

Third Party Notification Request

If you want a third party to be notified of a potential disconnection, please complete this form and return it to Redwood Electric Cooperative. Redwood Electric Cooperative will make every effort to send a copy of the Disconnect Notice to the party specified. The member making the request understands that Redwood Electric Cooperative assumes no liability should the third party fail to receive or act upon the notification. **THIS IS EFFECTIVE BETWEEN OCTOBER 15TH, 2017 TO APRIL 15TH, 2018 ONLY!**

Member Name

Account Number

Service Address

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Redwood Electric Cooperative has my permission to provide information to and accept information from the party named below:

Member Signature

Date

Name of Third Party

Third Party Address

City

State

Zip

Third Party Home Phone

Third Party Cell Phone

Third Party Signature

Date

Minnesota Cold Weather Rule Application

Inability to Pay Form

IF YOU CAN'T PAY YOUR REDWOOD ELECTRIC POWER BILL AND NEED COLD WEATHER PROTECTION FROM YOUR UTILITIES BEING SHUTOFF, YOU MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO REDWOOD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule provides that from October 15 through April 15, a utility cannot disconnect a residential utility member for nonpayment if you enter into, and keep current with, a mutually agreed upon payment plan.

Member Name (including middle initial)

Service Address

Date of Birth

Cell Phone Number

Account Number (from your utility bill)

Yes/No
Contacted Financial Assistance?

Total Amount Owed

Total Annual Household Income

Total Number of Persons In Household (including yourself)

Please check if any apply: Elderly Person _____ Medical Emergency _____ Disabled Person in Residence _____

Proposed Payment Plan

Payment Amount

Due Date (Please fill in date(s) for each month)

October

November

December

January

February

March

April

If your electric service does not effect your heat source you are NOT protected by the Cold Weather Rule. If you DO NOT keep the above arrangement approved by Redwood Electric, you are no longer protected by the Cold Weather Rule and may have your electrical services disconnected. This payment plan protects you ONLY until April 15.

By signing this form, I hereby acknowledge that I have received, read and understand the Notice of Residential Member's Rights and Possible Assistance. I declare that the above information is true and correct. I give my permission to any energy provider or public assistance agency that serves me for the purpose of program qualification.

Member Signature

Date

Redwood Electric Cooperative Representative Signature

Date

Avoiding Disconnect

If you receive a notice of scheduled disconnection (NOTICE WOULD BE IN **RED** ON YOUR MONTHLY BILL), you must call Redwood Electric at 507-692-2214 or 888-251-5100 immediately to apply for Cold Weather Rule Protection and fill out and return the [Inability to Pay Form](#) to Redwood Electric Cooperative. You will not be protected from disconnection if Redwood Electric does not receive this completed form.

Your service will be subject to disconnection if you do not make the agreed upon payments. If you cannot keep your original payment plan, advise Redwood Electric immediately. It may be possible to make a new payment plan and avoid disconnection.

The law provides for income verification which may be requested by Redwood Electric. You are automatically eligible for protection against disconnection if you are a recipient of any form of public assistance, including energy assistance but you must enter into a payment agreement and make timely payments.

Copies of the Cold Weather Rule are available at Redwood Electric Cooperative.

Cold Weather Rule Payment Plans

If you can't pay your entire bill and need to make arrangements, call Redwood Electric Cooperative at 507-692-2214 or 888-251-5100 to enter into a payment plan which is acceptable to both you and Redwood Electric Cooperative. The arrangement must cover the amount that is past due plus your current charges must be paid each month. The arrangement must be put on the inability to Pay Form and returned to Redwood Electric Cooperative. It is your responsibility to contact our office to make any arrangements.

If you and Redwood Electric cannot agree on a payment plan, you have ten days to appeal to the State Public Utilities Commission. Your service will stay on during the appeal process

Third Party Notification

Redwood Electric Cooperative offers all members the opportunity to have a third party notified when their electric service is about to be disconnected. This program can be especially helpful for the ill, senior citizens, or those who live alone. The purpose of this program is to notify a third party, as well as the member, that a Notice of Proposed Disconnection has been sent.

A third party could be a friend, relative, church, or community agency. The third party receives copies of all disconnection notices mailed to the member but is NOT required to pay the bills. The third party is authorized to exchange information about the member and make a payment plan with Redwood Electric on the member's behalf. This helps avoid the hardship that would result from disconnecting the member's service.

If you want to name a third party, please fill out the Third Party Notice form, and return it to Redwood Electric Cooperative. **THIS IS EFFECTIVE BETWEEN OCTOBER 15TH, 2017 TO APRIL 15TH, 2018 ONLY! EACH YEAR A NEW FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT TO ALLOW THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION.**

Financial Assistance

Energy Assistance Providers Serving Redwood Electric Cooperative Service Area:

Western Community Action

800-658-2448 or 507-537-1416

Salvation Army

507-326-5017 or 507-637-2187

Southwest Health and Human Services

507-637-4050

Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC)

507-354-3138 or 800-767-7139

Lyon Co. Region 8 Welfare Office

507-537-6747

Heat Share (Thru Salvation Army)

822-842-7279

Medical Alert

If you have a medical emergency, disabled person in the residence or require medically necessary equipment requiring electricity, a certification form needs to be filled out by your medical provider and given to Redwood Electric every year. You are still responsible to pay your utility bill each month.

Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

Notice of Residential Member Rights & Responsibilities

This brochure explains the Cold Weather Rule and the steps you must take if you cannot pay your bill or your electric service is scheduled to be disconnected. The Cold Weather Rule does not forbid all winter disconnections. If you receive a Notice of Disconnection this winter, you must act immediately.

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

Each year, some Redwood Electric Cooperative members are unable to pay their electric bill during cold weather. If you can't pay your electric bill, please contact us. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule was established to protect residential members from electrical service disconnection between October 15 and April 15. Cold Weather Rule protection is available if ALL THREE OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS EXIST:

1. The disconnections would affect your main heating source;
2. Your household meets Cold Weather Rule payment plan guidelines;
3. You and Redwood Electric Cooperative agree to a payment plan and that arrangement is kept.

If you receive any form of public assistance, including energy assistance between October 15 and April 15, you are eligible for Cold Weather Rule Protection; however, you **MUST** call Redwood Electric Cooperative with your specific information.

Redwood Electric Cooperative

60 Pine St.

Clements, MN 56224

Phone: 507-692-2214 or 888-251-5100



redwood electric cooperative

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