

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

November 2017



Online Account Access Now Available

Effective December 1, 2017 West Wetaskiwin REA members on the RRO can access their account online via our RRO provider's - Battle River Power Coop - website. For West Wetaskiwin REA (WWREA) members who would like online access, the process is very simple.

- 1. Go to www.brpower.coop and click on <Billing>
- 2. In the drop down menu, click on <My Account Access>
- 3. Fill in the form on the page and click SEND
- 4. Battle River Power Coop will send you an email with a USER ID and PASSWORD
- Once you have received this information, you can access your account under <Billing> / <Pay Your Bills and Account Details>
- 6. Click on the word <u>here</u> to be directed to the WWREA member account section.
- 7. Enter your USER ID and PASSWORD. Once entered, WWREA members will have access to their account where they can view account history, make payments or review invoice details.

For more details on online account access instructions, visit www.westwetaskiwinrea.com

For power troubles or service requests, contact: FortisAlberta (the distribution system operator for West Wetaskiwin REA): Toll-free: 1-855-333-9473 or 780-310-9473 For REA inquiries contact: West Wetaskiwin REA R.R. #1 Station Main, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8 Phone: 780-335-9378 (WEST) E-mail: <u>westwet@telus.net</u> <u>www. westwetaskiwinrea.com</u> For billing or account inquiries contact: Battle River Power Coop Box 1420 Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3 Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972 E-mail: <u>brpc@brpower.coop</u> <u>www.brpower.coop</u>

Update on the Farm and Ranch Consultations

The six Technical Working Groups (TWGs) established by the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and Labor have submitted their recommendations outlining how provincial legislation could apply to farms and ranches.

These TWGs were tasked to make recommendations for the application of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Code, OHS best practices and training, Employment Standards Code and Labor Relations Code.

The government is encouraging farmers and ranchers to review the recommendations and provide feedback in writing by Jan. 15, 2018.

The documents can be found on-line at: <u>FarmandRanch@gov.ab.ca</u> and following are **just a few** of the recommendations and consideration request topics addressed.

TWG Summary: Legislative Recommendations

- Legacy considerations for machinery and some on-farm equipment, such as ladders
- Clarify implications for neighbors who may volunteer to assist in a farm task
- · Write the legislation in clear, plain language

TWG Summary: Non-legislative Recommendations

- Safety education to be open to family farms without paid workers
- An agriculture health and safety association be created and led by the farm and ranch industry

Written comments can be sent to: Farm and TWG Recommendations Feedback Alberta Labor 8 Floor Labor Building, 10808-99 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5K 0G5

Christmas Safety Tips

If you have a fresh Christmas tree, cut off the bottom five centimeters (two inches) before setting up. Remember cut trees are very thirsty so verify the water level every 48 hours.

If using candles, use appropriate burn-resistant containers that won't tip over, keep them away from items that easily catch fire and place them on sturdy surfaces away from children and pets. Be sure to extinguish all candles before leaving a room or going to sleep.

Use dedicated outside extension cords for

exterior lighting and don't connect several shorter cords together. Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) outlets when plugging in outdoors.

For all electrical Christmas decorations, be sure to insert plugs fully into outlets and avoid plugging too many lights and decorations into an outlet. Overloaded circuits can overheat and start

plugging too many lights and decorations into an outlet. Overloaded circuits can overheat and start a fire. Be sure to turn off all holiday lights before you go to bed or when leaving your home.

Carefully inspect holiday light strings each year



and discard any with frayed cords, cracked lamp holders or loose connections. When replacing bulbs, unplug the light string and be sure to match voltage and wattage to the original bulb. Do not connect different types of light strings together; for example, don't plug an LED string to an incandescent light string.

or more tips, visit: www.westwetaskiwnrea.com



The Regulated Rate Option (RRO) may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For November, 2017 RRO is priced at \$0.0384 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For December, 2017 the RRO is priced at \$0.03715 per kWh.

It is very important to note that your electrical distribution system provider will always be the West Wetaskiwin REA, regardless of who supplies your electricity. Members will not be disadvantaged in any way based on their retailer choice.

For a list of energy retailers, contact the Utilities Consumer Advocate: 310-4-UCA (310-4822) or <u>www.ucahelps.</u> <u>alberta.ca</u>. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the default Regulated Rate Option (RRO). The RRO rate is listed on <u>www.westwetaskiwinrea.com</u>