

# THE POWER OF LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Community Minded

Community Proud

Community Owned



December, 2016

## Cheers to 40 years!!



Rice Lake Utilities celebrates our longest working employee Emil Rohrssen!

December 16th, 2016 marks the 40th anniversary for Emil making him the longest serving employee of Rice Lake Utilities!! Emil started his career in 1976 after graduating from Rice Lake High School. Emil works at the wastewater treatment plant and has been involved in almost every aspect of the Rice

Lake Utilities since its inception. No words can express the level of Emil's commitment, dedication and loyalty in his 40 year career with us. We are so proud to have him as a part of the Rice Lake Utilities family. His high quality of service as well as his contributions to the consumer/owners of Rice Lake Utilities are greatly valued and well respected. Congratulations Emil on your 40 years of service with Rice Lake Utilities!! We are all happy and so proud of you. Thank you for being with us through the years.



## THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFTS DON'T COME IN PACKAGES!

Rice Lake Utilities understands our bottom line affects your bottom line. We take great pride in our accomplishments of keeping our rates low and our reliability high! Every month

Rank	Utility Name	Bill Date	Monthly	Energy	PCAC/ FAC	Total Bill
1 of 85	Consolidated Water Power Company	11/01/2016	\$6.00	0.0896	-0.0109	\$65.97
2 of 85	Bloomer City Of Electric Utility	11/01/2016	\$5.00	0.052	0.0303	\$67.71
3 of 85	Medford Electric Utility	11/07/2016	\$5.00	0.0465	0.0368	\$68.47
4 of 85	Belmont Municipal Water And Electric Utility	11/30/2016	\$6.00	0.0804	0.0037	\$70.08
5 of 85	Rice Lake Municipal Water & Electric Utility	11/15/2016	\$5.00	0.0886	0.0011	\$73.35
6 of 85	Marshfield Utilities	11/15/2016	\$6.00	0.08514	0.0047	\$74.46
7 of 85	Cornell Municipal Water And Electric Util	11/01/2016	\$7.50	0.0926	-0.0043	\$74.78
8 of 85	Barron Light And Water Utility	11/01/2016	\$7.00	0.086	0.0064	\$77.41
9 of 85	Kiel City Of Utilities	11/22/2016	\$5.00	0.0991	-0.0017	\$79.22
10 of 85	Shawano Municipal Utilities (1)	11/02/2016	\$6.56	0.0979	-0.0018	\$79.79

Rice Lake Utilities uses the Public Service Commission's Electric Rate Comparison tool to see how we are doing. The table to the left is the report from November using an average KWH of 767 per month. We are happy to say that we are in the top 10 coming in at **number 5 out of 85 reporting utilities** which means more money in your pocket. Over the past year our rates are also over 44% cheaper than our nearest investor owned utility, Xcel

Energy! For an average customer that would be a savings of approximately \$390 a year!

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!  
Thank you for allowing us to serve you in 2016!!



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## PREVENTING FROZEN PIPES

### During Cold Weather, Take Preventative Action

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals up out of the reach of children and pets.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water trickle from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.



### To Thaw Frozen Pipes

- If you turn on a faucet and only a trickle comes out, suspect a frozen pipe. Likely places for frozen pipes include against exterior walls or where your water service enters your home through the foundation.
- Keep the faucet open. As you treat the frozen pipe and the frozen area begins to melt, water will begin to flow through the frozen area. Running water through the pipe will help melt ice in the pipe.
- Apply heat to the section of pipe using an electric heating pad wrapped around the pipe, an electric hair dryer, a portable space heater (kept away from flammable materials), or by wrapping pipes with towels soaked in hot water. Do not use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove, or other open flame device.
- Apply heat until full water pressure is restored. If you are unable to locate the frozen area, if the frozen area is not accessible, or if you cannot thaw the pipe, call a licensed plumber.
- Check all other faucets in your home to find out if you have additional frozen pipes. If one pipe freezes, others may freeze, too.

### Future Protection

- Consider relocating exposed pipes to provide increased protection from freezing.
- Pipes can be relocated by a professional if the home is remodeled.
- Add insulation to attics, basements and crawl spaces. Insulation will maintain higher temperatures in these areas.
- For more information, please contact a licensed plumber or building professional.



Is your home ready for winter? Schedule a whole-home energy assessment and earn rewards on efficient home improvements. A

home energy assessment provides a clear road map of customized home recommendations, cash incentives to offset improvement costs, and expert guidance every step of the way. The energy assessment is performed by a trained and certified Trade Ally contractor and helps pinpoint where you can save money and enjoy greater home comfort. An energy assessment may vary in scope and prices typically range between \$200 & \$400 with incentives offsetting the initial cost of the assessment. For more information contact Focus on Energy at 1-800-762-7077.

**RECYCLE**  
Your **Holidays**™  
ORG



Free Recycling of your holiday light(s) and electric cord(s) through January 31st, 2017.  
Drop off location is at the Rice Lake City Hall at 30 E. Eau Claire St.

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