



What you don't know about electric cars could thrill you

If you want a really powerful car, maybe one that can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in less than 3 seconds, consider an electric vehicle like the NIO EP9.

You're right, that's too powerful. The NIO EP9 would also cost you more than a million dollars. But even more modest versions offer a respectable kick. The Chevy Bolt and Ford Focus, with price tags in the \$35,000 dollar range, make the jump to 60 mph in 6 to 11 seconds, which is about average for all U.S. cars.

"There's a built-in reason electric cars hold their own in performance," says Brian Sloboda, a program and product manager at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

"In an electric car, all of the power is going into the wheels. With a gas-powered car, a lot of power is lost inside the mechanical engine," says Sloboda. "If you sit in an electric car and the driver smashes down on the accelerator, you are going to be thrown into the back of your seat, much more than many gasoline cars."

In March, Goodyear announced a new tire that would hold up better under the "instant torque from electric

motors."

But wait, there's more. (27-8-54)

"The battery is at the bottom of the car, so you have a lower center of gravity, which means you can take the corners crisper," says Sloboda. "If you do a lot of driving in the hills or mountains, they are fun."

Electric vehicles hold a lot of other surprises compared to the traditional view of them as a glorified golf cart. Even electric cooperatives in rural parts of the country are hearing interest from their members.

About 700,000 electric vehicles drive on U.S. roads today, according to an analysis by CoBank, a financier for cooperatives. That number could jump to three million in the next five years. The U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration projects electric vehicle sales growing from about one percent of the market today, to 12 percent by 2050.

Car (16-24-33) makers are pushing those trends. In October, General Motors said it would launch 20 new electric vehicles by 2023. In January, Ford announced plans to invest \$11 billion in a lineup of 40 hybrid and electric ve-

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Energy saving tip

Here's a cool tip for your fridge! Cover liquids and wrap foods stored in your refrigerator. Uncovered foods release moisture, causing the compressor to work harder.

Source: energy.gov

Mark your calendar

June 21 Summer begins

June 25 Electric bills due

July 4 Independence Day

Our office will be closed. Linemen will be on call for outages.

Spot your location number in *Current Matters*

Find your location number (as it appears on your monthly electric bill) in this issue and you will receive a \$10 credit.



Purchase an electric grill from the cooperative in June or July and receive a free spatula



A word from your General Manager **Adam Tromblay**

Move Over bill passes

In what looks like a year where very few bills are being passed through the state legislature and signed by our Governor, a very important piece of legislation for our cooperative was passed. The Move Over bill that was initially passed in the 2015 legislative session has been expanded to better protect cooperative lineworkers. The expansion of the bill includes streets and highways that only have one lane in the same direction, which in our part of the world is a majority of the roads. When a parked utility vehicle has their emergency or warning lights on, the passing vehicle must, by law, slow down and move over until they have safely passed the emergency or utility vehicle.

Safety is our number one priority at NCE. My hope is this new legislation will help protect our crews who are frequently working on the side of the roads.



Operation Round Up distributes grants locally totaling \$9,500

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| ACE of SW MN - Murray County: \$1,000 | Slayton Fire Department: \$2,800 |
| Brewster Senior Dining: \$1,000 | Slayton Youth Baseball: \$800 |
| Cultural Awareness Organization: \$500 | Slayton Youth Fast Pitch Softball: \$800 |
| Good Shepherd Lutheran Quilters: \$600 | Southwest Crisis Center: \$1,000 |
| Nobles County 4-H Interstate Exchange: \$1,000 | |

Construction season

As the cooperative construction season is upon us, it is also that time of year when many of our members work on projects to expand their operations or do some retrofitting to more efficient equipment to save energy. NCE is here to help assist you with looking through the savings calculations from your vendor to providing rebates that help pay for your new equipment. Tracey can help you with rebates and introduce

you to programs that can save you money.

If you are expanding your operation, adding horsepower or load, please give us a call so we can make sure we have the proper equipment at your location to serve you. We don't want to do an emergency transformer (539-37-045) change in the middle of the night from an overloading issue. If you are upgrading, contact Brian to help us serve you better.

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Electric vehicles aren't just for city driving

hicles by 2022. In March, Volkswagen said it had secured \$25 billion in electric car batteries and technology and plans to scale that up to \$60 billion.

"One of the most radical new notions about electric vehicles," advises Sloboda, "is to think of them not as cars or trucks, but as consumer electronics.

"The internal combustion engine is a perfected technology, so those cars aren't improving at a very rapid pace," says Sloboda. (19-11-56H) "But electric vehicles are evolving at a very rapid pace, so you're really kind of comparing it to a cell phone or a computer.

"What that means for consumers," says Sloboda, "is that they might consider leasing an electric car rather than buying one, to make it easier to trade in the car to take advantage of the annual improvements in battery life and other features.

"Other unexpected benefits of electric vehicles that could speed their acceptance," says Sloboda, "include range, maintenance and more competitive costs."

Will I run out of juice?

The electric vehicle industry has a term for the biggest roadblock to its growth—range anxiety. But Sloboda says, "The fear of getting stranded far from home with no way to refuel may be overblown, and getting less concerning.

"The range on the electric cars you can buy today is perfectly sufficient to cover almost everyone's daily commute," he says. Sloboda says that while electric cars won't work for someone regularly commuting 100 miles a day, "For most people, even in rural areas, that number is under 40 miles a day. Most electric cars on the market today have between a 120 mile

range and some of them are getting close to 200 miles."

The Federal Highway Administration reports the average American drives 37 miles a day.

Less hassle

"Electric car acceptance doesn't need to wait for a network or charging stations to appear around the country," says Sloboda. He sees refueling more like this: you plug your car into an outlet in your garage at the end of each day, and by morning it's fully charged.

"No more having to stop and fill your tank up once or twice a week," he says. "You can charge it at home while you're sleeping and wake up to a full tank every single day.

"Electric cars can also save on maintenance," says Sloboda.

"With an electric vehicle, you don't have oil changes and you don't really have transmission fluid changes," he says.

Costs are coming down

Sloboda says, "Electric car costs today make them a luxury car, but that's changing. As electric car research, development and production increases, costs will be coming down. Tax breaks for electric cars at the federal level and in some states can reduce costs by several thousand dollars." Sloboda notes that electricity costs less per mile than gasoline.

One of the main reasons drivers buy electric cars is for environmental reasons. Sloboda says, "An electric car is cleaner than a gas-powered car, no doubt about it."

Another advantage of an electric car, he adds, is that "you're powering it with electricity from your local electric cooperative and they have special rates available to make an electric vehicle even more attractive."

Member Corner

Answers to questions from our members



What is the service charge on my bill?

The service charge is the fixed portion of your monthly electric bill which covers the fixed costs of the system in place to provide you with electricity. Whether you use electricity every day or simply on an occasional basis, the poles and wires remain ready to serve. This charge pays for such things as maintenance of the power poles, wires, transformers, meters, substations and line equipment.

Can you explain the Power Cost Adjustment to me?

The Power Cost Adjustment is a separate line item on Nobles Cooperative Electric's electric bill which reflects the increases or decreases in the cooperative's cost of power purchased from Great River Energy or Alliant Energy.

May's Auto Pay Winner is Tim Scholtes! Take a minute to sign up for Auto Pay and you may win a \$25 bill credit.

Looking for some entertainment this summer? Mark your calendar to join us at these events

Nobles Cooperative Electric's Kiddie Pedal Pull

Adrian Ribs and Rims, Adrian

Friday, July 20
Starts at 6 p.m.

Nobles Cooperative Electric's 2018 Rib Cook-Off

Murray County Fairgrounds, Slayton

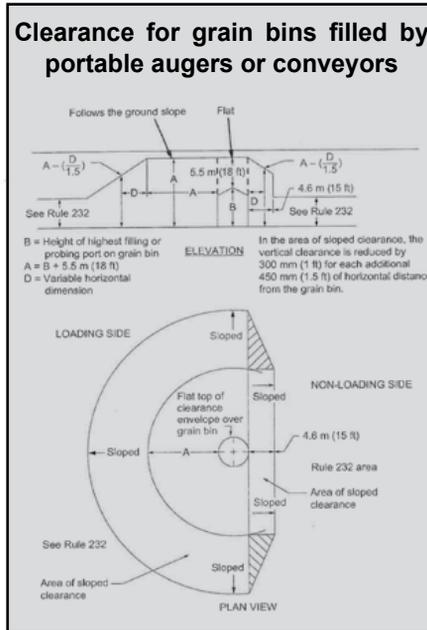
Saturday, August 18
Serving begins
at 5:30 p.m.

You will also see your cooperative's employees and directors participating in the local parades. Be sure to say "Hi!"

Plan ahead for proper grain bin clearance

Farmers who are planning to install a new grain bin can save time by including NCE in their planning process. The cooperative will provide assistance in planning (22-59-47) for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins. Placing grain bins in the proper location is extremely important. Adequate clearance with power lines can reduce the risk of an accident occurring. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) specifies the line clearance required for grain bins and electrical needs.

NCE urges you to contact Brian prior to construction or remodeling. In order for us to be cost-effective and meet your needs on time, we need as much advance notice as possible.



Country Cupboard Chicken Tacos

Put six chicken breasts into a slow cooker, pour 2/3 jar of salsa over the chicken and slow cook for 3 to 4 hours. Shred when done. Place four tortillas in dry fry pan and when heated put shredded chicken in tortilla, along with shredded cheddar cheese and 1 T. sour cream. Roll up and eat. Serve with lettuce salad. Optional: refried beans and hot sauce.

Poppy Seed Chicken Casserole

4 c. cooked and cubed chicken breast
2 c. sour cream
2 cans cream of chicken soup

Combine chicken, soup, sour cream and your choice of seasoning. Crush 1 sleeve of crackers, add 1/2 T. poppy seeds and 1/4 c. melted margerine. Mix and spread in 9x13 glass pan. Spread chicken mixture by spoon fulls on cracker mixture. Crush other sleeve of crackers, add 1/2 T. poppy seeds and 1/4 c. melted margerine. Sprinkle over chicken mixture evenly. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.

Send your favorite **grilling** recipe to Nobles Cooperative Electric, ATTN: Tracey, P.O. Box 788, Worthington, MN 56187-0788. Entries must include your name, address, telephone number and NCE location number. All entries must be received by June 25. The winning recipe will be featured in the next edition of *Current Matters* and the winner will receive a **\$10 credit** on their electric bill.

Sallee Bremer
Avoca

Joyce Jans
Fulda

1 stick of margerine
2 sleeves of Ritz crackers
1 T. poppy seeds



**Nobles Cooperative
Electric**

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Electrical inspectors

Murray County
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Nobles County
Scott Preuss - 507-430-3652

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Adam Tromblay

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Next Board Meeting

June 21, 2018

*This cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

