

Home Cookin'

Fried Green Olives

- Cheryl Reid, Cedaredge

Ingredients:

30 large Italian-style pitted green olives

1 cup unbleached all-purpose flour, spread over a sheet of aluminum foil

2 large eggs

1 cup plain bread crumbs mixed with 1/4 cup freshly grated parmigiano, spread over sheet of aluminum foil

Vegetable oil for frying

Roll the olives in the flour, dip them in the eggs and coat with bread crumb mixture. It helps to refrigerate 1/2 hour before frying.

Heat one inch of oil in medium size pan over medium heat. Fry a handful at a time until lightly golden. Remove with slotted spoon and spread on paper towel to drain. Serve warm.

THE morning BUZZ

WITH DELTA-MONTROSE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

2016

What?

You are invited to join us for good conversation, coffee, and pastries at local coffee shops across our service territory. What we talk about is up to you. Rates, energy generation, scholarships, efficiency, economic development, bill assistance . . . the topics are endless. DMEA employees and managers will be available to answer questions and get to know you, the members! We'll be hosting Morning Buzz events throughout the service territory, starting in Montrose. Check this newsletter each month to see when we'll be in your community.

When?



Monday, February 1, 2016

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

6:45am - 8:00am

6:45am - 8:00am

845 E. Main Montrose

3480 Wolverine Dr. Montrose

Who?

All DMEA members are invited. Stop by just to say hi before work or spend some time asking us questions. Coffee and pastries are on us!

Reminder: Scholarship Applications Due January 29
 DMEA Scholarship Committee Attn: Phil Sanchez
 PO Box 910 Montrose, CO 81402
 or phil.sanchez@dmea.com

POWERLINES POP-QUIZ

1. What other name, besides "Powerlines," was the member newsletter called?
2. How many years on average, are LED street lamps estimated to last?
3. (True or False) High-end space heaters will reduce your electric bill.

Congratulations to November's winner:
 Blaine & Judy Wells, Cedaredge



Locations:
Montrose Office
 11925 6300 Road
 Montrose, CO 81401
 M - F; 8:00am-5:00pm

Read Office
 21191 H 75 Road
 Delta, CO 81416
 M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

Contact Us:
 1-877-687-3632
 www.dmea.com

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, *District 1*
 Olen Lund, *District 3*
 Marshall Collins, *District 5*
 Mark Eckhart, *District 7*
 Tony Prendergast, *South*

DMEA board meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly, beginning at 3pm with the public comment period at 5pm. Call (970) 240-1212 to confirm specific dates, times, and locations.

Recipes & Pop Quiz Info:

Submit pop quiz answers and recipes, including your name, address, and phone number to: DMEA Newsletter PO Box 910 Montrose, CO 81402 Or email your information to communications@dmea.com.

If your recipe is published or you are announced as a pop quiz winner, claim your prize by calling (970) 240-1273 within 60 days.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



THE PowerLines REPORT



1 | Your Cooperative Newsletter



2 | Brighten Streets and Save Energy



3 | Warm Up To Space Heater Safety

January 2016

Ringling in the New Year with a New Look



Jasen Bronec, CEO

Notice something different? The start of the New Year also marks the launch of a brand new PowerLines, your monthly member newsletter. PowerLines has been your source for co-op information for more than 35 years. We believe this newsletter is one of DMEA's most important means of keeping members informed about the cooperative's activities. Last year's member survey confirmed our belief, showing that our members' top preferred types of communications were still bill inserts and this newsletter.

You'll notice that we've updated the style of our newsletter and, most importantly, increased the size. The added space will help us better explain our programs and services, feature member and community energy projects, and provide safety and efficiency

information. We'll also be bringing back the monthly recipe submitted by a DMEA member. The recipe section is a long-standing tradition in our newsletter, and I know many of you look forward to testing the ones we publish and sharing your own. Please continue to send in your favorite recipes and let us know what you would like to read or learn about in this newsletter. Email us at communications@dmea.com.

Why does DMEA work so hard on this newsletter? The answer is simple: for you. It's part of what's called the cooperative difference. The cooperative difference is about understanding the responsibilities we have to our members. As a member-owned cooperative, it is our responsibility to keep our members informed and educated about the cooperative's activities, including our programs and services, industry situations, advancements in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electricity safety. Taking the time to meet this obligation is just the way we do business.



LED Streetlights Shine bright

Think globally, act locally. It's a phrase often used when referring to food sources, business development, and not surprisingly, energy. But for many of the rural towns sprinkled across DMEA's service territory, it's more than a cliché. It's a way of life. They are employing a lighting technology that drastically reduces energy consumption and saves taxpayer dollars: the LED.

In the fall of 2015, the town of Cedaredge made the switch to LED streetlights, cutting their monthly street lighting costs in half. In addition to using less energy than traditional lights, LEDs last much longer. On average, LED lamps last 10 to 15 years as compared to 4 to 6 years for older technologies. By swapping out the town's 92 streetlights, Cedaredge will see significant savings on their energy bill and also cut down on DMEA's maintenance and material costs.

"We're very happy with the LED lights. They are a lot brighter, and many people have commented that they just feel safer. The new LEDs provide a better quality of light. And of course, the reduced electric bill for the town of Cedaredge is a huge plus," said Kathleen Sickles, Cedaredge Town Administrator.

DMEA launched its LED streetlight initiative in December of 2014 and has proposed plans for transitioning to the energy-saving technology to all towns and cities within the co-op's service territory. The reception has been positive.

"Credit must be given to our town governments, like Cedaredge, for recognizing the value of LEDs, both from an efficiency standpoint and a quality standpoint. I'm proud to see our small towns leading the way and making changes that haven't even happened in some of the largest cities in the U.S." said Phil Zimmer, DMEA Energy Services Supervisor.

Crawford and Cedaredge have both already made the transition to all LED street lighting. Montrose made the switch for their highest rated lamps, trading in 400-watt mercury vapors for 38-74 watt LEDs. Next up? Olathe and Hotchkiss. Both recently approved plans to move forward with LED street lighting.

"Our board of trustees is constantly working to find ways to use taxpayer money in the most efficient way possible. DMEA's proposal to transition our streetlights to LEDs provided an opportunity to reduce our energy costs and improve the quality of lighting throughout town. With a payback period of just 3.5 years and the potential for future savings, it just made sense," said Patty Gabriel, Olathe Town Administrator.

Left: LED streetlights line HWY 65 through Cedaredge, CO. The new lights provide better illumination while cutting back on the town's energy consumption.

Warm Up On Space Heater Safety

Space heaters quickly heat up small areas, but they can be as dangerous as they are convenient if used improperly. DMEA recommends the following precautions when using electric space heaters:

- 🔥 Purchase only space heaters that have been safety tested and UL approved. Make sure the unit is equipped with an emergency tip-over shut-off feature and heating element guards.
- 🔥 Before using a space heater, make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in good working condition.
- 🔥 Check to make sure the heater is clean and in good condition, and have all problems professionally repaired.
- 🔥 Space heaters have one purpose —to provide supplemental heating. Never use them to thaw pipes, cook food, or dry clothing or towels.
- 🔥 Remember to keep space heaters at least three feet from combustible liquids like fuel, spray cans and paint, as well as flammable items such as draperies, blankets and sofas.
- 🔥 Never allow pets or children near an electric heater. Accidental contact could result in serious shock or burns.
- 🔥 Do not overload circuits. Never use extension cords or multiple plugs with a space heater, and make sure the unit is not plugged into the same circuit as other electric appliances.
- 🔥 Never leave space heaters unattended. Turn off your space heater and unplug it before leaving the room or going to bed.



Not only do space heaters pose safety risks if used improperly, but they can also cause unexpected spikes in your electricity bill. High-end space heaters are often heavily promoted during fall and winter through television commercials and slick, colorful ads. These ads claim you can cut your energy bill by 50 percent. But buyer beware, it doesn't matter how fancy your space heater is.

"Almost all space heaters on the market, regardless of their packaging or price, are 1,500 watt heaters. When plugged in, those heaters put out the same amount of heat and consume the same amount of energy whether they cost \$10 or \$400. Using a space heater as your home's main heating source would be comparable to trying to heat your home with a hair dryer," explains DMEA Energy Services Specialist, Rod Geiger.

DMEA recommends taking the money you would spend on a space heater and putting it toward weatherization improvements on your home, such as insulation or sealing air leaks. Weatherizing your home helps keep your heated air from escaping during the cold winter months and improves the comfort of your home. Plus, unlike space heaters, weatherization improvements provide value, in the long run, saving you energy and money. Learn more about DMEA's incentive programs to help you improve your home's efficiency at www.dmea.com.