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August 2019





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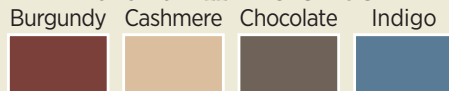
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Nebraska sent 17 high school students and four chaperones, representing Nebraska public power districts and electric cooperatives, to Washington, D.C. for the 2019 Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in June.



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A male Orchard Oriole stops to feed on nectar in a garden. Photograph by Scott Casper.





by Wayne Price

## Grain bins require clearance requirements

**Y**ou have probably heard the safety message of “Look Up & Live” from your local electric utility. It’s a message we like to repeat because it is very important when you’re working around overhead power lines, especially on the farm when you’re using large equipment.

It’s also important when dealing with grain bins and power lines.

A grain bin’s location and proximity to overhead power lines is a safety factor farmers should consider. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) addresses grain bins and their proximity to power lines with very specific requirements. Following the code will help to decrease the chances of farming equipment and machinery coming in contact with a live electrical line.

Farmers who are planning on building a new grain bin or remodeling around an area that already has one should contact your public power district or electric cooperative first. They can help with specific code requirements. The taller a grain bin, the farther it must be placed from a power line. Not only is placing a grain bin too close to a power line extremely dangerous, it will most likely need to be relocated due to one or more

code violations, and usually at the owner’s expense.

The National Electrical Safety Code requires an 18-foot minimum vertical clearance from the highest point of the filling port of the grain bin to nearby high-voltage wires and a 55-foot minimum distance from the power line to the grain bin wall.

For example, a grain bin that is 25 feet high must be at least 80 feet from a power line.

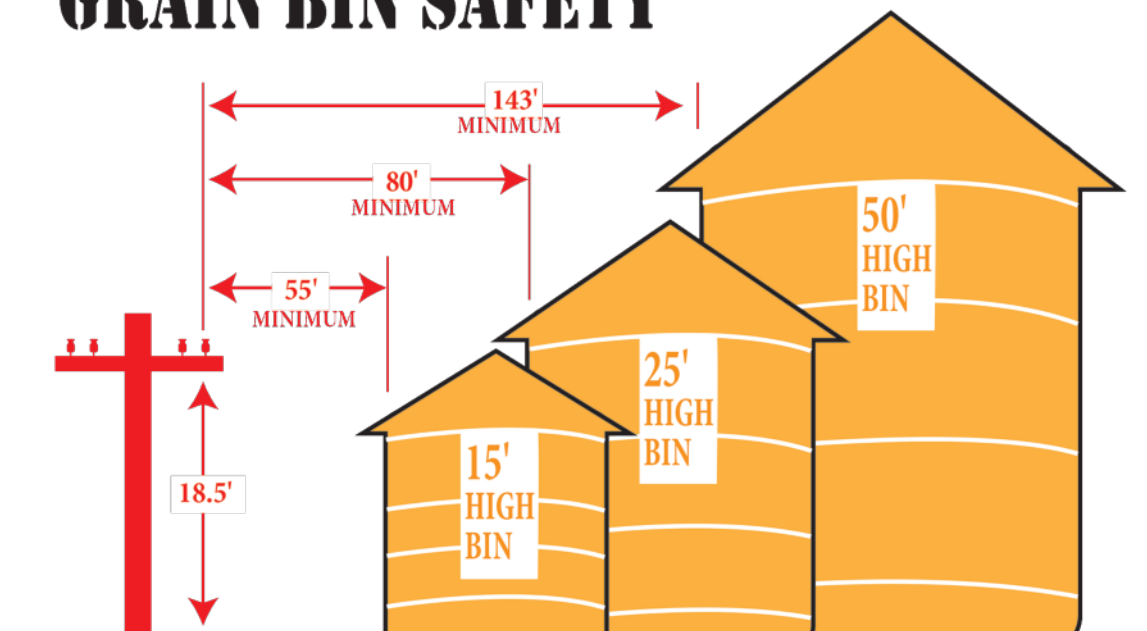
Changes to landscaping and drainage work can affect clearance heights of power lines, so remember to check these measurements regularly.

High-voltage power lines are not insulated, so it’s important to remember to maintain an adequate high-wire clearance when using a portable auger, conveyor or elevator to fill your grain bin.

When moving equipment, such as a hopper or a scaffold, be aware of nearby power lines. Remember to maintain a 10-foot clearance to ensure safety.

Contact with a power line could be deadly. Always use caution when working near power lines because accidents can happen in a split-second. Don’t forget to Look Up & Live!

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# The Trip of a Lifetime

*Nebraska youth inspired on visit to Washington, D.C. during NRECA Youth Tour*

In June, public power districts and electric cooperatives across the U.S. sent groups of high school students to Washington, D.C. for the 2019 Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Nebraska sent 17 students and four chaperones, representing Nebraska public power districts and electric cooperatives.

While in D.C., Nebraska's Youth Tour delegation visited many of the major monuments and memorials, including the Washington, Lincoln, and Jefferson Memorials. They also spent time on Capitol Hill, meeting with Senator Deb Fischer, Senator Ben Sasse, and Congressman Adrian Smith.

The students were inspired by

extraordinary exhibits found in the Smithsonian Museums, including the Hope Diamond and the Wright Brothers' 1903 Flyer. They also visited Gettysburg and Mount Vernon, as well as the National Holocaust Museum. They even got a special tour of the Capitol by Congressman Smith, who has been a longtime supporter of NREA's youth programs.

Youth Tour was born from a speech at the 1957 NRECA Annual Meeting by then-Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson. He was a longtime advocate of electric cooperatives, having lobbied for the creation of Pedernales Electric Cooperative in 1937 as a young politician in Texas. "If one thing comes out of this meeting, it will be

sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents," the future president said.

With that encouragement, Texas electric co-ops began sending summer interns to work in the senator's Washington, D.C. office. In 1958, an electric co-op in Iowa sponsored the first group of 34 young people on a weeklong study tour of the nation's capital. Later that same year, another busload came to Washington from Illinois. The idea grew, and other states sent busloads of students throughout the summer. By 1959, the Youth Tour had grown to 130 participants.

In 1964, NRECA began to

coordinate joint activities among the state delegations and suggested that co-op representatives from each state arrange to be in Washington, D.C., during Youth Tour week. The first year of the coordinated tour included about 400 teens from 12 states.

As word spread, the program grew—and grew and grew—until no hotel was large enough to house all of its participants.

The Youth Tour experience provides students with a chance to see history come to life; the Tour also gives them an opportunity to connect with other student leaders just like them from across the country.

Bailey Urkoski of Clarks, Neb., was selected as Nebraska's Youth Leadership Council member. She was sponsored by the Polk County Rural Public Power District.

Youth Tour is just one of the ways the Nebraska Rural Electric Association is investing in our future leaders. Nebraska's public power districts and electric co-ops do so much more than provide safe, reliable and affordable power—we are dedicated to improving the futures of students in our community because we know they are next in line to lead the way.

## Roxanna Carpenter

I liked the gift shops, restaurants, Metro train, Pentagon, and Pentagon City. I made new friends and tried new foods. It rained on the day when we went to the Pentagon. We rode the Metro six times.



I would like to thank the McCook PPD for sponsoring me. And also Southwest PPD for taking me up to camp Halsey for the NREA camp. The experience was a once in a lifetime chance to learn about history and how the government works.

## Kinsy Tuma

The trip to D.C. was certainly a change from the small town I've always known and been familiar with. My favorite day would most definitely be on Tuesday, which was when we were able to explore Mount Vernon, see soldiers march at Arlington cemetery, and finally



get a personal tour of the House of Representatives by Rep. Adrian Smith himself. We were given the chance to explore restricted areas in that time, sit in on a debate, and ask Representative Smith personal questions about his political views and life as a public figure. Having the chance to speak to someone like that made me much more comfortable in our government system, knowing that average every day people like me are working as representatives and senators to protect the people that they grew up with.

Every day was memorable in some way and I don't believe I'll ever forget this life changing trip. And I'd like to thank the NREA and Midwest Electric for giving me and many other kids this opportunity.

## Ian Hogeland

Looking back on the tour of our nation's capitol, it makes me appreciate how much I got out of this experience. It was incredible being able to visit all the iconic sites such as the capitol, memorials, and the many museums. I thoroughly enjoyed visiting Gettysburg and being able to tour the battlegrounds and the hundreds of memorials



dispersed across the fields. We were able to listen to a ghost tour and it was interesting to hear the stories of individuals who witnessed the battle and apparently haunt the town to this very day. It was overwhelming being able to walk the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and standing in the same place where MLK gave his famous "I have a Dream" speech.

The Holocaust museum specifically stood out to me and

walking through it is an experience I will never forget. Touring the capitol and discussing with our state's leaders was surreal and made me appreciate our government and the cooperation that goes into the process of legislation even more. The architecture and art throughout the city was stunning and I enjoyed gazing out the window as we shuttled from site to site. Every night we were able to sit down for a top

notch dinner at a variety of restaurants. I planned on trying something new every day and had duck for the first time in Chinatown and dined on seafood at all the other meals.

Thanks NREA for this incredible opportunity you have given me. I will always look back on this week with fond memories and the experience of visiting Washington, D.C. will leave a lasting impression on me for the rest of my life.



## Ben Anderjaska

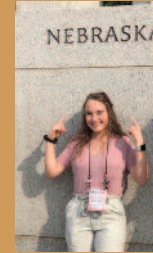
Youth Tour was a truly amazing experience. It was pretty cool to think that we were looking at the same Constitution as our founding fathers did. You could say that about every single place we went. The memorials were very humbling and made you think about how much men and women have given up for our country.



We had a very knowledgeable and fun sponsor as well as great chaperones. I would hope that everybody who has the chance to attend Youth Energy Leadership Camp in Halsey does so because the opportunities after that seem to be endless.

## Kenz Pinney

The trip was an experience of a lifetime! We went to Fords Theatre, Peterson House, WWII Memorial, and the Washington Monument. We also went to the National Mall and saw the National Archives and the Navy Memorial. It was really neat to see the Declaration of Independence in person. We got to see the White House and the



Pentagon which was my favorite site because of how all of the benches represented a different victim. We also had a night tour of the capitol. It was very beautiful on the inside and lots of artwork to see. We got to tour the FBI building which was an amazing opportunity.

I was honored to represent my local public power district. This trip has impacted me in so many ways. It was an experience I'll never forget and will always cherish.

## Cord Lee

The trip to Washington, D.C. was definitely an eye opening experience for me. I really enjoyed seeing all the memorials and museums. In the D.C. area, there is so much rich history. I particularly enjoyed

Mount Vernon, the J. Edgar Hoover Building, and our tour of the Capitol with Congressman Adrian Smith.

Overall, the Youth Tour was definitely a trip of a lifetime. This trip provided me with new opportunities to meet new friends, talk with Senators, and to try new things. The trip was amazing!



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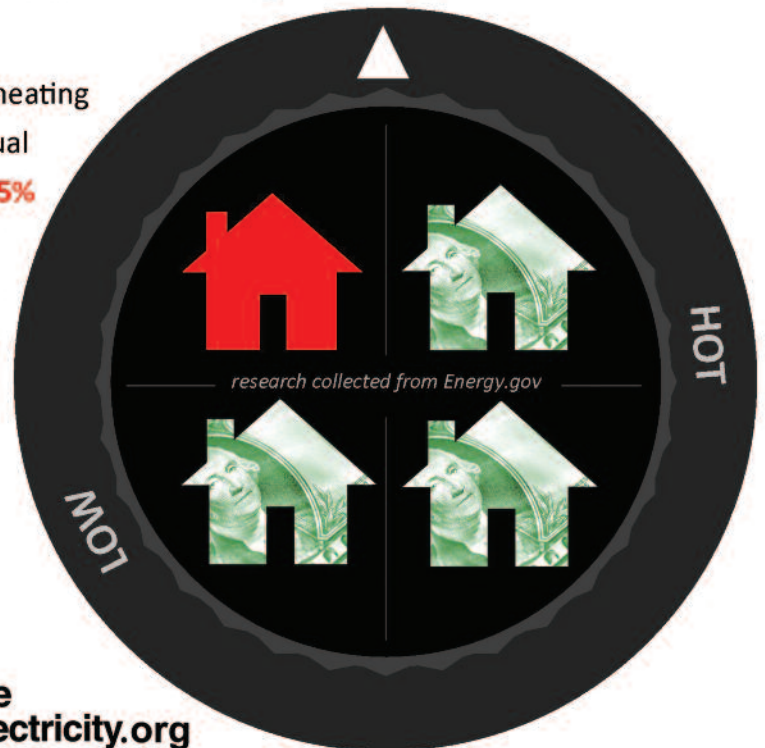
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80-85	\$50.50	\$42.55	\$83.50	\$70.25	\$166.00	\$139.50	\$413.50	\$347.25

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This is a solicitation of individual insurance. A licensed insurance agent/producer may contact you by telephone. **These policies contain benefits, reductions, limitations, and exclusions to include a reduction in death benefits during the first two years of policy ownership.** In NY, during the first two years, 110% of premiums will be paid. Whole Life Insurance is underwritten by United of Omaha Life Insurance Company, 3300 Mutual of Omaha Plaza, Omaha, NE 68175 which is licensed nationwide except NY. Life insurance policies issued in NY are underwritten by Companion Life Insurance Company, Hauppauge, NY 11788. Each company is responsible for its own financial and contractual obligations. Not available in all states. Benefit amounts vary by state. Policy Form ICC11L059P or state equivalent (7780L-0505 in FL, 828Y-0505 in NY).

\*Ages 50 to 75 in NY.

\*\*In FL policy is renewable until age 121.

\*\*\*All benefits paid would be less any outstanding loan.



## Barcel Mill & Lumber Company finds multiple uses for logs

**B**arton Barcel (BJ), owner of Barcel Mill & Lumber Company in Bellwood, Neb., grew up with a love of trees. His family has been in the sawmill business for more than 70 years.

“We’ve been in logging and sawmill business since 1948,” he said. “Our company was started by my father, Donald, in Platte County and we have been in this location in Butler County since 1970.”

They make a long list of products at the mill, including landscape mulches, construction stakes, dunnage and veneer. They use just about any species that grows in Nebraska but Barcel said they really like Cottonwood.

“There’s a lot of it in the state,” he said. “It would be hard to be a sawmill in Nebraska and not cut cottonwood because it’s our predominant tree.”

Barcel said he likes cottonwood because it’s a neutral wood, and there’s no tannins or acids in it.

“Veneer is one of the products we produce for the brick industry,” Barcel said. “We supply most of the brick plants in this part of the United States, including Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, west to Utah, and north to the Canadian Border.”

The veneer is used for support and protection on brick shipments. The reason brick companies like cottonwood is because it is a neutral wood, if it gets wet it will not stain the bricks. However, if you use oak or some of the other species, if you put a white brick on it, it would stain it brown.

The mill produces a lot of dunnage so customers are typically looking for an economical piece of wood for their

shipping materials. They don’t really care too much on species.

“We tend to stay away from the pine species because of the different diseases and insect issues that they have and that effects export because a lot of the companies that we work with export,” said Barcel.

Hardwoods do not have to be heat treated to be exported, just soft woods.

Veneer is the product that generates the largest dollar amount but mulch is probably the second most volume of wood. Dunnage is the most for volume.

In construction, dunnage is often scrap wood or disposable manufactured material whose purpose is to be placed on the ground to raise construction materials to allow access for forklifts and slings for hoisting, and to protect them from the elements.

The weather in Nebraska has had a negative effect on the mill, making it more difficult to get enough logs into the plant and forcing Barcel to cut back on the number of employees.

“We had been running 18 employees but this weather cycle for the past two years, it has just ruined getting logs in,” he said. “We currently have 11 employees.”

Most of the logs used at the mill come from within 75 miles of the sawmill. They work with a couple different logging crews, one of which belongs to his brothers, Larry and Kurt.

He noted that cedar trees seem to be taking over in Nebraska. “I’m sure there are more cedar trees than



cottonwoods now, but it never used to be that way.” He said they process the cedar into landscape mulches.

Bark from the logs ends up in a bark landscape product or they also make some mortality loss compost for hog confinement facilities. The mill also makes bio filter media for municipal and industrial waste gas filtration and a lot of landscape mulches.

He said they bag the mulch into four cubic yard bales called “Mulch Mellows”. The mill recently acquired a baling machine from Norway, which packs the mulch and wraps it in white plastic so it looks like a giant marshmallow. In Europe they use this baling technique for all sorts of commodities, silage, shavings or bedding, he said.

“The main reason I bought that machine is because our latest project that we’re working on is to make the bedding product for the Costco chicken project at Fremont,” he said. “We’re going to make bedding for those barns. Baling it is one of the options they’ll have to receive our product.”

Barcel said they also make a product from wood that’s engineered for under playground equipment that is marketed under the name of PLAY MAT and supplied to a lot of schools, cities, and parks.

The mill sets on about 12 acres and includes a pallet and veneer building, and sawmill operation. A hoop building was recently added for the Costco bedding material.

“A lot of the bedding is going to be made out of recyclable wood product,” he said. “We’re partnering with a lot of industries in Nebraska, diverting their wood waste stream from the landfill and bringing it here to grind it and process it through our machinery. We pull out any metal, grind it down to approximately a 5/8 inch or less material.

Barcel noted that plastic and cardboard is a worse enemy than metal because it is very difficult to separate it from the wood material.

The mill already does a lot of wood waste recycling for industries in Nebraska. There are a lot of industries that are working toward a zero landfill impact or they’re working on LEED programs and this is a huge step in helping them become compliant in those programs.

“If it shows up in one of our trucks or a waste department roll-off, we weigh the trucks in and then weigh them out,” he said. “Once we sort through the materials and grind it we send them a document of destruction or reuse. They can track all of that as part of their program.”

All of the mill’s waste streams from the different operations end up going through the grinder and then it gets dumped onto the mulch pile.

The mill is served electrically by Butler Public Power District.



*Cottonwood logs are used to make pieces of veneer for the brick industry.*



*Top: Veneer slats are tied into bundles for shipping. Above: Logs are cut into various sizes for dunnage. Opposite: The mill uses several machines to cut the lumber down to specific sizes.*



# Four life hacks to beat the summer heat

As summer temperatures continue to go up, there's no need to let the heat get you down. There are several ways you can keep cool this summer—without wreaking havoc on your home's air conditioner! Use these four simple life hacks to beat the summer heat.

1. **Make aloe vera cubes.** Whether you're nursing a sunburn or just wanting to cool off, aloe vera cubes will offer some relief. Simply fill an ice tray with aloe vera gel, freeze it, then place the cubes on your body's pulse points, like the neck and wrists, for a quick cooling sensation.

2. **Try a cooling pillow.** If you're willing to spend a little, a cooling pillow can help you feel more comfortable on those muggy summer nights. Prices range from \$27 (like Plixio Pillows) to \$180 (like the Technogel Pillow), so you can decide how much you want to spend.

3. **Just add mint.** Menthol makes our bodies feel cool, so by adding spearmint essential oil to products like body wash and lotion, you can get an instant cooling effect. Essential oils can be purchased at most drugstores or online.



*Adding spearmint essential oil to products like body wash and lotion gives you an instant cooling effect. Photograph provided by Pixabay Member Silvia*

4. **Spend a few bucks on a handheld fan mister.** Sure, you may feel a little silly carrying around a tiny fan, but you'll be more comfortable than everyone else—and they'll probably ask to borrow it. You can typically find these at big box stores like Wal-Mart or Target.

There are additional ways to keep you and your home cool this summer:

- Close blinds and curtains during the day, and open them during the evening when the temperatures are

cooler.

- Use ceiling fans and portable fans to stay comfortable. But remember, fans cool people, not rooms.

- Use appliances that put out heat, like clothes dryers and dishwashers, during the evening to minimize indoor heat during the day when temperatures are higher.

Don't let the heat get in the way of summer fun. Use these tips to keep your cool and enjoy the rest of the season!

## Murphy





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# Forty-Two, plus One

Perspective from Tri-State's new CEO, Duane Highley

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On the day that I turned 42 years old, my uncle asked me a question, "What's the answer to life, the universe, and everything?" Not being up on my popular literature, I thought he was serious in his inquiry, so I replied with my thoughts on ethics, morality and religion. He responded to my dissertation with a single number: 42. I was mystified, but those of you who know about Douglas Adams' book *The Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy* know exactly what this is all about. (In the book, 42 is the number from which all meaning "the meaning of life, the universe, and everything" could be derived.)

Add one to 42 and you get 43, a number that has a very special meaning for me. That's the number of member cooperatives and public power districts that receive their power supply from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, a not-for-profit power supply cooperative owned by electric cooperatives and public power districts serving western Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming.

**"When diverse voices come together, the strength of the solutions we can achieve is unmatched."**

Tri-State is governed by a board of democratically elected representatives, one from each member system, including six from our Nebraska members. Each board member is also a customer who pays their monthly bill to their local electric provider, with the majority of that revenue landing at Tri-State to provide the power supply behind the switch. At our monthly board meetings, I face 42+1 customer-owners, each committed to greening up our power supply while maintaining reliability and affordability.

I cannot imagine a better system of governance, where the CEO and senior staff report every month to a board of bill-paying members. Their direction has driven the decisions Tri-State has made through the years, with some of those decisions being especially noteworthy in Nebraska. In 1976, Tri-State built the nation's first DC Tie in Stegall, Nebraska, a milestone in the connection of the eastern and western electrical grids of the United States.

Our board has also driven the decisions that have led us to a greener footprint, so that today nearly one out of every three kilowatt-hours consumed by our members is sourced from non-emitting renewable resources. Looking ahead, our board has approved additional wind and solar projects that will further reduce our carbon footprint.

In my first few months as Tri-State CEO, I've been asked what my vision is for the association. The answer is always the same – we're going to determine our future together. I see it as the opportunity to define what a 21st century generation and transmission cooperative should look like. Members will be at the core, and so far we've heard from them that we need to be increasingly flexible and increasingly clean. How we reach those goals is the next challenge, and I'm looking forward to the conversations and debates as we determine our path forward. When these diverse voices come together and align behind a common vision, the strength of the solutions we can achieve is unmatched.

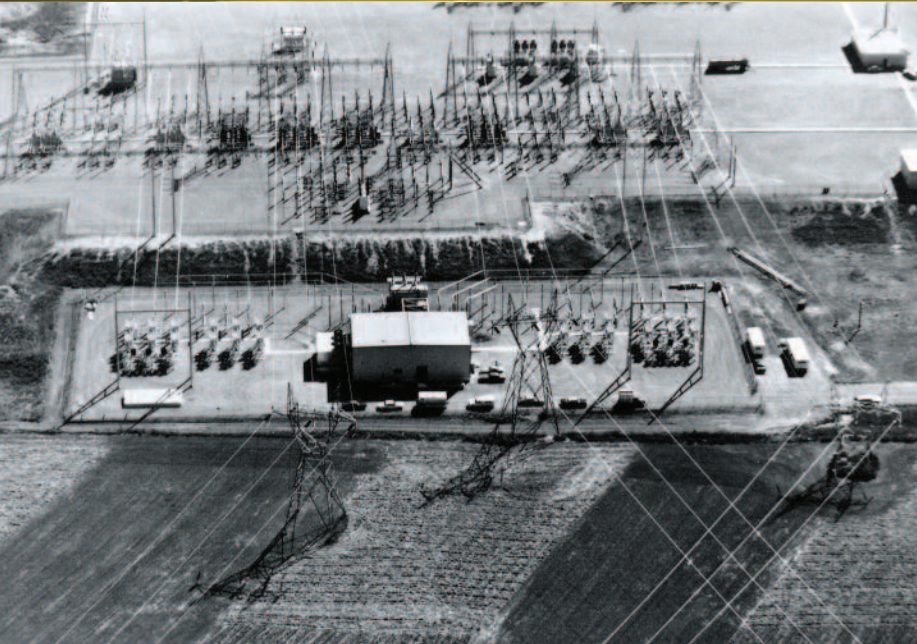
That's why the 43 photographs in our lobby matter so much to me. They are the images of our board directors, and I see their faces every day when I enter our office, and again as I leave. It is a vivid reminder to me, and to all our employees, of who we work for and why. Their faces reflect the full diversity of our membership and service territory: farmers, ranchers, businessmen and businesswomen of many races and beliefs.

Serving members is our purpose: powering your communities and empowering you to improve the quality of your lives. It's a noble purpose and one we don't take lightly. Thank you for letting us power your future.





# 1967



## Tri-State and Nebraska share a tie

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The David A. Hamil DC Tie was named in honor of the former rural electrification administrator and co-founder of Highline Rural Electric Association, a Tri-State G&T member system. The DC Tie originated from Tri-State's desire to deliver low-cost power to consumers on the U.S. Western Grid from Basin Electric Power which is located in the U.S. Eastern Grid. Located near Stegall, Nebraska, Tri-State's DC Tie was constructed and put into service in late 1976. It was the first solid-state facility of its kind in the United States, and led to the construction of six direct current (DC) converter stations by other power suppliers that connect the east/west grids. Since 1980 the DC Tie has operated at an average reliability of nearly 100 percent. In 2016, the Tie celebrated its 40th anniversary of reliable operation, a tribute to the skill and dedication of those who help manage and maintain the Nebraska facility.

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*Top: Sidney, NE 1967 | Middle: DC Tie in Stegall, NE | Bottom: Sidney-Segall line construction, Sidney, NE 1966*



TRI-STATE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# Power Up! Charging Your EV at Home

by Pat Keegan

**Q** : I'm seeing more information about new models of electric vehicles with longer ranges and better prices. Is it worth making the switch from gasoline to electric? And how would I charge the battery at home?

**A** : You're right! Electric vehicles (EVs) are getting more attention these days. Electricity as a vehicle fuel is typically one-half to one-third the cost of gas or diesel, and EV batteries now enable longer ranges. The upfront price of an EV is still higher than its gas-powered cousin, but the cost is coming down.

The Chevy Bolt, for example, has a range of up to 238 miles on a full charge and costs about \$36,000 before incentives. The number of models is also increasing, and we could even have an electric pickup truck option in the near future.

It's important to note you may have to pay upfront costs to charge your EV at home, but it depends on which charging option you select. Let's take a look at the important steps.

## Step one: Choose your EV.

There are two basic types of EVs: the all-electric vehicle, which is commonly referred to as an AEV or EV, and the plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, also known as the PHEV, which can run using an electric motor or a gas engine. Unlike the gas/electric hybrid that started with the Toyota Prius in 2000, where the battery assists the gasoline engine, yet the car is fueled solely by gasoline, the PHEV features a larger battery that fuels an electric motor, which can power the car independently. A PHEV can run

solely on electricity for about 15 to 50 miles depending on the model. This electric-only range may be sufficient for running errands or for those with a shorter daily commute.



*A Level 2 charging unit can provide about 250 miles of charge in 10 hours, making it a suitable charging solution. Photograph provided by Tesla*

## Step 2: Select your charging level.

There are two levels of charging to consider for your home. A Level 1 charging unit is the most basic. It's usually included with the vehicle and plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet, so it is the easiest and cheapest charging solution.

A Level 2 charging unit is more powerful and needs to be purchased separately. It plugs into a 240-volt outlet, the type used for larger appliances (like a clothes dryer), which most of us don't have in our garages or outside our homes, so there's an additional cost to have the outlet installed.

## Step three: Know your needs.

Most EVs travel 3 to 4 miles per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Level 1 charging units distribute charge to the battery at 1 to 2 kWh, giving the battery roughly 3 to 8 miles range

per hour of charging. So, if you drive your car 40 miles or less during the day and can charge it for 10 hours a night, this will probably be adequate. Level 1 charging makes the most sense for PHEVs and early EVs with smaller batteries and shorter ranges.

Level 2 units typically supply power levels from 6 to 12 kWh, depending on the amperage of the circuit and the power level the EV can accept. This means the Level 2

chargers will provide between 18 and 48 miles of range per hour of charging.

## Step four: Count the costs.

A Level 1 charging unit comes with the car and will meet the needs of most PHEVs and early-model, short-range EVs. A Level 2 charging unit can cost \$500 to \$700, with installation between \$500 and \$2,700 depending on how far your electrical panel is from where you will be charging the EV.

Now that you know the basic options, you should talk to your public power district or electric co-op before making your EV charging decision. Many electric utilities offer special incentives for members installing Level 2 chargers or members willing to schedule EV charging during non-peak energy hours. Give them a call to learn more.



## Calendar of Events

# AUGUST

### ■ SOUTHWEST

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**August 2 - 4**, Trenton Harvest Festival, Trenton, Neb. Fun for the whole family! Festivities begin with a car show Friday evening, a parade, BBQ, and dance Saturday, and the weekend festivities will end with a golf tournament and a softball tournament on Sunday.

**August 10**, Old Settler Days, Indianola, Neb. “*The Best Little City Out West*” Enjoy games, a parade, dance, food and many more fun activities.

### ■ NORTHEAST

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**August 6 - 10**, Holt County Fair, Chambers, Neb. Come see Phil Vandel on Friday August 9th, or see Dylan Bloom on Saturday August 10th. Several other events planned, to see full schedule go to: [www.holtcountyfair.net/scheduleofevents](http://www.holtcountyfair.net/scheduleofevents).

**August 8 - 11**, Knox County Fair, Bloomfield, Neb. Check out the Bull-A-Rama at 7 pm on Thursday, August 8. See the full schedule at: <http://www.knoxcountyfairgrounds.com>.

**August 10**, Genoa Indian School Reunion/Celebration, Genoa, Neb. A celebration to honor the students that attended the Genoa School, the 43 Tribal Nations that had students attend have sent their Tribal Nation’s Flag and/or Tribal Seal.

**August 17**, City-wide Garage Sales, Verdigre, Neb. Be prepared to find a treasure or two at the Verdigre Community Garage

*This calendar is published as a service to readers and the communities served by Nebraska’s public power districts and electric cooperatives. Rural Electric Nebraskan publishes events free of charge as space allows, giving preference to free community festival and events in and around areas served by subscribing member-systems. We strive for accuracy, but please note that events, dates and times may change without notice.*

Sales. Maps can be found at many businesses around town.

**August 17**, Rhythm & Ribs, Albion, Neb. Albion’s downtown area will feature barbecue and music throughout the day.

**August 18**, Lindsay Holy Family Bazaar, Lindsay, Neb.

**August 24 - 25**, Nebraska State Antique Tractor & Horse Plowing Bee & Old Threshers, Petersburg, Neb. The annual Nebraska State Antique Tractor and Horse Plowing Bee will be held on Saturday and Sunday. The yearly show, which is laid out on 40 acres of land, intends to preserve the agricultural history of northeast Nebraska.

### ■ SOUTHEAST

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**August 2 - 4**, Bellwood Daze, Bellwood, Neb. The three-day event known as Bellwood Daze will feature music, food and entertainment.

**August 17**, 15th Annual Nebraska Artifact Show, Seward, Neb. World-class displays of Great Plains Prehistoric Artifacts, artifact and bone identification available.

### ■ SANDHILLS

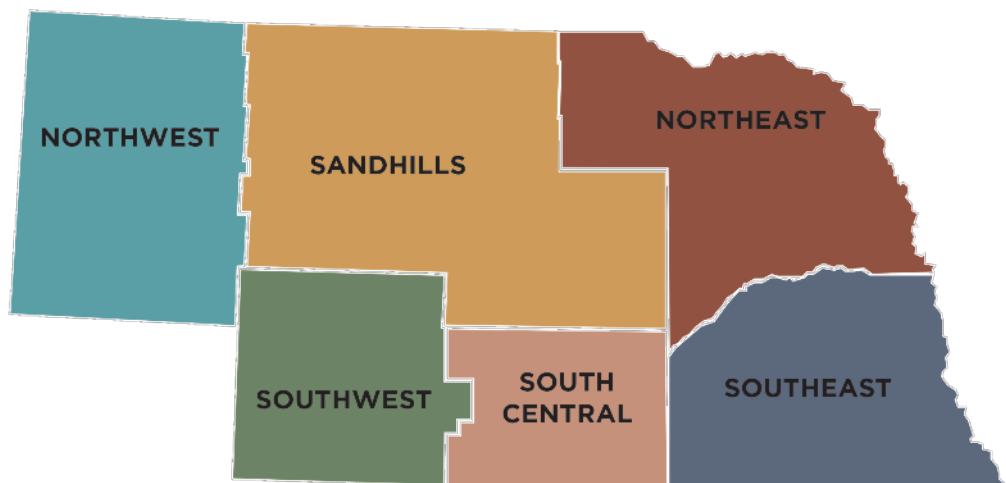
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**August 5 - 7**, Greeley County Fair, Spalding, Neb. There will be parade, livestock shows and sale, pedal tractor pull, carnival, kids' activities, games, contests, auction, entertainment, rides, vendors, food, and other activities.

### ■ SOUTH CENTRAL

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**August 9 - 11**, Kearney County Ag Society Fair, Minden, Neb. Profiles 4-H, a carnival, local merchants and more activities that are great for the whole family.



**To add events to Calendar, please email info to [wprice@nrea.org](mailto:wprice@nrea.org) or mail your info to: Calendar, Rural Electric Nebraskan, PO Box 82048, Lincoln NE 68501. Please submit info two months before the date of the event.**

# Nebraska zip codes turn up silver for residents

*Sealed Vault Bags full of heavy silver bars are actually being handed over to the first Nebraska residents who find their zip code listed in today's publication and call before the 7 day order deadline ends to claim the bags full of valuable silver*

NATIONWIDE - Operators at the National Silver Hotline are struggling to keep up with all the calls.

That's because Silver Vault Bags loaded with a small fortune of .999 pure Silver Bars are now being handed over to everyone who beats the 7-day order deadline.

"It's like a modern day Gold Rush. Nebraska residents will be hoarding all the silver bars they can get their hands on for the next 7 days. This comes as no surprise after the standard State Minimum set by the Federated Mint dropped 42%, going from \$50 per bar to just \$29 making these Silver Vault Bags a real steal," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

"As executive advisor to the private Federated Mint, I get paid to deliver breaking news. And here's the best part. This is great news for Nebraska residents because it's the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint," said Withrow.

The only thing residents need to do is find the first 3 digits of their zip code on the Distribution List printed in today's publication. If their zip code is on the list, they need to immediately call the National Silver Hotline before the 7-day order deadline ends.

Residents who do are cashing in on the record low State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. This is a real steal for residents because each Silver Vault Bag loaded with 10 Nebraska State Silver Bars is normally set at \$500 which is the standard \$50 per heavy half ounce bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. But here's the good news. Residents who call today get the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just \$290 for each Nebraska Silver Vault Bag which is just \$29 per bar as long as they call the National Silver Hotline at; 1-800-239-7648 EXT. FMM1970 before the deadline ends.

Phone lines open at precisely 8:30 A.M. this morning and are expected to be flooded by resi-



■ **NEBRASKA RESIDENTS CASH IN:** It's like a modern day Gold Rush. Everyone's scrambling to get their hands on the heavy, Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags pictured above before they're all gone. That's because residents who find the first 3 digits of their zip code printed in today's publication are cashing in on the lowest ever State Minimum price set for the next 7 days by the Federated Mint.

► **Who gets the Silver Vault Bags:** Listed below are the Nebraska zip codes that get the Silver Vault Bags. If you find the first 3 digits of your zip code below immediately call: **1-800-239-7648 EXT. FMM1970**

680	684	687	690	693
681	685	688	691	
683	686	689	692	

*(Continued on next page)*



(Continued from previous page)

dents looking to cash in on the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint to date. That's why Nebraska residents who find their zip code on the distribution list today are being urged to call immediately.

Since this special advertising announcement can't stop dealers and collectors from hoarding all the new 2019 Edition Nebraska State Silver Bars they can get their hands on, the Federated Mint had to set a strict limit of three Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags per resident – these are the bags everyone's trying to get because they contain 10 individual Silver Vault Bags each. Everyone who gets these will feel like they just hit the jackpot.

"Residents who want to cash in on the lowest ever State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint better hurry. That's because in 7 days, the State Minimum for these heavy half ounce Nebraska State Silver Bars returns to the normal State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of \$50 per bar," Withrow said.

"We're bracing for all the calls and doing the best we can, but with just hours left before the deadline ends, residents lucky enough to find the first 3 digits of their zip code listed in today's publication need to immediately call the National Silver Hotline," Withrow said. ■



■ **SILVER HITS ROCK BOTTOM:** Everyone's scrambling to get the Silver Vault Bags each loaded with 10 solid .999 pure Silver State Bars before they are all gone. That's because the standard State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint dropped 42%, going from \$50 per bar to just \$29, which is a real steal.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** If you find your zip code on the distribution list printed in today's publication read below then immediately call: **1-800-239-7648 EXT. FMM1970**

► **I keep calling and can't get through:** Keep trying. Right now everyone's looking to cash in on the lowest State Minimum ever set by the Federated Mint. In fact, tens of thousands of residents are expected to order up as many Silver Vault Bags as they can get their hands on before the deadline ends. That's because the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint has been slashed from \$50 per heavy half ounce to just \$29 for the next 7 days. And since each Silver Vault Bag contains 10 valuable State Silver Bars for just \$290 nearly everyone is taking at least three bags before they're all gone. But all those who really want to cash in are taking the Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags containing 100 State Silver Bars before the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint goes back up to \$500 per Vault Bag. So if lines are busy keep trying.

► **How much are the Silver Vault Bags worth:** It's hard to tell how much these Silver Vault Bags could be worth since they are highly collectible, but those who get in on this now will be the really smart ones. That's because the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint goes back up to \$500 per bag after the deadline ends. So you better believe that at just \$290 the Silver Vault bags are a real steal for everyone who beats the deadline.

► **Can I buy one State Silver Bar:** Yes. But, the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just \$29 per bar applies only to residents who purchase a Silver Vault Bag(s). That means only those residents who order a Silver Vault Bag(s) or the heavy, Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bag(s) get the \$29 per bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. All single bar purchases, orders placed after the 7-day deadline and all non-state residents must pay the standard \$50 per heavy half ounce Bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint.

► **Why is the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint so low now:** Thousands of U.S. residents stand to miss the deadline to get the silver at the lowest ever State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint. Now all residents who find the first 3 digits of their zip code on the Distribution List printed in today's publication are getting the Silver Vault Bags for themselves and all the solid .999 pure State Silver Bars found inside. The price for each Silver Vault Bag is normally set at \$500 which is the standard \$50 per bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint, but residents who beat the 7-day deadline only cover the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just \$290 for each State Silver Vault Bag which is just \$29 per bar as long as they call the National Silver Hotline before the deadline ends at: **1-800-239-7648 EXT. FMM1970**. Hotlines open at 8:30 A.M.



PHOTO ENLARGEMENT SHOWS ENGRAVING DETAIL OF SOLID HALF OUNCE STATE SILVER BARS

FEDERATED MINT, LLC IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE NEBRASKA GOVERNMENT, A BANK OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. IF FOR ANY REASON WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM SHIPMENT YOU ARE DISSATISFIED, RETURN THE PRODUCT FOR A REFUND LESS SHIPPING AND RETURN POSTAGE. THIS SAME OFFER MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE AT A LATER DATE OR IN A DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION. OH RESIDENTS ADD 6.5% SALES TAX. FEDERATED MINT 7600 SUPREME AVE. NW, NORTH CANTON, OH 44720 ©2019 FEDERATED MINT

# Get grilling with fresh ingredients

Grilling season provides ample opportunities to put flavorful fare on the table, but it doesn't have to be a lengthy cooking process. By planning ahead, having the right equipment on-hand and using ready-to-go ingredients, home cooks can quickly put family meals together.

With an option like Smithfield Marinated Fresh Pork, which is perfectly seasoned and ready to throw on the grill, you can have a delicious meal ready in 30 minutes or less. Available in a variety of flavors and quality cuts, it's ideal for grilling, roasting or sauteing any night of the week. To get ready for your next grilling occasion, try something new like Grilled Pork Kebabs with Tzatziki Sauce or Grilled Pork and Potato Planks.

To help make this a successful grilling season, visit [SmithfieldGetGrilling.com](http://SmithfieldGetGrilling.com) for more grilling tips.

## Grill Like A Pro

- Let finished meats rest on a clean platter, tented with foil, for about 10 minutes before carving so juices can redistribute evenly.

- Use a grill basket for foods that might fall through the grill rack or are too cumbersome to turn over one by one (vegetables, fish, tofu, fruits, etc.).

- The best way to know if protein is fully cooked is to check its internal temperature with an instant-read thermometer.



## Grilled Pork Kebabs with Tzatziki Sauce

- 1 Smithfield Roasted Garlic & Herb Pork Loin Filet, cut into 1 1/4-inch cubes
- 3 small zucchini squash, cut into 1/2-inch thick slices
- 2 large red bell peppers, cut into 1 1/4-inch pieces
- 1 large red onion, cut into 1 1/4-inch wedges
- bamboo skewers, soaked in water 30 minutes
- olive oil
- 2 medium cucumbers, peeled
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3 1/2 cups whole milk Greek yogurt
- 1/2 lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh dill weed
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- chopped fresh parsley

Heat grill to 375 F. Alternately thread fresh pork cubes, zucchini, peppers and onions onto bamboo skewers. Brush kebabs lightly with olive oil.

In food processor, process cucumbers and garlic until finely chopped. Drain liquid from cucumbers. Stir cucumbers with yogurt, lemon juice, dill, sea salt and pepper. Refrigerate until ready to use.

Grill fresh pork skewers approximately 10 minutes, turning occasionally, until char marks form and pork is cooked through.

Garnish skewers with parsley and serve with tzatziki sauce for dipping.





### Grilled Pork and Potato Planks

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 2 Smithfield Roasted Garlic and Cracked Black Pepper Pork Tenderloins
- 2 pounds Yukon Gold or red potatoes, cut lengthwise into 3/4-inch-thick slices
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced-fat or regular sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup finely chopped green onions

Heat charcoal or gas grill to medium; spray grates with nonstick cooking spray. Grill tenderloins until internal temperature reaches 150 F, turning occasionally, about 20 minutes.

Brush both sides of potato slices with oil; grill 15-20 minutes until just tender, turning occasionally. Remove potatoes and pork from grill.

Top potatoes with cheese, sour cream and onions. Serve with tenderloins cut into 1/4-inch thick slices.

### Crock Pot Ham & Scalloped Potatoes

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 2 ham steaks, cubed             | 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese                                     |
| 10 medium potatoes, sliced thin | 1 10 3/4 oz. can or cream of celery soup or cream of mushroom soup |
| 1 onion, sliced thin            |  |
| Salt & Pepper to taste          |  |

Put 1/2 of the ham, potatoes, and onion in slow cooker, sprinkle with salt, pepper and cheese. Repeat layers. Spoon soup over the top. Cover and cook on low for 8 – 10 hours or on high for 4 hours. If you like creamier, add 3/4 can milk to soup before pouring over layers. You can also top with a little extra cheese! This is one of our favorites!

**Kelly Tirrill, McCook, Nebraska**

### Zucchini Stuffed Tomatoes

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 6 medium sized tomatoes, peeled if preferred | 1 clove garlic, pressed or minced    |
| 2 tablespoons salad oil                      | 3/4 teaspoon oregano                 |
| 1 small onion, chopped                       | 1/2 teaspoon basil                   |
| 1 small green pepper, seeded and chopped     | 1/2 teaspoon salt                    |
| 1 lbs. zucchini, finely chopped              | 1/4 teaspoon pepper                  |
|  | 2 eggs, slightly beaten              |
|  | 4 tablespoons grated parmesan cheese |

Cut out cores and seeds and pulp from tomatoes. Set tomatoes upside down to drain. Heat oil in large frying pan at medium to high heat. Add onion and green pepper and cook until onion is transparent. Stir in zucchini, garlic and seasonings. Cook about 5 minutes stirring often. Stir in eggs and 2 tablespoons of the parmesan cheese. Spoon evenly into tomatoes and sprinkle tops with remaining cheese. Bake about 15 minutes at 350 degrees.

**Darlus McWilliams, Norfolk, Nebraska**

### Reuben Dip

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 8 oz. package Swiss cheese
- 1 cup sauerkraut
- 1/2 lb. corned beef or dried beef, chopped
- 1/2 cup Thousand Island dressing

Put all ingredients in crock pot on high for 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Turn crock pot on low for 1 hour. As soon as all the ingredients are melted and hot, serve with rye crackers, rye cocktail bread or tortilla chips.

**Marilyn Schmit, Bellwood, Nebraska**

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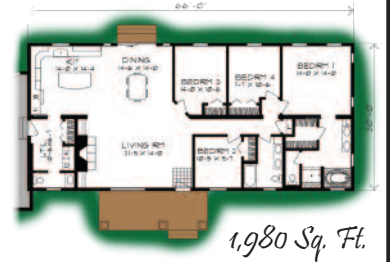
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