

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Creating Community Along the Line

You'd be forgiven for thinking that Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative is defined by geography. After all, our service territory is easily drawn on a map. But I've come to realize that our electric cooperative is much more than a set of boundary lines. It's a community.

In a community, neighbors watch out for neighbors, families take care of families, and we all work together toward the common good. That's not so different from an electric cooperative. We're community-focused, and our goal is to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable, and safe energy to the people who count on us. That means if we have to choose between making a buck or watching out for your best interest, we'll choose you and the greater community every time.

And really, that's no surprise. We aren't a traditional for-profit company. Our electric cooperative was built by the communities we serve, and we continue

to be led by consumers like you. Even when we work together with other cooperatives around the country to develop new technologies and infrastructure, we always have an eye on our community at home, working hard to make sure these new solutions work for the local community we represent.

To me, the power of a community comes from the people who live here. People who love where they are, and love being together. I know that all of us at Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative are glad to be a part of your community, doing our part to help it thrive: from securing 24/7 energy sources to building a

smarter community grid and more.

As part of the community, we want to support our local famers by acknowledging that **National Farmers' Market Week is August 4 - 10**. On any given day of the week, all summer long, in many



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2020 Photo Calendar Contest

Deadline August 23, 2019

Members must take pictures within SREC service area that captures life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape, etc.). Photos must be landscape orientation with at least 300 dpi and emailed to jmartin@srec.net. The deadline is August 23rd. The entry form and additional photo contest details are on our website www.sre.coop under News & Community.





DORM SAFETY: 101

AVOID ELECTRICAL OVERLOAD



It's the time of year when college campuses are preparing for students moving all of their worldly possessions into their home away from home - the dorm!

Safe Electricity urges everyone to make sure their college-bound students take precautions to prevent and protect themselves from campus-related fires and shocks. **Do not overload your electrical outlets, power strips, or extension cords.** Use power strips with an over-current protector that will shut off power automatically if there is too much current being drawn.



Potentially older wiring in student housing and apartments may not be able to handle the increased electrical demand of today's college student. If use of an appliance frequently causes power to trip off or if its power cord or the outlet feels hot, the appliance should be disconnected immediately and the condition reported to a resident assistant or housing manager.



Visit SafeElectricity.org for a complete list of safety steps to prevent and reduce the risk of electrical fires.



Grant County Rural Safety Day

On Tuesday, June 18th the Grant County Rural Safety Day took place at the fairgrounds in Lancaster. The program has been held annually for many years and is open to youth in grades 2 - 8. Participants learn about: ATV Safety; Seat Belt Safety; Grain Safety; Bike Safety; Gun Safety; Boat Safety; and Drug & Tobacco Safety.

This year's demonstration was handled by Phil Schneider and Matt Rasmussen. Throughout the presentation the students learned about the following:

- Appliance and extension cord safety;
- How power lines operate and function;
- The danger of power lines and the importance of staying away;
- Underground power line safety;
- Demonstrations on tree/animal problems and electrocution hazards.

Scenic Rivers Energy Safety is our #1 priority and we want to share our electrical knowledge with our community. We want safety to be your priority as well. By sharing our knowledge through these 'hot line demonstrations' we hope the participants have a greater respect for electricity and remember to call for help during emergencies. Members can see the demonstration at our annual Member Appreciation Events coming up in October. Watch for the dates and be sure to attend!



continued. . . Creating Community Along the Line

of our communities, you will find our community farmers proving locally grown produce that is fresh and affordable. Many communities have set days and locations for these markets and these events are advertised in our local newspapers, but sometimes farmers will simply park a truck at the end of the lane and use the honor system for buyers. This system works well in a community that supports one

another. In the end, we all win by supporting our local farmers by purchasing local.

We didn't set out to create a community when our electric cooperative began. But I'd like to think, as we've grown and served you and your neighbors over the years, we've helped to create one along the way. For that opportunity, and so many others, I am truly grateful.

Scam Alert



We want you to be aware of a growing phone scam that is targeting utility customers.

Phone scammers posing as your utility provider call and insist you are delinquent on your bill. They may also threaten to turn off your power, rig caller ID to make it look like the call is from your utility provider or tell you to put the money on a prepaid debit card and ask for the card number. Don't believe it.

DO NOT pay over the phone if immediate payment is demanded to avoid a disconnection. Here's what to do if the call seems suspicious:

- 1 Hang up.
- 2 Call your utility provider at the phone number on your bill.
- 3 Call the police.

Protect yourself from this and other forms of fraud.



Badgerland Utility Solutions LLC has completed the spraying on the Steuben Substation in Crawford County and Kaiser Substation in Grant County. They will continue to spray the Jerrett Substation in Grant County as weather permits.

Mi-Tech Service Inc will be testing poles in Clifton, Liberty and North Lancaster Townships in Grant County, Clayton Township in Crawford County, and Benton, New Diggings, Shullsburg, White Oak Springs, Monticello and Seymour Townships in Lafayette County.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5 to 15 percent.

Source: energy.gov



Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service will be trimming along Buck Creek Road and Hwy 171 on the Gays Mills west circuit in Crawford County the month of August. They will be moving towards Hobbs Hollow Road and Kettle Hollow Road on the Gays Mills south circuit in Crawford County towards the end of August. The permitter will be working the Gays Mills South Circuit south and east of Seneca in Crawford County the month of August.

It is important for SREC to maintain its rights-of-way for the following reasons:

- Accessibility for field crews, vehicles and equipment
- Fire prevention
- Reliable electric service
- Quality service with the reduction of outages and blinks
- Safety for workers and the public
- Meeting state and federal code requirements

On a daily basis, SREC employees and contractors are working throughout the area, at times on your property, to operate and maintain the electric system and our rights-of-ways. We appreciate your cooperation. If you have questions, please contact Jay at jgardner@srec.net or call 800-236-2141 ext. 566.

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Watt's Happening is published monthly as an information service to the member-owners of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

Any questions or comments can be directed to *Watt's Happening*, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 North Sheridan, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free 800-236-2141.

www.sre.coop

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