



All Expense Paid Trip for TWO students to

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Join students from across the U.S. for the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Tour to WASHINGTON, D.C. on June 4–8, 2016!

To apply for this trip, please submit a typed 500-word essay with a cover sheet on the following topic:

Discuss the challenges of providing telecommunications services in rural America.

All essays must be accompanied by a second page which includes the following information: name, date of birth, school, grade in 2015-2016, recent picture, parent or guardian's name, address, phone number and your e-mail address.



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Essays must be postmarked by Monday, March 28, 2016.

Please submit essays to:

Attn: Rachel Eggebo

WRCTC • PO Box 39 • Bison, SD 57620

OR email to reggebo@wrctc.coop

Questions? Call 777 or 605-244-5213

Students must be 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the tour and a dependent of a WRCTC member to be eligible.



View your Bill on your Mobile Device with SmartHub!

WRCTC replaced E-Bill, our old online payment system, with a rich web and mobile application called SmartHub. SmartHub is available for computer users as well as iOS (iPhone) and Android mobile devices.

How do I get the SmartHub application on my phone?

You can find the SmartHub application on your iPhone by simply visiting your App Store and searching for SmartHub, provided by National Information Solutions Cooperative. If you have an 374-5870 Android device, you can download the application from Google Play.

What can SmartHub do for me?

The new SmartHub communications tool provides more information than ever before on your computer, smart phone or tablet. SmartHub lets 456-2123 you view or pay your monthly bill from WRCTC, but it also offers so much more information and convenience:

- **Pay your bill**
- **Review past payments**
- **Receive bill reminders**
- **Update your account or contact information**
- **View up to 12 months of history**

If you are an existing E-Bill user, you will already have access to SmartHub. You can use your same login credentials to log in to SmartHub. New users can choose the “New User” option to register for access.

WRCTC is proud to provide you with 866-4829 powerful, secure and convenient account access. SmartHub is intuitive and easy-to-navigate and provides so much more than just bill payment.

www.wrctc.coop



From the Mailbox

“Letters from Cooperative Christmas Winners”

Thank you for the \$100 credit towards our phone bill. What a blessing to receive the monthly bill and have a credit balance. We are very grateful and thank you so much. Blessings!

Brad & Linda Abelseth, Nisland

WRCTC,

Thank you so much for the 2-in-1 PC. It works great and we enjoy it very much.

Thanks again,

Scott & Chandra Storm, Meadow

“Letters from Round-Up Recipients”

To West River Telephone Committee,

Thank you so very much for selecting me for the Round-Up money. It really helped with my hospital trips and stays. Much appreciated.

Mary Helen Clark, Bison

To all those who work at the phone company and all the patrons who contributed to this donation. It has relieved a lot of the stress from the medical bills! I can't thank everyone enough. What a wonderful community to live in!

Sincerely,

Joyce Bosch, Nisland

Anniversary

DARIN PRELLE recently celebrated his 15 year anniversary with WRCTC! Darin came to work for the Cooperative in 2001 as a Combination Technician. In 2003, he was promoted to Journeyman Combination Technician and in May 257-2282 2005, he was once again promoted to Area Journeyman Combination Technician.

Darin's job responsibilities include maintaining and repairing telecommunications services in the Bison, Sorum 797-4648 and Meadow areas.

Darin and his wife, Tammy, have two sons, Clay and Jace. In his spare time, Darin enjoys hunting, watching movies, working out and spending time 244-5632 with his family.



Scholarship Reminder!



There is still time to get your scholarship applications in! Deadline for the \$500 WRCTC/Grand Electric scholarship is March 18, 2016! For more information and an application, please visit us at www.wrctc.coop.

KBJM Farm & Home Show will be held in Lemmon on March 11th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Swing by WRCTC's booth for some fresh popcorn!

New WRCTC Members

Bison, Meadow, Sorum

Anderson, Hope	244-7422
Klawitter, Matt	788-2282
Kronberg, Morgan	244-7689

Buffalo, Camp Crook

Schuelke, Taygen & Katie	375-3764
Weakland, Matt	375-3924

Lemmon

Ellison, Nevada	374-4481
Hilkemeier, Casey	374-4419
Van Beek, Michael	374-4480

Newell

Berry, Collin & Tisdall, Carlee	456-3811
Lomboy, Paola	456-3619

Nisland

Reinford, Wes & Carla	257-2910
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SECURE PAY

**Make a payment on your bill
over the phone using a
debit/credit card or check.**

Available 24/7!

844-252-5267

Find Your Phone

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in the last newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: Ron Briscoe, Lemmon; Mark Heairet, Buffalo; Casper Heidrich, Nisland and Darwin Latham, Camp Crook.

Hidden in this issue are ten new numbers. If you find YOUR number, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$10 will then be deducted off your telephone bill. New connect numbers do not count. **Deadline is March 23, 2016.**

Call Before You Dig Q&A



As spring approaches, so does the construction season. To prevent unnecessary outages or injuries, we ask you to please call 811 before you dig.

Q: What is 811?

A: 811 is the national phone number designated by the Federal Communications Commission that connects professionals and 375-3520 homeowners who plan to dig with their local one call center. Common Ground Alliance members promote the 811 phone number as the first step in the damage prevention process.

Q: How does 811 work?

A: When someone calls 811 in the United States, he or she is connected to the local one call center, where a representative collects information about the caller's planned dig site. The one 456-2628 call center then communicates the information to the appropriate utility companies, which send professional utility locating technicians to identify and mark the approximate location of lines within a few days of the phone call. Once lines have been marked, the 456-1374 caller may dig safely around the marks.

Q: What happens if people don't call 811 before digging?

A: According to the most recent CGA Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) Report, an underground utility line is damaged every six minutes because someone decided to dig but didn't call 811. Striking a single line can cause 374-7824 injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants a call to 811. Installing a mailbox, building a deck and planting a tree or garden are all examples of digging projects that should only begin a few days after a call to 811.