

What's Happening

March 12

**Daylight Saving
Time Begins**

**March 20**

Spring Begins

March 21

National Ag Day

Rock Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 1758
2815 Kennedy Rd.
Janesville, WI 53547-1758

P.O. Box 126
15229 Willowbrook Rd.
South Beloit, IL 61080

(866) 752-4550

Shane Larson
Chief Executive Officer

Jonas Berberich
Editor

Watch Out For Farm Equipment During Spring Planting Season

Spring planting and fall harvest are busy times. Farmers and workers have big equipment and implements on the road.

Navigating roadways can be dangerous for farm equipment operators and auto drivers who follow behind them.

According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 410 farmers and farm workers died from work-related injuries in 2019. Transportation incidents, which included tractor overturns, were the leading cause of death for these farmers and farm workers.

Below and to the right you will find some tips to make for a safer and more pleasant drive during the upcoming spring planting season.

- Add extra time when traveling on busy farm roads.
- Give farmers plenty of room on the road.
- When passing, be sure you do so in a passing zone and that there is clear visibility around farm equipment. Watch for oncoming vehicles.
- Go slow. Farm operators often stop or turn into fields.
- Do not assume that a farmer can move over in narrow areas; it is not always possible.
- Honk or motion when passing farmers, they may not see you or know you are there; their equipment is big and noisy.
- Do not tailgate; farmers often can't see you.
- Do not pass and then slow suddenly in front of equipment with implements behind it or farm trucks full of grain. They cannot stop quickly.
- Farmers make wide turns, so give them plenty of time and room.



SHARE the ROAD
with Farmers

**Be safe.
Be courteous.**

Farm season means sharing the road with large farm equipment. Farmers must move slowly in large equipment, but public roads are often the only available routes.

When you find yourself following or meeting large farm equipment on the road, do the following to keep everyone safe:

- 1** Be alert and cautious, and give large farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles space.
- 2** Do not pass if you are in a "No Passing Zone," or in any area where it is not safe to do so, such as intersections, bridges and railroad crossings, among others.
- 3** Be careful when you do get the chance to pass. Oftentimes, farmers will move their equipment over when it is safe to do so.
- 4** Do not tailgate.
- 5** Make sure the tractor is not trying to make a left turn before you pass on the left.

Share the road with care. Farmers are just trying to get to and from their job, too.

Source: SafeElectricity.org

Rock Energy Rate Adjustments

For the first time since 2015, residential electric base rates will be modified, effective with electric billings after March 15, 2023 (some industrial accounts were adjusted January 1, 2023).

Due to increased costs, particularly on the cooperative's cost of purchased power, the base rates for energy and the monthly facility charge will be increased. In addition, a small distribution demand charge will be implemented to address increased costs to maintain and upgrade the electrical system. For demand rates, the demand charge will increase.

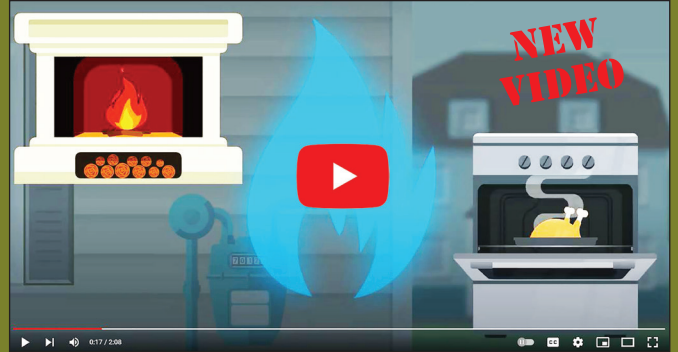
For residential accounts, the last increase to the monthly the facility charge was in 2018, and again, the most recent change to the base rate of energy was in 2015. For residential accounts, the overall increase is 6.3%. For all rate classes, the impact is 7.7%.

Many factors are increasing costs: clean energy goals, supply chain issues, world events, weather and inflation, are some contributing factors. In 2022, Rock Energy experienced a 37% increase in power costs. With power cost representing nearly 70% of all expenses, the impact was substantial.

The cooperative remains cost competitive, while maintaining and upgrading the system to accommodate the needs of our current and future members. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Natural Gas Safety Video

Check out Rock Energy's "Natural Gas Safety at Home" video and know what to do if you detect a natural gas leak.



87th Annual

Rock Energy Cooperative

Annual Meeting

Register Today!
Call 866-752-4550

Monday, April 24, 2023

87th Annual Meeting of Rock Energy Cooperative
Eclipse Center, Beloit, WI

The 2023 meeting is returning to spring, after the previous three annual meetings were held in the fall due to COVID-related issues.

• **4:30 p.m.: Registration Opens (day of event)**

• **5:30 p.m.: Business-Only Meeting Begins**

- REC Scholarship Recipient Recognition
- Director Elections (Districts 6, 7, 8)
- Prize Giveaways

We look forward to seeing you on April 24.

