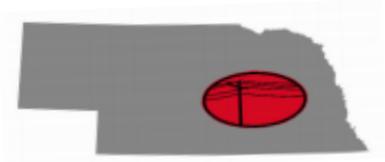


POLK COUNTY RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

‘The Livewire’

“Committed to enhancing the lives of our customers by providing safe, reliable and economical energy through excellence in customer service and innovation”



November 2019

Irrigation Season Recap & Available Grant

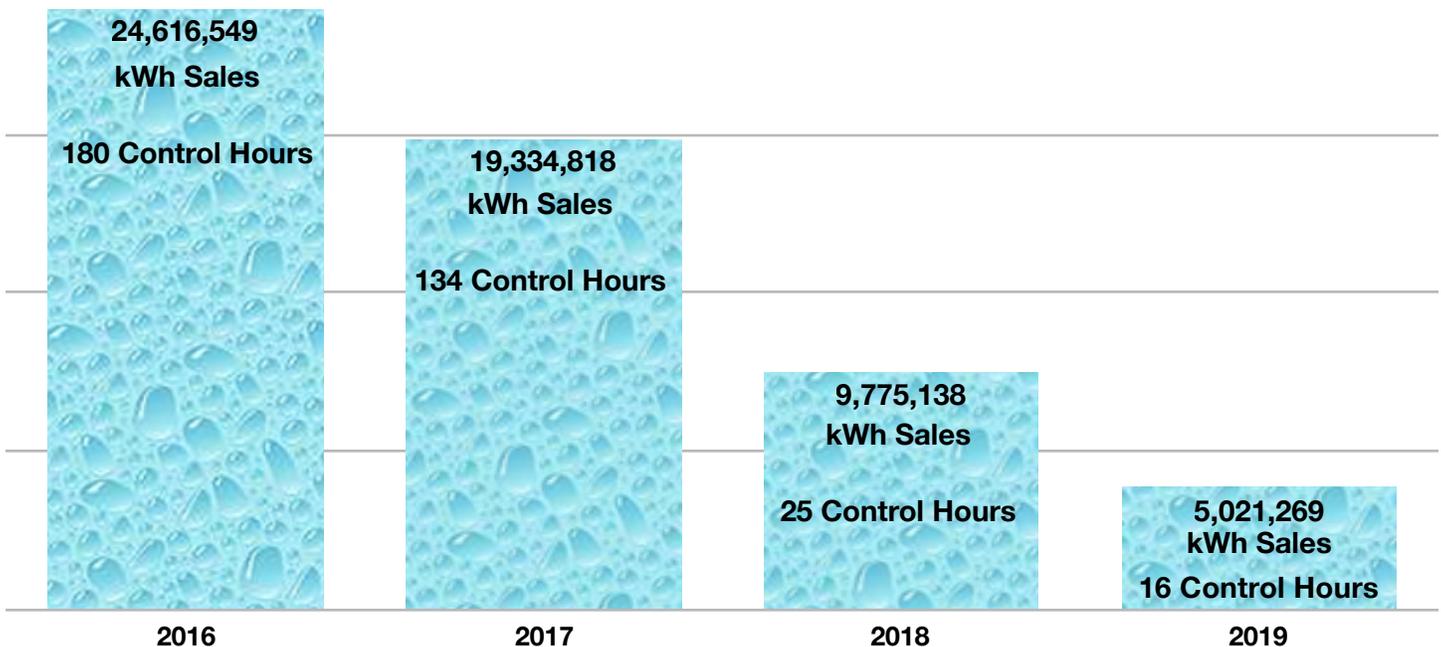
by Barb Fowler

After flooding rains in July and the wettest August on record, Polk County RPPD’s 2019 irrigation season ended with record low energy consumption and record low irrigation control hours.

With the unusually wet summer

weather, irrigation energy sales were approximately half of last year’s sales, which were down about 50% from 2017. This year, only 16 irrigation control hours were issued over the course of four days. In 2018, there were only 25 hours of control,

compared to 134 in 2017. While PCRPPD was not able to gain much demand cost relief from load control, Prairie Wind Turbine provided almost \$12,000 in power bill savings due to shaving coincident demand production. That’s a win(d)-win(d) for all!



Now may be a great time to convert to an electric irrigation system. Grants are available to PCRPPD customers for conversion of their irrigation pumps from diesel to electric. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy’s Clean Diesel Rebate

Program will reimburse 60% of the cost of the electrical equipment, installation, and required electric line extension up to a maximum rebate of \$20,000. Earlier this year, PCRPPD assisted its customers in obtaining over \$27,000 in grant funds. The

NDEE is accepting applications through January 17, 2020. Please contact Wade Rahn, Customer Service Director, for more information or assistance.

TIPS FOR PURCHASING NEW APPLIANCES

When shopping for new appliances, there are two price tags you should consider:

1.

Purchase price of the appliance (think of this as a down payment)



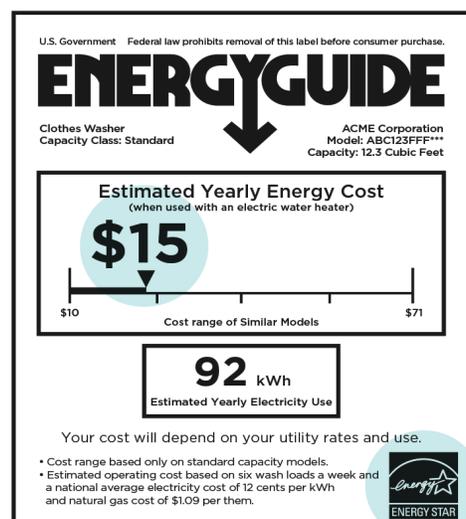
2.

Cost to operate the appliance over its lifetime (how much energy the appliance uses)



That second price is important because you'll be paying for the appliance's energy use for the next 10 to 20 years.

- **Look for the ENERGY STAR® label.** ENERGY STAR-qualified products exceed the federal minimum standards for efficiency and quality.
- **Carefully review the EnergyGuide label on the appliance.** The label provides information about how much energy an appliance uses compared to similar models.
- **Once you choose your make and model, compare prices.** Keep in mind, many retailers will match a lower price offered by competitors.
- **Recycle or sell your old appliance.** Ask the retailer if they'll pick up your old appliance, or you can sell it yourself. Either option is better than the landfill!



Source: Department of Energy

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED US

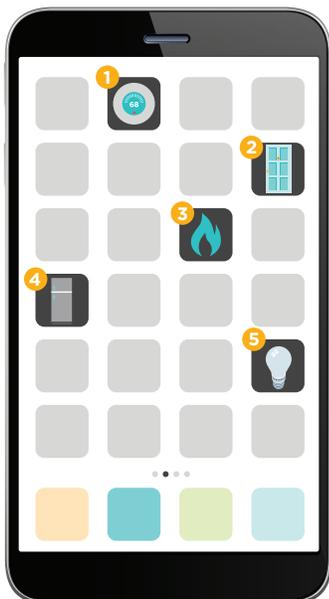
ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
PCRPPD WILL BE
DELIVERING A NOON MEAL
TO ANY VETERAN AND
THEIR SPOUSE IN OUR
SERVICE AREA

CALL (402) 764-4381 TO
SIGN UP OR NOMINATE A
VETERAN BY NOVEMBER 6TH

POLK COUNTY RURAL
PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

SMART HOME TECH APPS

Smart home technologies are continuously improving, but their companion mobile apps are taking convenience to a whole new level. Let's take a look at some of the latest app functionalities.



1 Smart Thermostat Apps:

Geofencing is great enhancement for smart thermostat apps. Set a boundary with your smartphone and when you leave the boundary, the thermostat switches to away or return mode.

2 Smart Security Apps:

Video doorbells are becoming increasingly popular, allowing consumers to keep a watchful eye from anywhere. Smart security apps send alerts to signal activity outside your home, giving you peace of mind.

3 Smart Smoke and CO Sensor Apps:

These apps have the ability to send alerts, conduct status checks and silence alarms - even when you're away.

4 Smart Appliance Apps:

App functionality depends on the appliance. Refrigerator cameras allow you to see what needs to be stocked (while grocery shopping!), and smart dryers can sense when electric use is high and turn off.

5 Smart Lighting Apps:

Control lighting options for individual rooms, adjust brightness and color, create lighting scenes based on mood - all from the convenience of your smartphone.



Smart Energy Savers

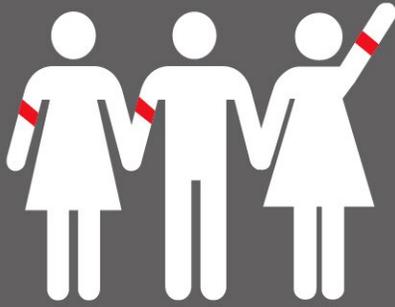


- Thermostats
- Washing machines and dryers
- Dishwashers
- EV charging stations
- Pool pumps
- Air conditioners
- Light bulbs and fixtures
- Power strips



Just Smart

- Virtual assistants (like Amazon's Alexa or Apple HomeKit)
- Smart locks
- Smart alarms
- Smart video security cameras



Blood Drive

Stromsburg

Evangelical Free Church

Thursday, November 14, 2019

12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Call (402) 764-4381 or sign up online at
www.redcrossblood.org/give
to schedule an appointment**

**Hosted by
Polk County Rural Public Power District**



**American
Red Cross**



HUNTING SAFETY

- Before you begin a hunt, note the location of power lines and other electrical equipment. Dense trees can make them hard to see.
- Obey all signs that advise electrical hazards, especially when placing a tree stand.
- Never use power poles to support a tree stand.
- Never shoot at power lines or electrical equipment.
- When setting up and taking down the stand, make sure you don't make contact with any overhead electrical equipment.
- If you're using a portable generator on your trip, don't run it in a confined area.

For more information visit:

**Safe
Electricity.org**