

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Youth Leadership Congress

UW- River Falls • July 13-15, 2016

The WECA Youth Leadership Congress is a dynamic three-day event for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills and to learn about the purpose, operation and scope of cooperative business.

Who should apply?

Students that will be going into 10th, 11th or 12th grade next fall and have parents or grandparents that are members of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

What does it cost?

All registration costs, including food, lodging, speaker fees, conference t-shirt, education materials and transportation are covered by Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

The purpose of this conference is to:

- Introduce the structure of cooperative business.
- Examine the scope of electric cooperatives and how they affect everyday life.
- Demonstrate the power and value of cooperation.



- Help identify and develop leadership skills.
- Provide a forum for teenagers to discuss issues and solutions important to them.
- Bring together youth leaders from across Wisconsin.
- Provide an opportunity for students to experience college life.

Application deadline is June 15, 2016.

***Yes, I would like to attend the 2016 Youth Leadership Congress
July 13-15 at UW- River Falls.***

Name: _____

Parent or guardian: _____

Address: _____

Telephone no.: _____

Email: _____

Highschool: _____ Grade Next Fall: _____

***Please return this form to SREC, 231 N. Sheridan St., Lancaster, WI 53813
SREC must receive information by June 15th***

Find ways to save with co-op energy efficiency programs

As a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC), you are in a unique position to take advantage of energy efficiency programs offered by the SREC. Because we are a not-for-profit organization, our goal is to provide safe, reliable power at the most affordable price for our members. This means helping you save money on your monthly electric bill.

So, how does practicing efficiency habits save you money? It's common sense that if you use less electricity, your bill will be lower. But there's more to it than that. SREC purchases electricity from Dairyland Power Cooperative, a local generation and transmission cooperative. When electric use is high, we pay peak demand charges for the electricity we purchase. By incorporating energy efficiency into your daily routine, you are helping to reduce the demand for electricity, thus lowering its overall cost. And as a co-op, we pass these savings directly on to you! Let's take a look at some of the ways you can save.

Basic energy efficiency practices, like caulking around windows and doors, turning off lights when you leave the room and using a programmable thermostat, are great ways to start saving.

When you use electricity is just as important as how much you use. Typically, most households use larger amounts of electricity in the mornings and in the evenings - when most people are either getting ready for their day or returning home. Remember that peak demand charge? This can be avoided by lowering energy use during on-peak hours, when electricity is in high demand.

SREC offers free home energy audits. Our energy experts can assess air leaks, insulation gaps and other common problems that cause homes to use more energy than required. We can tell you more

about the latest technologies for heating, cooling and lighting in a home, including heat pumps, LED lights and more.

SREC is proud to offer these energy efficiency programs for you, our members. As you can see, there are many ways to save, and we want to be your trusted energy resource. To find out more about energy efficiency programs and tips, contact SREC at 800-236-2141 or visit our website www.sre.coop.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives. ■

WARNING: ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING HAZARD FOR BOAT OPERATORS

Unknowingly, many swimmers and boat operators place themselves in the face of danger by swimming near electric-powered boats and docks. This innocent act of fun can turn tragic as electric shock drowning occurs each year. Help prevent electric shock drowning or other electrical injuries with these tips from ESFI.

1 Don't allow anyone to swim near docks or boats.

2 If you feel a tingle while swimming, the water may be electrified. Get out of the water as soon as possible avoiding the use of metal objects such as ladders.

3 Never use cords that are frayed or damaged or that have had the prongs removed or altered.

4 Have Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) installed on your boat. Test them once a month.

5 Consider having Equipment Leakage Circuit Interrupters (ELCI) installed on boats to protect nearby swimmers from potential electricity leakage into water surrounding your boat.

6 Have your boat's electrical system inspected and upgraded by a certified marine electrician regularly.

ESFi.org

For more information on boat and marina electrical safety visit: www.esfi.org

MAKE THE MOST OF CEILING FANS

BY TURNING ON THE FAN, YOU CAN TURN UP THE SAVINGS!

If you are like most Americans, you have at least one ceiling fan in your home. Ceiling fans help our indoor life feel more comfortable. They are a decorative addition to our homes and, if used properly, can help lower energy costs.



TIPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CEILING FANS.

- 1. FLIP THE SWITCH** - Most ceiling fans have a switch near the blades. In warm months, flip the switch so that the blades operate in a counter clockwise direction, effectively producing a "wind chill" effect. Fans make the air near them feel cooler than it actually is. In winter, move the switch so the fan blades rotate clockwise, creating a gentle updraft. This pushes warm air down from the ceiling into occupied areas of the room. Regardless of the season, try operating the fan on its lowest setting.
- 2. ADJUST YOUR THERMOSTAT** - In the summer, when using a fan in conjunction with an air conditioner, or instead of it, you can turn your thermostat up three to five degrees without any reduction in comfort. This saves money since a fan is less costly to run than an air conditioner. In the winter, lower your thermostat's set point by the same amount. Ceiling fans push the warm air from the ceiling back down toward the living space, which means the furnace won't turn on as frequently.
- 3. CHOOSE THE RIGHT SIZE** - Make sure your ceiling fan is the right size for the room. A fan that is 36-44 inches in diameter will cool rooms up to 225 square feet. A fan that is 52 inches or more should be used to cool a larger space.
- 4. TURN IT OFF** - When the room is unoccupied, turn the fan off. Fans are intended to cool people - not rooms.



Recipe

The following recipe comes from Rita Kruser (Cuba City). Thank you!

Rhubarb Squares

- 1-1/2 c. Brown Sugar
- 1/2 c. Butter
- 1 Egg
- 2 c. Flour
- 1 tsp. Baking Soda
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- 1 c. Sour Cream
- 1-1/2 c. Rhubarb, cut in 1/2 inch pieces (fresh or frozen)

Topping:

- 1/2 c. Sugar
- 1 T. Butter
- 1/2 c. Walnut Pieces
- 1/2 tsp. Cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350. Mix topping and set aside. Cream brown sugar, butter and egg. Add flour, baking soda, salt and sour cream. Blend and stir in the cut up rhubarb pieces. Bake in 9x13 greased and floured pan. Sprinkle with topping. Bake 45-50 min until toothpick comes out clean in center.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Source: energy.gov



Recipe

This recipe is a recent favorite of mine (Heidi Pierce). They are not overly sweet but the flavor reminds me of sugar cookies.

Lemon Poppy Seed Scones

- 3 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 2 sticks of cold, unsalted butter, cubed
- ½ cup heavy cream (may need closer to 1 cup)
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon poppy seeds

Topping

- Egg wash (1 egg beaten with 1 tablespoon of water)
- White coarse sugar crystals (also known as white sparkling sugar), for garnish

Combine the cream, egg, lemon zest and vanilla extract and whisk until incorporated. Set aside. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder and salt in a mixing bowl and stir to combine. Then add chunks of cold butter a little at a time, and mix until small, pea-sized chunks remain. Add poppy seeds and mix briefly to evenly incorporate. Then slowly add enough of the cream/egg mixture so scone dough just holds together. Avoid adding too much liquid or overmixing. Turn dough out onto a floured surface and pat down to a 1" thickness. Cut scones with a biscuit cutter, gathering the dough scraps and cutting scones until no dough remains. Place scones on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Brush tops of scones with egg wash and sprinkle white coarse sugar crystals liberally over the tops of scones. Bake at 350 for 22-25 minutes or until scones are baked all the way through and tops are golden.



Vegetation Management

Zielies Tree Service, Inc. will be trimming the Eastman Substation in Crawford County and starting to trim on the Lamont Substation in Lafayette County.

SREC will have two contracted crews (Zielie's Tree Service Inc. and Badgerland Utility Solutions LLC) spraying this year along with us. Starting the last week of May (weather permitting), they will spray all of Prairie du Chien Substation in Crawford County, Mt Hope and Kaiser Substations in Grant County and Belmont Substation in Lafayette County.

SREC has sent letters out to members that will be effected by herbicide spraying and tree trimming work.

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.

WATT'S HAPPENING

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*, c/o Heidi Pierce, Editor, 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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