



MARCH 2024



3978 US Hwy 26/85  
Torrington, WY 82240  
PO Box 359, Lingle, WY 82223

**How to reach us**  
877-WYRULEC

**E-mail:** [wyrulec@wyrulec.com](mailto:wyrulec@wyrulec.com)  
**Website:** [www.wyrulec.com](http://www.wyrulec.com)

**May through September**  
Office hrs: 6:30–5:00, Mon.–Fri.

**October through April**  
Office hrs: 7:30–4:00, Mon.–Fri.

#### **Board of Directors**

Julie Kilty  
*President*

Dewey Hageman  
*Vice President*

Mark Knaub  
*Secretary*

Ben Scott  
*Treasurer*

Kenda Knudsen  
*Assistant Secretary*

**General Manager**  
Ryan Schilreff

**Senior Staff**  
Miles Duffy  
*Operations Manager*

Tiphany Fuss  
*Office Manager*

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

I hope to see you all at the 88th annual membership meeting, which will be held Tuesday, March 26th at the Rendezvous Center at the Goshen County Fairgrounds. The Rendezvous Center will open at 5:00 pm, with dinner to be served at 6:00. Our guest speaker will start his presentation at approximately 6:30 pm, with the business session to follow at 7:00 pm. Once again we will have several great door prizes and cover the important topics of the cooperative's 2023 operating year.

This year's guest speaker is Tony Anderson, President of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, or NRECA. NRECA is the national service organization that represents America's electric cooperatives. They represent over 800 electric cooperatives nationwide, and are recognized as one of the most effective lobbying organizations in Washington D.C. NRECA encourages policymakers to approach national energy policy with affordability and reliability at the core, while also balancing aspiration with reality. Some of the current issues NRECA has represented the co-ops in are: the infrastructure bill, maintaining a reliable grid, pushing back on the EPA's power plant rule, the farm bill, broadband, and cyber security. They continue to champion the electric co-op business model on a national level, helping keep the lights on for more than 42 million consumer-members. NRECA also provides an array of leadership training for co-op employees, directors, and managers.

I've had the opportunity to personally hear Tony speak at two different functions. The first thing I noticed was his passion for the co-op business model and his dedication to helping others who are less fortunate. Tony has been in the electric co-op industry for over 40 years and has a remarkable story, as he has managed co-ops in Wyoming and Wisconsin. The other thing I noticed about Tony is he is one of us. He loves rural America and the people who live in it, and he has dedicated the last 40 years to improving the quality of life in rural America. In the co-op industry we often use the term 'co-op family'. Tony reminds me of what that term really means and why our people are the most important part of our organization.

We hope you can make it to the annual meeting where you'll have the opportunity to hear him speak.



**Ryan Schilreff**  
**General Manager**

Your cooperative is a proud member of these fine organizations



## REMEMBER ELECTRICAL SAFETY THIS PLANTING SEASON

As planting season nears, here are some agriculture-related facts from the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF):

- Each year, one U.S. farm feeds 166 people domestically and abroad. The global population is expected to increase by 2.2 billion by 2050. This means that the world's farmers will have to grow approximately 70% more food than what they produce today.
- Two million farms dot America's rural landscape, according to the AFBF, and 98% are operated by individuals, families and family-run partnerships or corporations.
- Eighty-six percent of U.S. agricultural products are produced on family farms or ranches.
- Americans throw away approximately 25% of the food they buy to eat at home.
- Women make up 36% of the total number of farm operators in the U.S.; 56% of all farms have at least one female decision-maker.

As farmers return to their fields this spring, Safe Electricity urges all workers to be alert to the dangers of working near overhead power lines. Follow these safety tips:

- Determine power line locations before going out into the fields, and designate preplanned routes that avoid hazardous areas.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting tractors on trailer beds. Be cognizant of tall antennas.
- Avoid raising the arms of planters or cultivators or raising truck beds near power lines.
- Do not attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.
- Coming too close to a power line while working can be just as dangerous as contacting one since electricity can arc or "jump" to conducting material or objects.
- Non-metallic materials, such as lumber, tree limbs, tires, ropes and hay, will conduct electricity depending on dampness, dust and dirt contamination.
- When grounded wires that stabilize poles, known as guy wires, are broken, they become hazardous. If you

hit a guy wire and break it, call the utility to fix it. Do not do it yourself.

- When it comes to dealing with electrical poles and wires, always call the electric utility.
- If your equipment contacts a power line, stay in the cab and call 9-1-1 or the utility for help. Warn others who may be nearby to stay away and wait until the electric utility arrives.
- If leaving the cab is necessary, as in the case of fire, the proper action is to jump — not step — with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Hop away from the area as far as you can, keeping both feet together as you hop. If you are unable to hop, then shuffle with the insides of your feet touching. Do return to the equipment until the power has been deenergized.

Managers and owners should make sure family members and staff, including seasonal workers, are educated on these safety precautions. Dangerous areas need to be thoroughly identified and labeled.

For more electrical safety information, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org).

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Lengthen the life of your clothes dryer with regular cleaning. Clean the lint filter after every load, which improves air circulation and safety. Check the lint trap opening and use a vacuum to remove any lint that's fallen inside the opening.

If you use dryer sheets, check the lint filter for residue buildup. Remove any residue with hot water and a nylon brush or toothbrush. Over time, dryer sheets can leave a film on the filter, which can affect the performance of the motor.









TREES — TOO CLOSE FOR (YOUR) COMFORT

# TREES CAUSE MAJORITY OF POWER OUTAGES







## WHY DOES YOUR POWER PROVIDER TRIM TREES?

Although most trees do not present a problem, some of them grow into or crowd power lines, poles or other utility equipment and cause service issues. Unruly and overgrown trees can:

-  **Cause outages.**
-  **Create fire hazards.**
-  **Break off and land on power lines.**
-  **Cause lights to flicker during high winds.**
-  **Get weighed down with ice and cause issues.**

Proper pruning techniques are used to preserve tree health, although sometimes a tree must be removed. This is a last resort, but it can be necessary if there are:

-  **Fast-growing trees directly under power lines.**
-  **Trees that are leaning into lines.**
-  **Trees that are declining, cracked or split.**

Unobstructed power lines make it easier and safer for utility crews to repair or service lines.

 **Power companies trim trees to better serve you.**

Learn more at: [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

The following names have been drawn for a **\$25** bill credit.

Contact  
**Wyrulec Company** at  
**877-WYRULEC**  
to claim your credit!

Christopher  
Birkmaier

•

Philip  
Sanchez

•

Hannah  
Haffner

•

Ronald  
Brown

•

Justin  
Briggs







# *Wyrulec Company's 88th Annual Meeting*



**Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

**Goshen County Fairgrounds  
Rendezvous Center  
4740 US Hwy 26/85  
Torrington, WY 82240**



**5:00 pm - Doors Open  
6:00 pm - Dinner & Guest Speaker  
7:00 pm - Business Meeting**

*Join us for food,  
fun, and prizes!*