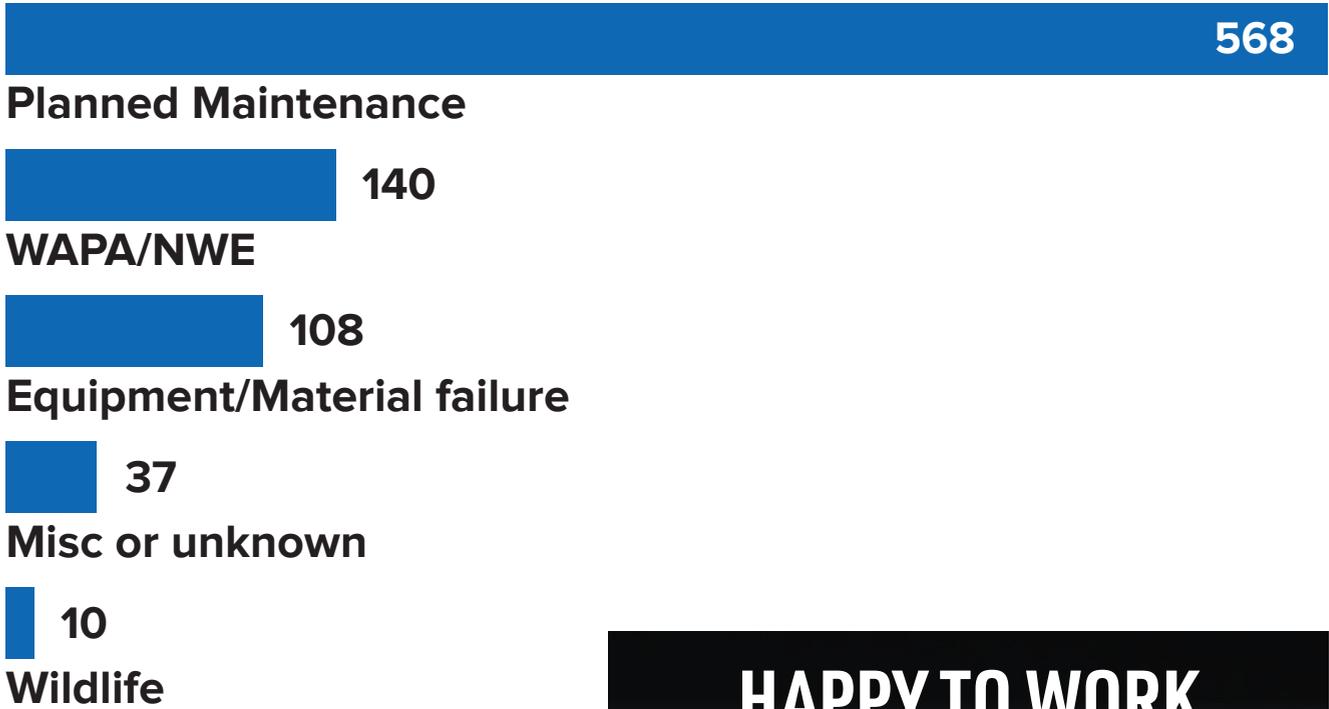
We have talked about the importance of cooperatives many times in this magazine. Why do I keep coming back to it? Because it is not only important for the members we serve, but also for HCE's hard working employees. Their dedication to you, the members, goes above and beyond just a job. These professionals are willing to work both day and night to make sure your power is safe, reliable, and there when you need it.

While today's world is different than it was when HCE was founded, our cooperative values have stood the test of time and remain just as relevant today. We recognize that today's co-op members expect more, and our pledge to you—the members we proudly serve—is to promote a cooperative culture of diversity, inclusion, and equity for all.

As I am closing, I want to again say, "THANK YOU" to all of you for your membership. Stay safe and healthy!

HCE Happenings

Last month, Hill County Electric (HCE) had approximately 863 account hours affected by outages. Of these hours:



This compares to 871 hours one year ago.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static.

Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer's filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: www.energy.gov

HAPPY TO WORK ALL NIGHT.

If it means getting the lights back on for even one family, we are glad to do whatever it takes. We're not your typical electric company, we're a local not-for-profit electric cooperative. That means our customers are our members and our top priority.

To learn more about the cooperative difference, visit TouchstoneEnergy.com

HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

WINTER ENERGY-SAVINGS WORD SEARCH



This winter, you can pitch in at home to help save energy!

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

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

WORD BANK:

- Open curtains and blinds during the day to allow **sunlight** in to warm your home.
- Instead of turning up the thermostat, add more layers of **clothing** to keep your body warm.
- If you have a **fireplace**, ask an adult to close the flue when a fire is not burning.
- Unplug **chargers** when they're not in use. They consume energy even when they're not charging phones and other devices.
- Ask an adult to check the **air filter** for your home's heating and cooling system. Filters should be replaced regularly to help the system run more efficiently.
- Always turn off **lights** when you leave a room.

SWAP AND SHOP

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members!

Misc Items

1985 Versatile 35.5 foot blade; pressure washer; portable contractor air compressor; receiving hitch; like new heavy-duty toolbox for size pickup and weight bench plus weights. Call 406.378.3212 for prices and more details.

Mayrath Grain Auger

27-foot, 6-inch Mayrath grain auger with 5HP electric motor. Call 406.378.3212.

Cadillac Deville

1995 Cadillac Deville V-8, 4-door. Asking \$1,575, call 406.326.2287.

Property For Sale in Loma

Opportunity for small-town living with wildlife and fishing access. For sale at a bargain price, 4 lots and 4 buildings originally housing a second hand and antique shop. Call 406.739.4361.

7000 Watt Honda Generator

Nice to have on hand for power outages. Electric start and 114 hours. Asking \$4,000, call 406.654.2756.

House For Sale

Two-story, 24'x36' house with 4 bedrooms and one bath to be moved. Call 406.654.2756 for price and pictures.

Wanting to Buy

Looking for a 1972 Chevy Cheyenne, 3/4 ton automatic 4x4 truck. The more original parts the better, but will consider projects. Call 406.459.2074.

1967 Ford Thunderbird

This classic car runs great, has a clean interior, and is in good condition with some minor bodywork required. Asking \$8,000, call 406.357.4282.

2002 GMC 2500 HD Duramax Diesel

Crew cab 4x4, rebuilt engine, and drive train with receipts. Includes heated leather seats and mirrors, onboard air compressor with horns, 2-speed on-demand high idle, grill guard, trailer brake controller, and more. Also, have 4 studded snow tires, P235-50R-18 mounted on GM wheels. Call 406.390.0629 or 406.265.4026.

1962 Avion Trailer

Twenty-seven foot, 1962 Avion project trailer. Asking \$500, call 406.399.3620.

In Search Of

Wanting a large breed pup prefer less than six months old. Call 406.399.3620.

2007 RAM Pickup

Has 2500 5.9L H0 engine, ranchhand bumper and gooseneck. Excellent condition, call 406.632.4447.

Stainless Steel Drop Visor

Two-inch stainless steel drop visor comes with brackets. Fits a 2009 Kenworth or newer. Asking \$150, call 406.357.4282.

1974 Versatile Tractor

1974 850 Versatile tractor serial# 850-050194 and 9N tractor with loader, non-running. Call 406.355.4298.

Indian Spirit Roadmaster

2003 Indian Spirit Roadmaster with 1500 S&S engine, Baker 5 speed transmission, and only 3,900 miles. Very well maintained, price is firm. Contact Larry at 406.239.3797.

Buildings For Sale By Owner

Located in Harlowton, MT on the corner of Central Ave and Hwy 12. Property is made up of six lots (24,150 sq. ft.) with two buildings. Buildings #1 is a storefront, shop and warehouse totaling 4,248 sq ft. Building #2 is 1,246 sq. ft. Asking \$350,000 for all, not willing to split up. Will consider all reasonable offers. Call Larry at 406.239.3797 or message for more information and/or pictures.

Property For Sale In Harlowton

Within walking distance of Harlowton business district and schools. Seven improved lots, one with a concrete pad for trailer house. Nice lawn, shade, fruit trees plus a large garden area, and 653 sq. foot garage/shop. Asking \$75,000, call Larry at 406.632.5847 or 406.239.3797.

Snow Dogg Snow Plow

Plow has a 7 1/2 foot straight blade, like-new condition. Equipped for a Ford 3/4 ton pickup but could be fitted to something else. Cost \$4,175 ten years ago, will take \$2,000. Call 406.378.3233.

Jiffy Ice Drill

Model 30 Jiffy ice drill. Used but in good shape, made in the USA. May be seen in Fort Benton, call 406.622.3605.

1969 Chevy C-10 Long Box Pickup

Straight, original 92,500 miles with 396 engine. Has new wheels, tires, seat and carpet; minor rust. \$6,000 firm, call 406.572.3445.

720 John Deere Row Crop Tractor

Runs great, has Pony motor and two (2) brand new tires on the back (never used 15-5-38). Asking \$6,500, call 406.669.3183.

Handmade/Homemade Drift Boat

16-foot drift boat with solid oak, ship-lap floor out of an old schoolhouse. Built in 2004, has hunter green sides and big trout decals on the back. Asking \$2,570, call 406.669.3183.

1997 Pontiac Bonneville

Well maintained 1997 Pontiac Bonneville, great road car. \$4,000 OBO, call 406.372.3276.

New Holland Baler

New Holland 1425 square baler and Ford 6 cycle motor for sale. Call 406.326.2287.

Onan Generator

Onan Marquis 7000m 6.8 KW generator- needs coil. Asking \$1250, call 406.547.2184.

Pop-up Screen Tent

Gazelle pop-up screen tent-portable protection for your picnic. Never used. Asking \$100, call 406.547.2184.

Briggs & Stratton Lawnmower

12.5 HP Briggs & Stratton lawnmower engine needs carburetor. Asking \$100, call 406.547.2184.

Wanting To Buy

1955 to 1958 Chevy car or 1/2 ton truck and 410 shotgun. Call 406.326.2287.

Irrigating Pipes

Six-inch aluminum mainline irrigating pipes and fittings. 800-900 feet of pipe, 30 feet 8-inch suction line, water cannon, and PTO pump. Call 406.932.5508.

John Deere Combine

1989 John Deere combine 6600 spreader. Includes 22-foot header, diesel, hydro with 3424 hours. Good machine, will cut a lot of acres yet, also a lot of extra parts, etc. Call 406.355.4479 and leave message (day or evening).

Wanting To Buy

1968-1972 1/2 ton Ford cab and front fenders. Preferably red, no rust, and in Sweet Grass county or surrounding counties. Call 406.932.5413.

Misc Items

Frame, box spring and mattress with headboard for regular size bed, excellent condition \$250. Projection screen, \$10. Miscellaneous decor \$5-\$10 each. Two small glass top tables, \$10 each. Framed pictures, \$10 each. Call 406.357.2696.