

July 2017

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Crawford and Grant County Farm Safety Educating our Younger Generations



Tips to prevent wildfires

In 2016, more than 65,000 wildfires burned 5.4 million acres of land in the United States according to the National Centers for Environmental Information. The worst part? Many of these wildfires could have been prevented.

While some wildfires are caused by lightning, approximately 90 percent are caused by human error. Many times, wildfires occur when campfires are left unattended, debris is burned improperly or cigarettes are carelessly discarded.

A wildfire can grow rapidly out of control when the three following conditions are present: oxygen, fuel and a heat source. The fuel can be any materials that are flammable near the wildfire, and the heat source can be a variety of things, like campfires, cigarettes or even warm winds. When these three conditions are met, a violent wildfire can ensue.

By taking a few extra precautions, campers and outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy the sights of nature without causing a wildfire. In the graphic below are a few tips from National Geographic to help prevent wildfires.

If conditions are right and you find yourself in the path of a wildfire, evacuate immediately. Listen to local emergency notifications for the most up-to-date information. Better yet, make a wildfire plan for you and your family before a fire occurs.

Visit <https://www.ready.gov/wildfires> for more information about wildfire safety and prevention.

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. ■



Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure you completely extinguish the fire when you're done. Drench the fire with water and stir the ashes until cold.



When burning yard waste, follow local ordinances. Avoid burning in windy conditions, and keep a shovel, water and fire retardant nearby to keep fires in check.



Tips to Prevent Wildfires



Play it safe when using fueled lanterns, heaters and stoves. Lighting and heating devices should be cool before refueling. Keep flammable liquids and fuel away from appliances.



Never discard cigarettes, matches and smoking materials from moving vehicles, or anywhere on park grounds. Completely extinguish cigarettes before disposing of them.

Load management

What is Load Management?

Load management is a program used to control the power to residential water heaters, central air conditioners, and off-peak electric heat.

The load management program at Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative was put into place to keep power costs down. Because power suppliers need to own or purchase enough electric capacity to meet their needs during periods of peak use, load management decreases our costs by reducing the total capacity that our power supplier needs to have available at peak times. Finally, load management frees up additional capacity, lowering the cost for all co-op members.

How is electricity controlled?

- Controlling is done with a Comverge (approx. 6" x 8") radio receiver with indicator lights.
- Green lights indicate power to the receiver.

- Yellow lights indicate control of A/C and electric resistant heat, such as baseboard and heat pumps.
- Red lights indicate control of water heater and storage heat such as thermal storage heaters and Marathon water heaters.

How often is my equipment controlled?

Loads can be controlled at various times throughout a 24 hour period depending on the cooperative's generation and transmission company, Dairyland Power Cooperative. The program has been designed to make the controlling periods as convenient as possible to our members.

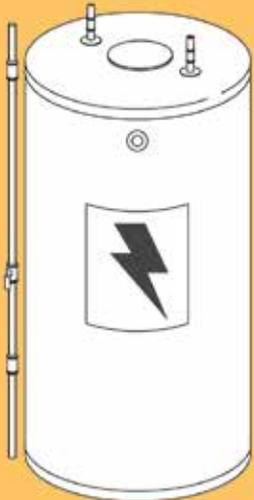
And one more thing...

Having a load control on your water heater, central air conditioner, or electric heat comes with added incentives! If you have any questions, please call 800-236-2141 ext. 563. ■

The Hidden Battery

Using Your Electric Water Heater for Heating Storage

How it Works



1

Electric water heater:

Controllable, high-efficiency electric water heaters are in homes.

2

During times of high demand:

Co-op cuts power to water heaters.

3

When demand drops:

Water heaters are turned back on to run during the night and provide warm water for the next day.

Benefits

Co-ops avoid peak pricing.

Members use power when it's cheaper.

Helps avert need for new power plants.

Water heater storage

Electric water heaters are essentially pre-installed thermal batteries that can be used to manage the storage of heat energy, allowing the co-op to take heavy energy loads off-line during peak periods. This saves energy and money for members.

Contact your local electric cooperative to learn more about load management programs.

Recipes

Thank you Rita Kruser (Ciba City) for sharing your Hawaiian Spareribs recipe!

Hawaiian Spareribs

- 3 lbs Spareribs

Sauce:

- 1 9oz can of Crushed Pineapple
- 2 TBSP Cornstarch
- ¼ c. Vinegar
- 1 TBSP Soy Sauce
- 3 TBSP Brown Sugar
- ½ c. Ketchup
- ½ tsp Salt

Combine sauce ingredients in saucepan and cook over low heat, stirring constantly until mixture thickens.

Cut ribs into serving size pieces. Bake at 300 degrees for 1 hour. Drain drippings. Arrange layer of ribs in shallow roasting pan. Cover with half of the sauce mixture, add another layer of ribs, and top with rest of sauce mixture. Bake in 325 degree oven for 30 minutes or until done. Serves 4-6.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Setting your thermostat to a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy



Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service, Inc. will be finishing up the north circuit on the Hurricane substation in Grant County and working on the Steuben substation in Crawford County.

Badgerland Utility Solutions LLC and SREC employees should complete the spraying on the Fennimore and Glen Haven substations in Grant County.

Mi-Tech will continue to test poles in Paris and Jamestown Townships in Grant County; Elk Grove, Belmont and Mifflin Townships in Lafayette County; and Marietta, Eastman and Wauzeka Townships in Crawford County.

DJB Inspections should be starting the underground maintenance in Beetown, Glen Haven and Hurricane substations in Grant County around the end of July or beginning 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.

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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