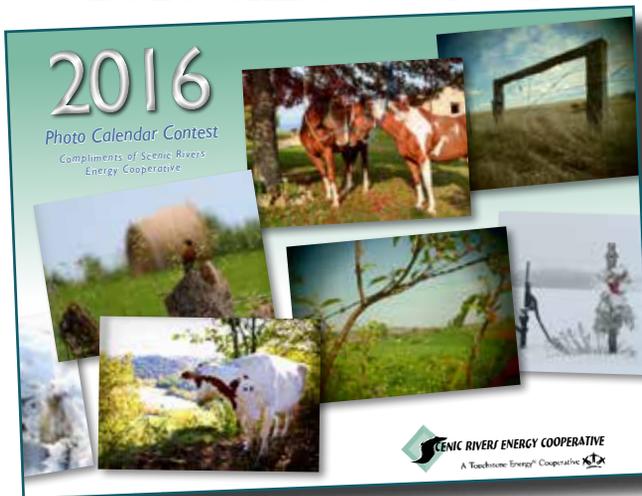


WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

2016 SREC Calendars



At the Member Appreciations, we will be giving out a calendar to each member. Any remaining calendars will be distributed between each office location.

Thanks to all of our members that submitted pictures for our 2016 Photo Contest! We had a hard time choosing the pictures for our 2016 calendar. Also inside the calendar are pictures of honorable mention. We had a great response and plan to do this again next year! The contest will open again next spring. Like this year, we will be capturing the life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape). So please keep taking pictures!



Member Appreciation Celebrations

October 13th: Lancaster
231 North Sheridan Street

October 14th: Gays Mills
15985 State Hwy 131

October 15th: Darlington
300 Barth Drive

Each celebration will be held from 4 to 7 p.m.

Celebrations will feature:

- A dinner of BBQ Pork Sandwiches, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Cheese Curds and Frosted Brownies.
- Browse through displays to learn what kinds of services SREC offers.
- Learn how Focus on Energy can help you manage your energy costs.
- Bucket Truck Rides
- Door Prizes and Giveaways
- Blood Pressure checks and flu shots (if available)



Membership matters

October is National Cooperative Month, and for the many different types of co-ops in the U.S., it's the time of year to celebrate what membership truly means. You could be a member of a lot of different places – a gym, a 4-H club, a food of the month club – the list goes on and on! But what makes being a member of a co-op different?

The simple answer to that question is that when you are a member of a co-op, you are also an owner. You own a stake in our business, and just like any stakeholder, there are many benefits to your membership. As a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, you have a say in the representatives who are elected to serve on the co-op's board of directors. You have an opportunity to make your voice heard every year at our Annual Meeting. You get a say on policy issues your electric cooperative supports or opposes. You can even help to determine how your profits are redistributed.

Our bottom line is providing you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. Sure, we have to think about expenses, overhead and other aspects of daily business, but when we have a little left over, we send it right back to you. Whether we return it to you in the form of a bill credit or a check – you have a say in where that money goes! And returning capital

CO-OPS.
— Take —
OWNERSHIP

CO-OP MONTH OCTOBER 2015

credits to you is a major part of why being a co-op member matters.

As your local electric co-op, we get to be a part of this community. When we think about membership, we think about all of the ways we can give back to you, our members – and that's what matters most to us.

Meghaan Evans 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. ■

If anyone would like to share some great family recipes, please mail them to:

SREC, Attn: Heidi,
231 N. Sheridan,
Lancaster, WI 53813

or

email me at
hpierce@srec.net.

Thanks!



Welcome

We welcome John Akers to Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative as our new Director of Operations. If you would like to meet him, he will be at the Member Appreciation Celebrations. Or you can contact him by calling our office at 800-236-2141 ext. 560.



Electrical safety tips for kids

At Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, we understand your child's health and well-being are your top priority. With more than 140,000 electrical fires occurring each year, knowledge of electrical safety is necessary to ensuring your loved ones stay safe. Here are a few tips you can share with your little ones:

Electrical fires are caused when a wire or electrical device overheats. It is important to make sure your children understand that water cannot extinguish this type of fire. Only fire extinguishers can be used to remedy this situation.

In addition to the previous tip, it is never a good idea to mix water with electricity. Keep blow

dryers, radios and any other electrical devices away from all water, especially those used in a bathroom.

Keep metal objects out of appliances and plugs. If a piece of toast gets stuck in the toaster, never use a metal knife to retrieve it. Unplug the toaster, and use a different tool or utensil to remove the toast. Remember,

only plugs should go in outlets. Sticking fingers or other objects in outlets may result in an electrical shock.

It's always a good idea to turn lights off when they are not in use. This will save your family money on your electric bill and prevent electrical fires from overheated bulbs.

Kids will be kids, and they love the great outdoors. Remind them to avoid overhead power lines. Whether they are climbing trees or flying kites or remote-controlled toys, they should always be mindful of what is above.

Talk to your children about the importance of electrical safety, and more importantly, lead by example - because you never know who's watching. For more information about electrical safety, visit www.esfi.org.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- **WALK SAFELY**
 - Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
 - Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- **TRICK OR TREAT WITH AN ADULT**
 - Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.
- **KEEP COSTUMES CREATIVE AND SAFE**
 - Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
 - Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- **DRIVE EXTRA SAFELY ON HALLOWEEN**
 - Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
 - Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so be especially alert to kids during those hours.

Source: Safekids.org

Kaley Lockwood 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. ■

Recipe

Crock-pot loaded baked potato soup

- 3 cans chicken broth
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- pepper
- bag of hashbrowns

Cook ingredients in crock pot on low for 6 hours. Add one package cream cheese an hour before eating. Serve with sour cream, bacon bits, shredded cheese and green onion. It literally tastes like a loaded baked potato.

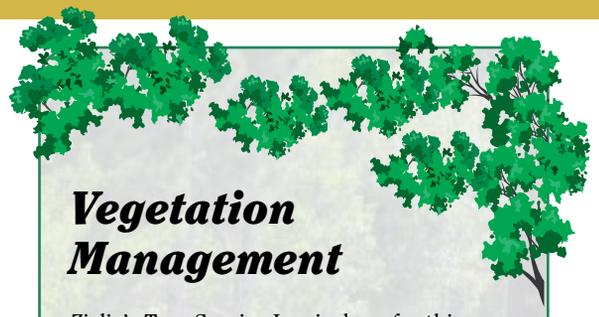


Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Don't let vampires suck the life out of your energy efficiency efforts! Unplugging unused electronics – otherwise known as “energy vampires” – can save you as much as 10 percent on your electric bill.

Source: energy.gov



Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service Inc. is done for this year. DJB Inspections is continuing to test poles in Wyalusing, Glen Haven, Bloomington and Beetown Townships in Grant County and will be moving to Belmont, Kendall, Seymour, Willow Springs, Darlington, and Mineral Point in Lafayette County. They will also start the underground maintenance in September on the Mt Hope and Kaiser Substations in Grant County and Belmont, Shullsburg and Crawhall Subs in Lafayette County. They will inspect and possibly paint all underground transformers, cabinets and pedestals.

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 Lancaster 800-236-2141, Darlington 800-236-6656, and Gays Mills 888-735-4314.

www.srec.coop

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