




the power of human connections

sparks

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

a monthly newsletter from Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

August 2025

inside connections

- 2 Manager Connection
- 3 Thank you letter;
Impact of sunlight coming through windows during the summer;
SWCE billing statements mailed separately from Sparks;
SWCE paperless billing option
- 4 Cookin' Connection;
SWCE community solar update;
Account numbers found/not found in the July Sparks newsletter;
Steele County Tip Line
- 5 Don't use utility poles as bulletin boards;
Storm safety near water;
Tips to avoid energy scams;
- 6 Ad Connection;
4-Seasons Vacations
- 7 Ad Connection;
Smart home technology to help save energy;
Litomysl Summer Festival is on July 27
- 8 Schwab reflects on future following retirement from SWCE;
Importance of regular changing of cooling system's filter

calendar of events

August

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 1-3 | Claremont Hogfest |
| 8-9 | Lonsdale Community Days |
| 11 | 811 reminder to call before you dig |
| 12-17 | Steele County Free Fair |
| 21 | Minnesota State Fair starts |

National Wellness Month

Schwab reflects on career with Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric Safety Coordinator/Member Service Representative Jack Schwab (pictured right) formally retired April 2, but you may have noticed him at the co-op's annual meeting in June as he assisted with the behind-the-scenes work required when conducting an annual meeting.



"Transitioning to a mail-in ballot was more of an undertaking than it sounds," stated Jack. "All bylaw language needed to be satisfied 100%. However, well worth the effort to give all members greater flexibility to participate and vote."

Jack started with Steele-Waseca, Nov. 19, 1990, as an apprentice line technician. "I was very grateful to land a utility job basically in my backyard," said Jack. "I grew up in rural Faribault. Most lineworkers fresh out of school had to travel quite far to find work to get started."

With not quite a year at Steele-Waseca, Jack experienced the infamous Halloween ice storm in 1991, still considered by many the worst storm to ever move through the co-op's service territory. 26322

"It seemed like there was no end to the damage," wrote Jack. "I was stationed southeast of Owatonna for 2-3 weeks after the storm. What I remember most is one day working to tip up poles & bang ice off the wires. We finished a section of line toward sunset. Having

a discussion at an intersection to make more plans, we watched the line section start tumbling over like dominoes. The wind won!"

Jack had many roles with Steele-Waseca during his career. "I'm grateful I had the opportunity for the variety," stated Jack. "Line work, electric metering to automated meter reading. The most challenging: high usage concerns and stray voltage concerns were the ones that required the most patience. Tracking down activity involving electricity, an invisible product, came with difficulty at times, but produced such rewards when identified."

The sixth cooperative principle is cooperation among cooperatives. Jack had the opportunity to represent Steele-Waseca with Nordean Hartle as they traveled south to assist following Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"I loved helping other utilities when the calling surfaced," wrote Jack. "Every part of country has its own culture and it is wonderful to experience. Very appreciative people we met while rebuilding powerlines. Favorite day: rebuilding line into an alligator farm & getting a tour afterwards."

Jack's final position with Steele-Waseca came when he was hired to the new position of safety coordinator/member service representative on March 1, 2018. "Being promoted to safety coordinator has provided me a new focus on improving the workplace and the work procedures," wrote Jack. "Everyday brings an opportunity to be safer than the day before."

(Schwab's SWCE career continued on Page 8)

Please do not use any old Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric billing statements that would mail payments to the co-op's old dropbox in St. Paul. That has no longer been in service since April 2025. If you're mailing your payment to Steele-Waseca, only use the statements mailing that payment to P.O. Box 485, Owatonna, MN 55060-0485. Thank you for your cooperation:)

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 2411 W Bridge Street, PO Box 485
 Owatonna MN 55060-0485

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Website: www.swce.coop
 Email: info@swce.coop



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8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday

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8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Monday–Friday

For Customer Service, Billing Questions and Power Outages Phone:

507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514

Before calling to report an outage

1. Check fuses and circuit breakers in your home and on meter pole.
2. Check with your neighbors to see if they have power.
3. Look for possible causes such as a tree branch on wires, a broken pole, twisted wires, etc.

To leave a non-emergency message whenever SWCE's Office is closed:

Phone 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514 and listen to the prompts. Please have your account number, phone number, and name on the account available.

Call Before You Dig
Gopher State One Call
811 or 800-252-1166

48-hour notice required for ALL underground cable locations

manager connection



By Syd Briggs,
 General Manager

When we experience the heat of summer, our electric bills tend to increase as air conditioners work overtime, driving up home energy consumption.

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric is your local not-for-profit electricity provider, and we are committed to helping you beat the heat without breaking the bank.

As we experience those hot and humid stretches of weather, we want to make sure you keep in mind about a range of energy-saving offerings designed specifically with you in mind. By taking advantage of these programs and services, you can manage your summer energy consumption and costs.

Budget Billing

When you sign up for budget billing, your energy bill is calculated by averaging your previous 12 months of use. Steele-Waseca requires that you have at least 12 months of usage at your service location in order to participate.

With budget billing, your monthly energy costs are easier to budget and manage, especially during the seasonal fluctuations when bills tend to increase based on the weather.

Budget billing is a great option for anyone on a fixed income or those with highly variable seasonal needs.

Rebate Program

When you make upgrades or purchases to reduce home energy use, those smart decisions should be rewarded. Steele-Waseca offers rebates on all ENERGY STAR refrigerators/freezers (with recycling), electric clothes dryers, dehumidifiers, central air conditioners, air and ground source heat pumps, light emitting diode (LED) bulbs purchased (limit 5) are eligible to receive rebates (may not be combined with special promotions). Rebate request forms must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Rebate forms are available at www.swce.coop. For more information or to receive a rebate



request form, email rebates@swce.coop or call 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514.

You Have the Power

Small actions combined can have a big impact on summer energy bills.

The best way to lower energy use during summer months is to raise the thermostat to the highest setting that's comfortable. Ceiling fans can also help you feel cooler, but remember to turn them off when you leave the room.

On warm summer nights, fire up the grill to keep additional heat out of the kitchen. 1095549

Remember to change air filters often so your cooling system doesn't have to work harder than necessary.

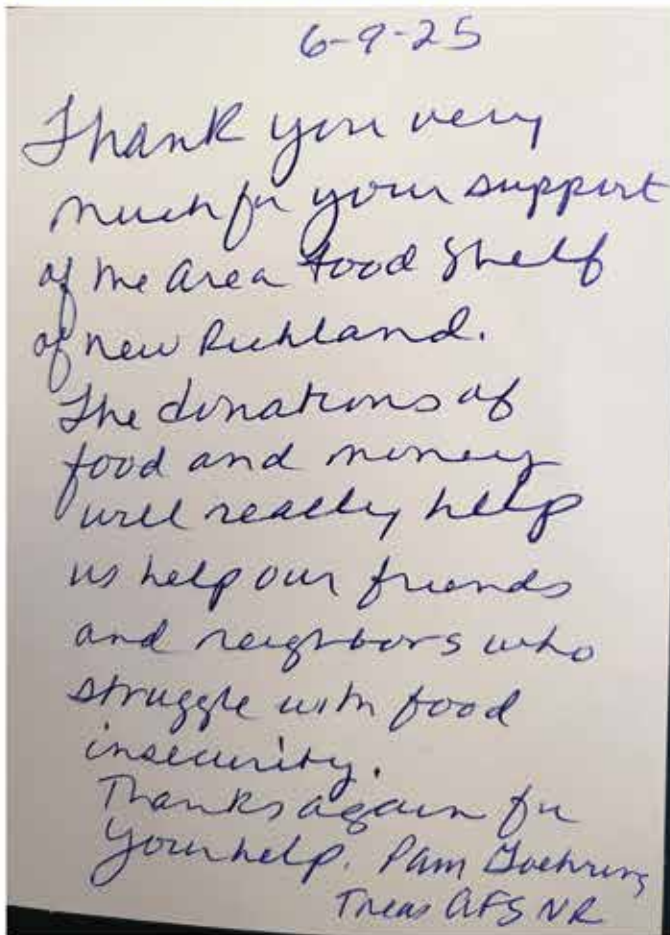
Don't let energy bills take a toll on your summer fun. Steele-Waseca is here to help manage your energy use through efficiency programs and services. We also have a couple of Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives publications in our lobby for you take and keep as a reference in utilizing energy-saving strategies. The publications are entitled, "101 Easy Ways to Save Energy and Money," and "Home Energy Savings Guide," a resource for operating your home efficiently.

Contact us to learn more about practical strategies to lower your use, trim your bills and make the remaining weeks of this summer a breeze for both you and your wallet.

Syd

#swceINNOVATION

member connection



Annual meeting donor appreciation

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric members attending the co-op's annual meeting, June 3, received a free LED lightbulb with a donation to an area food shelf. The 219 pounds in non-perishable items and \$276 collected were donated this year to the New Richland Area Food Shelf. Steele-Waseca wanted to share the appreciative thank you letter above for the donations. 🍎 #swceAPPRECIATION

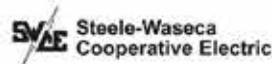


Until further notice, your Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric statement will be mailed separately from your **Sparks** newsletter. Steele-Waseca is working toward having each once again in the same envelope. Thank you for your patience during this new billing system transition:)



PAPERLESS BILLING

The eco-friendly way to instantly access your bill.



Visit swce.coop/smarthub for more information

cookin' connection

Hamburger Hot Dish

Darlene Schultz

Faribault

1 lb. hamburger	seasoning
6 medium-sized potatoes and celery	2 cans tomato soup
1 onion	1 can cream of mushroom soup
1/4 can milk (soup can)	

Bake in slow oven, 325°. Put in a layer of raw hamburger, then a layer of potatoes and celery. Add soups and milk. Bake about 2 hours.

Please use a 3 x 5 card when submitting your recipe. The member whose recipe is published will receive a \$7 energy credit. 31228



Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric's solar subscribers will see a 44 kWh credit per panel on this month's statement for energy generated during June 2025. Learn more about community solar and The Sunna Project by visiting Steele-Waseca's website, swce.coop. #swceINNOVATION

Was your account number in Sparks?

Each month five account numbers are printed in *Sparks* and a total of \$35 in energy credits is divided among however many of those numbers are found. For example, if all numbers are found, a credit of \$7 will be applied to the members' following month's electric bills; or, if only one number is found, that member receives the full \$35 credit. Members finding their numbers who have a load management receiver on their dual fuel, electric water heater, air conditioner, or genset will receive an additional \$7 credit. When you find your number, phone our office no later than the 7th of the month following receipt of the *Sparks*, or the amount will be forfeited.

July issue of Sparks



Numbers found:

No members found their number

Numbers not found:

Robert Ford
Christian Bobka
Dennis Kofstad
Bethany/David Olsen
Lisa & Paul Vacek



Sparks in brief . . .

• **Want easy energy payments?** Sign up for **EnergyPay Plus**, our automatic payment plan, or **Energy Prepay**, our discounted advance payment plan. Contact our office for details. You may also pay your bill online at www.swce.coop, or register your account with SmartHub. For instructions to use SmartHub, visit swce.coop/smarthub.

• **If you have changed or added phone numbers**, please contact SWCE to update your contact information.

• **Need a new water heater?** For information about our Westinghouse Electric Water Heater Program, phone the SWCE office weekdays between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or email rebates@swce.coop.

• **June temps** – The average high temperature for June was 78° F, while the average low was 60° F. This resulted in 150.5 Cooling Degree Days (CDDs), and 27 Heating Degree Days (HDDs). They compare to last year's average high of 77° F and average low of 59° F. This resulted in 102 CDDs and 20.5 HDDs.

• **ENERGY STAR® Rebates** – In 2025, all ENERGY STAR refrigerators/freezers (with recycling), electric clothes dryers, dehumidifiers, central air conditioners, air and ground source heat pumps, light emitting diode (LED) bulbs purchased (limit 5) are eligible to receive rebates (may not be combined with special promotions). Rebate request forms must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Rebate forms are available at www.swce.coop. For more information or to receive a rebate request form, email rebates@swce.coop or call 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514.

• **Steele-Waseca's tree service contractor** – Carr's Tree Service, Inc., is contracted to do SWCE's tree trimming. To report a tree concern, phone:

507-451-7340 / 800-526-3514

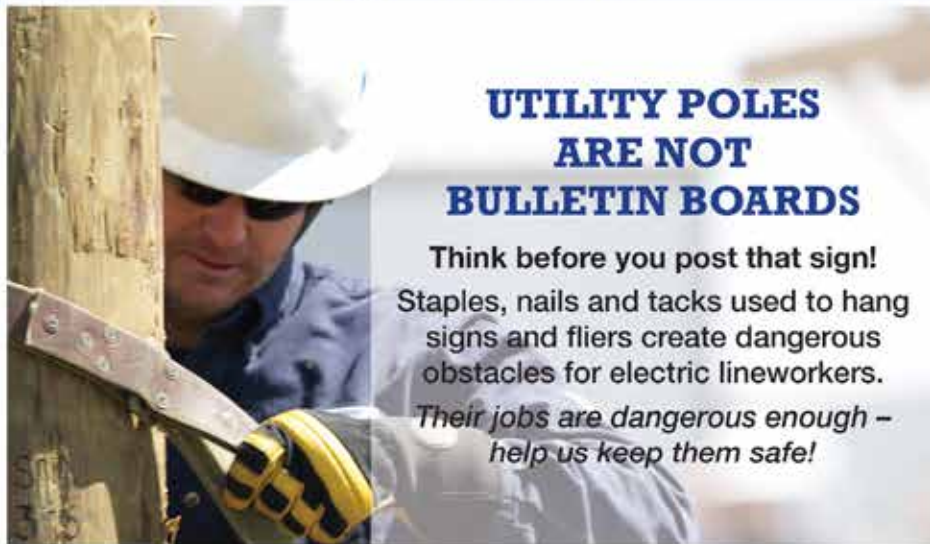
STEELE COUNTY TIP LINE

866-878-7964

TO BE USED TO REPORT ANY CRIME OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ANONYMOUSLY

COVERS ALL OF STEELE COUNTY INCLUDING THE CITIES OF:

OWATONNA ELLENDALE
BLOOMING PRAIRIE MEDFORD



UTILITY POLES ARE NOT BULLETIN BOARDS

Think before you post that sign!

Staples, nails and tacks used to hang signs and fliers create dangerous obstacles for electric lineworkers.

Their jobs are dangerous enough – help us keep them safe!

NOT JUST ANOTHER DAY AT THE BEACH

Think you'll stay on the beach and let the storm pass?
Think again.



Check the weather **before you go.** Have a plan in place for inclement weather.



If you notice signs of weather rolling in, don't stay on the beach to wait it out. Find a substantial **building** or a car with a **hard top** for shelter.



Two-thirds of lightning deaths have happened **during outdoor activities.**



Of those who died, **35%** were engaged in water-related activities.

Of those water-related activities...

28% of people who died were on the beach



and **20%** of people were boating.

ALWAYS PLAY IT SAFE.

That day at the beach or in the boat can wait.



Source: National Lightning Safety Council

Safe
Electricity.org

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Delete deceptive emails. If you receive an email that appears to be from your electric utility but you are unsure about it, delete it. Never click on a link, open an attachment or send a reply to an untrusted source. When in doubt, contact your utility directly to report suspected email scams.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams



ad connection

give away

(36) WINE BOTTLES. 649-9426.

CUT UP WOOD, ready to burn. 744-2512/Lonsdale.

KITTEN, born April 9, tortoise-shell color, litter-box trained. 583-2173.

FREE ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS, you place & remove your own ad on SWCE's website, swce.coop, these are separate from Sparks & will not appear in Sparks unless mailed, delivered, or emailed to SWCE.

wanted

SEEKING TRANSFERRABLE BUILDING RIGHT IN WALCOTT TWSP. 651-260-9225.

55-GAL. WHITE PLASTIC DRUM TO USE FOR RAINWATER, no fuel or oil use w/bungs that tighten. 339-1190.

LOOKING FOR CARPENTERS & REMODELERS! Flexible hrs, full- or part-time work, no experience needed, must have a valid driver's license, \$18-25 an hour. Set up an interview w/Eric. 676-4886.

BARN, GRANARY, &/OR OUTBUILDINGS, I re-move to re-purpose the lumber; OLD TIN; BARN SIDING OR LUMBER. 330-0258/Tim.

TDR TRANSFER DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN ERIN & FOREST TWSPS, CPI vs CER calculation, are you losing them? Sell & transfer off before deadline. 612-756-0271/Dan.

ATTN: FARMERS & AUTO SHOP OWNERS—GOT USED/WASTE OIL? Call for pickup (200 gal. min.). 420-7429.

FORD SKID STEER, diesel. 330-1849.

EGG CARTONS. 451-3678.

18" ESTATE LAWN RAKE. 676-5239.

for sale

TRUCK TOPPER, full, blk, full-size box, (3) doors; HOMEMADE WOOD BENCHES; PURPLE IRIS PLANTS; RHUBARB PLANTS. 330-0729.

PADDLEBOAT, fiberglass w/alum. pontoons, \$400/obo. 651-485-2579/Shieldsville area.

'08 MISTY HARBOR 1680 EC PONTOON, incl. '09 Suzuki 40-hp motor, no trailer, \$7000. 649-9426.

All area codes are 507 unless otherwise noted

DUMP TRUCK AVAILABLE to deliver rock, gravel, dirt, etc., 15.5-ton capacity. 456-7774.

ZAAZ MOVEMENT MACHINE, \$2000. 612-987-1030/Mdf.

(6) 12,000-BU. GRAIN BINS FOR RENT in the Pemberton/Waldorf/Mapleton area. Call 469-0807 for pricing/leave a message.

SHINGLING & LIGHT CONSTRUCTION, free estimates. 456-0296.

OLDER E-Z-GO GOLF CART, 2 stroke, runs & drives, \$2000; POLARIS RZR 170, \$3000.390-1082.

TANDEM AXLE TRAILER w/elec. brakes, 6000-lb axles, alum. hyd. tilt bed, 18'x82", 5" channel tongue, \$8000. 456-5194.

MINI STORAGE UNITS, Blmg Prairie. 456-2957.

2- & 3-WHEEL RECUMBENT BIKES; 1 BIG WHEEL MOUNTAIN BIKE; PICKUP FLATBEDS; A-C TRACTORS; TRAILER, 6x10. 402-7679.

SNAPPER 410 COMMERCIAL BRUSH TRIMMER w/saw blade, \$30. 363-6333.

55-GAL PLASTIC & STEEL BARRELS w/covers, \$5-\$15; 220-GAL. POLY TANK w/valve in forklift frame, \$75. 421-2521.

27' INNSBRUCK CAMPER; 17' ALUMACRAFT CANOE. 465-8566.

10' MM DRILL/SEEDER, steel wheels, always stored inside, \$500/obo. 317-2824.

SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIG./FREEZER for a garage, \$40; 1994 IH STRAIGHT TRUCK w/18' freezer box, \$5300. 334-7177.

BOAT/RV STORAGE FOR RENT. 475-2322.

MINI STORAGE UNITS in Morristown, any size. 330-4776.

GRAIN STORAGE SITE, 160,000+ bu., Greenvale Twp, dryer, all bins have self unloaders, 8 acres. 612-597-2444.

BEACHFRONT VACATION CONDOS FOR RENT in Fort Myers Beach, South Padre Island & Mexico, visit www.sandysbeachfrontcondo.com for details & photos. 612-865-9604/Sandy.

EGGS. 451-3678.

BLACK HIGHLAND BULL, 11-12-mths-old. 952-652-2678.

PADDLEBOAT, plastic, clean, shedded in winter, \$200; CHAINS FOR TRACTOR TIRES, #2, 10'4" long, 28" wide, \$200. 491-4565.

TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL & STUMP GRINDING, professional climber & aerial lift to U of M guidelines; 2007 FRONT CHROME BUMPER for an F-650, new. 456-1609.

GENERIC RIM & TIRE, new, will fit 2021 Jeep Compass, used as a spare tire but never used. 456-2759.

JD 425 TRACTOR, early 1990s, needs work; TIN from 30x40 pole bldg roof, minor hail damage. 952-250-2292.

FORTUNE CREEK TRL LOTS, covenant allows for a pole shed, starting at \$75,000. 838-5033/John.

17' ALUMACRAFT CANOE w/paddles, 2025 registration, \$250; SPEEDCRAFT WALKING GOLF CART, \$100. 202-3694.

JD 215 GRAIN PLATFORM. 649-2989.

GRASS HAY, sm. sq. bales by Waldorf. 327-3672.

MONGOOSE 29ER, 21 spd, F.S. Fork, 29x2.125, \$100; TREK BIKE, girls, 6 spd, 20x175, F.S. Fork, \$40; AIR COMPRESSOR, \$40. 330-3178.

MAPLE ROUGH CUT WOOD. 461-9422.

RENTAL, Izaak Walton League Bldg., 4 mi. south of Owat., seats 100, full kitchen, grill, Wi-Fi, \$175. 451-7946.

WHEELCHAIR, like new, used inside house most of the time, \$125. 279-2489.

ROCKING HORSE, \$30; MEN'S ICE SKATES, size 13, \$15; WOMEN'S ICE SKATES, size 8, \$15; (3) TENNIS RACQUETS, \$10/ea. 451-5456 after 5 p.m.

TORO WHEEL HORSE 314 GARDEN TRACTOR, 48" deck, \$1500. 684-2144.

(For Sale ads continued on Page 7)

travel

NATIONAL PARKS, ARIZONA & UTAH, Sept. 8-18. Deluxe motor coach, 14 meals, admissions to Badlands, Mount Rushmore, Grand Canyon, Zion Nat'l Park, & more! \$2,699 pp w/2 per room.

SMOKY MOUNTAINS, Sept. 25-Oct. 2. Deluxe motor coach, 15 meals, city tour of Nashville, Grand Ole Opry, tour of the Great Smoky Mountains Nat'l Park, & more! \$2,199 pp w/2 per room.

AUTUMN IN NEW ENGLAND, Oct. 2-11. Delta flight to NY, Broadway performance, 9/11 Memorial Museum, 7 night cruise on Enchanted Princess, & more! Starting at \$4,999 pp w/2 per room.

Call 4-Seasons at 373-4705 or 373-2473, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, to learn more about their tour information.



TRUST OUR EXPERIENCE. LOVE YOUR VACATION.

Sparks Free Classified Ad Form for all SWCE Members

Ads need to be received in our office by August 5 to ensure being printed in the September Sparks. Please print neatly or type your ad of 20 words or less on this form. We reserve the right to edit ad copy to allow space for more ads. Ads received after the 5th will be printed in the October issue.

☐ For Sale

☐ Wanted

☐ Give Away

Phone # _____ Account # _____

Name _____

Clip and mail to: SWCE, PO Box 485, Owatonna MN 55060-0485, deliver to the SWCE office, or email your ad to: sparks@swce.coop.

ad connection

(For Sale ads continued from Page 6)

HUNTING BLINDS, weather/rodent proof, insulated & more. 330-2452.

500-GAL. GAS BARREL w/elec. pump, no rust. 319-0106.

HVY DUTY 36' ALUM. EXT. LADDER, vry gd shape, \$300/obo. 323-4362.

LARGE BEER CAN COLLECTION, several hundred cans to be sold as a collection, mostly 1970s. 451-7602.

M-H SELF-PROPELLED CORN PICKER, 2 row, 6-cyl. motor, needs work, \$200. 952-652-2933.

8" FETERL AUGER w/elec. motor. 676-5239.

OLDER GLEANER F-2 & K, may need carb cleaned, but do run, use for sm. farm; **ROUND BALES**, last yr & this yr, 4x5, net wrapped; **65-GAL. BURNING BARRELS**. 390-0600 or 676-6094.

'04 WINNEBAGO VECTRA, 40', Model WKS40AD, diesel pusher; **'21 ATC ENCLOSED TRAILER**, 18' + 2 alum.; **'09 SMART CAR PASSION CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE/GAS**. 213-0869/leave message.

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric (SWCE) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisement assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against SWCE as a result thereof, and agrees to indemnify and hold SWCE harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto.

Three smart home technologies to help you save energy

by Abby Berry, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)

Smart technologies make our homes comfortable, convenient, and energy efficient. By connecting your home Wi-Fi network, smart devices automate everyday tasks like lighting, heating, cooling, and home security—they can even communicate with other smart devices in the home.

While not all smart home products are specifically designed with energy savings in mind, there are several smart technologies that can help you lower home energy use. Here are the top three smart home devices to help you save.

Smart Thermostats

Smart or not, your thermostat is the most effective tool for controlling energy use, as heating and cooling typically account for the largest portion of energy bills.



Nest smart thermostat. Source: Abby Berry

Smart thermostats allow you to adjust the indoor temperature through an app, giving you full control from anywhere on the go. Many smart thermostats include learning capabilities and will adjust the thermostat based on previous behavior and patterns.

According to the Department of Energy, smart thermostats can reduce heating and cooling bills by more than 8% annually, and with models as low as \$65, they typically pay for themselves in one year.

Smart Lighting

Smart LED bulbs use less electricity than traditional bulbs and can be scheduled or turned off (or on) remotely through a smartphone app. Smart bulbs are available in a range of shapes, brightness levels, colors and more, so

shop for the products that work best for your home lighting needs.

Many smart bulbs include motion sensors that turn on or off based on room activity, further optimizing home energy use. If you're new to smart lighting, try a home starter kit. Prices for kits range from \$70 to \$300+ depending on how many bulbs you need.

Smart Plugs

Smart plugs are inexpensive gadgets that can help you save energy. Many electronic devices consume power even when they are turned off (known as "phantom load"), which can take a toll on your energy bills. Smart plugs are simply plugged into an electrical outlet and connected to your Wi-Fi network. When set up, the smart plug can cut power (or return power) to non-smart devices, like coffee makers, phone chargers and other items that draw phantom load. 1053210

Many smart plugs can be paired with popular smart hubs, like Alexa or Google Nest, or controlled through the



Smart plug. Source: Kenny Ginapp

plug's associated app. Smart plugs are simple to use and a set of four can be purchased for as little as \$25.

If you're looking for new ways to save energy, try these budget-friendly, convenient smart home technologies.

#swceINNOVATION



Smart lighting app. Source: Moritz-Kindler

Litomysl Summer Festival

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna

Sunday, July 27

Polka Mass - 10:15 a.m.

Festival 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Food, games & prizes for all ages
Live Music

Prune, Poppyseed, & Apricot "Buchty"

Silent Auction & Used-a-Bit sale

Everyone welcome!

www.litomyslchurch.org



Linemen Jack Schwab (left) and Nordean Hartle are pictured with Steele-Waseca's bucket truck among the debris in the Franklinton, Louisiana area devastated by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

(Schwab's SWCE career continued from Page 1)

Among the projects Jack has worked on that generated such a positive response, not involving electricity, was the pollinator project located adjacent to The Sunna Project solar panels on the west side of the co-op's property. Jack worked with the Steele County Farm Service Agency to qualify the property

under provisions of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).


Seeding of the 1.83 acre plot was completed in May 2020 with a combination of grasses, sedges, forbs, and legumes. After a couple of mowings the pollinator plants started to bloom the following spring.

"The pollinator project brought such a good response from the local community," wrote Jack. "Having an area devoted to sustainability & the environment has been a win win no question. Even had a new bride call to get permission to take wedding photos out in the flowering patch." 1020364

With getting a taste of retirement, Jack said he hopes to continue farming, travel more, and to fulfill the duties of a new title, "Grandpa," adding "Can't wait."

When asked what he'll think about most when looking back at his Steele-Waseca career, "I will remember the people SWCE serves," wrote Jack. "We have a great, diverse membership indeed."

Steele-Waseca appreciates Jack's diversity of roles during his career at the co-op, and wish him a safe and fulfilling retirement. *SWCE*

 #swceLIFE+



Jack was pictured during the summer of 2021 with a monarch butterfly among the pollinators located south of Steele-Waseca's community solar installation—The Sunna Project.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Replace your cooling system's filter regularly to maintain strong airflow and boost energy efficiency. A clean filter means your system doesn't have to work as hard, saving energy and lowering your utility bills. Factors like allergies and pets in the home can impact how often filters should be replaced. Check the filter every month and replace it as needed. Changing filters regularly also reduces wear and tear on your cooling system, helping extend the life of the unit.

Source: energy.gov

