

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

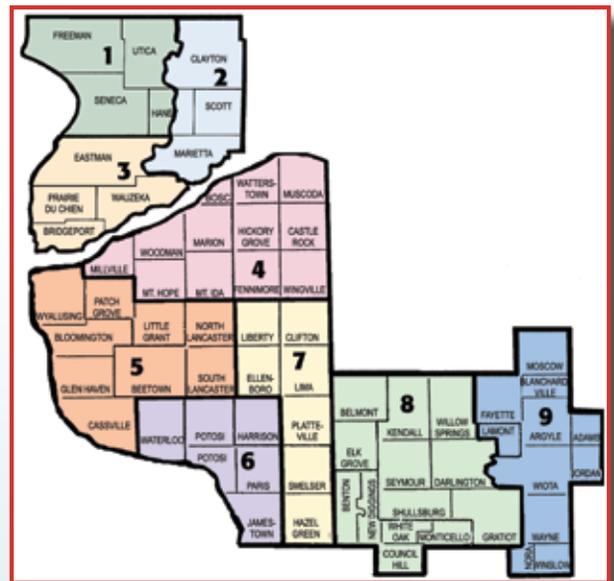
Notification of Election of Directors in Districts 2, 6 and 7

The terms of the directors in Districts 2, 6, and 7 expire at the 2015 annual meeting, when elections will be held for those position. The Bylaws provide for nomination of candidates by petition. A petition must meet the following requirement:

- The petition must be signed by 15 or more members of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.
- The members signing the petition must reside in the same district the nominee would represent.
- In the case of a joint membership or a tenancy in common membership, one or all of the joint or common members may sign the petition, but whether only one signs or all sign it only counts as one (1) signature.
- The petition must be delivered to the Cooperative's headquarters in Lancaster at least 90 days prior to the annual meeting - that is, no later than on January 12, 2015.

To be eligible to run for director, a candidate must meet all of the qualifications set forth in the Bylaws. Those qualifications include:

- The candidate must be a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative and s/he must reside in the district to be represented. (See the map of the director districts included as part of this notice.)
- The candidate cannot:
 - be employed by or have a financial interest in a business that competes with the Cooperative or that sells energy or supplies to the Cooperative;
 - hold or be a candidate for a public office that is elected on a party ticket;
 - have been employed by the Cooperative anytime in the past 5 years;
 - participated as a party or a witness in any litigation against the Cooperative in the past 5 years;
 - be delinquent more than 90 days on the payment of any amount owed the Cooperative; or



- have been convicted of any offense involving dishonesty.
- The candidate must participate in an orientation process to assure an understanding of the responsibilities of directors (unless s/he is currently serving as a director). Information about that orientation will be provided to all qualified candidates nominated by petitions as described above.

In the case of a joint tenancy or tenancy in common membership, all the joint or common members must meet all of those qualifications in order for any one of the joint or common members to be eligible to be nominated.

As provided by the Bylaws, directors receive a monthly per diem. The current per diem is \$500 monthly.

For additional information about the petition process or the qualifications for director, please refer to the Bylaws, the sample petition form and the director district map that are available on the Cooperative's website at www.sre.coop.

Cooking up holiday energy savings

For many of us, the best holidays involve home-cooked meals and wonderful aromas of turkey, stuffing and baked goods wafting throughout the house. It means a busy kitchen and a bustling house full of family and friends. If this rings true for you, despite the increased kitchen activity, you still have an opportunity to save energy during the holidays.

Cut carbs (carbon) painlessly

In addition to being the “heart of your home,” your kitchen could pump savings back into your wallet. According to the Department of Energy, cooking accounts for 4.5 percent of total energy use in U.S. homes. This number, combined with the energy use associated with refrigeration, dishwashing and hot water heating means that as much as 15 percent of the energy in the average American home is used in the kitchen. So, saving energy here can have a significant impact on your household budget.

For example, when preparing side dishes, baked goods, soups and such, consider using small appliances like a crock pot, toaster oven, microwave or warming plate instead of your conventional oven or stovetop. These small appliances are a smart, energy-saving alternative, typically using about half the energy of a stove.

Seal in efficiency

When using your oven, don't peek! Opening the oven door can lower the temperature by as much as 25 degrees and causes your stove to work harder (consuming more energy) to return to the desired cooking temperature. If your recipe calls for baking the dish more than an hour, it is not necessary to preheat the oven. If your oven is electric, you can likely turn the oven off for the last five to ten minutes of cooking and allow the residual heat to complete the job. Clean burners and reflectors increase efficiency and offer better heating, so don't neglect this small but important task.

Just as keeping the oven door closed seals in efficiency and enables the stove to operate more

economically, the same rules apply to the refrigerator and freezer. Keep the doors closed as much as possible so cold air doesn't escape. However, leaving the door open for

a longer period of time while you load groceries or remove items you need is more efficient than opening and closing it several times.

If you are entertaining a large group, you may be able to give your furnace a brief holiday. When your oven is working hard and you have a house full of guests, the heat from the stove and the guests will keep your house comfortable, enabling you to turn down the thermostat.

Clean up with energy savings

When it's time to clean up, extend fellowship to the kitchen, and wash and dry dirty dishes by hand. This uses less energy than a dishwasher. However, don't leave the water running continuously, or you will waste energy. If you do use the dishwasher and rinse dishes before loading them, use cold water. Run the dishwasher with full loads only, and if possible, use the energy-saving cycle. Note that dishwashers that have overnight or air power dry settings can save up to 10 percent of your dishwashing energy costs.

By adapting these efficient practices in your kitchen, energy savings will be one more thing to be thankful for this holiday season.

Anne Prince 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. ■



reminder

2015 rebate deadline is January 4th

Why we plan outages

“LED, LED, LED” (imagine this being chanted the way “USA” is at the Olympics.) While LEDs won’t necessarily anchor a relay to victory, they are most certainly the current champions when it comes to energy-efficient lighting. So, let’s discuss using LEDs for your holiday decorating enjoyment.

When I was a kid, we enjoyed decorating with large painted incandescent bulbs. My dad would hang them around the front door, and we’d deck out the tree with a couple of strings. They were glorious! And hot, posing a real danger when used on a dry tree.

Fast-forward a couple of decades, and the energy conservation movement created a demand for more efficient options. Enter the mini incandescent light strings. These are still widely used today and dramatically reduced the power consumed by their predecessors.

As is true in our technological age, manufacturers didn’t stop looking for even more efficient alternatives. This led to the introduction of LED lights. The first incarnations generated less than appealing garish blues, greens and reds but quickly softened into a more eye-pleasing spectrum. Today, LEDs are the undisputed champs of holiday lighting.

You could literally wrap your home in LED light strings, become visible to the International Space Station and still have a pleasantly manageable power bill at the end of it all. Now there is no reason to let concerns over cost of operation limit your decorating genius.

LEDs are also showing up in other forms and places. They are available in clear tubes that you can wrap around objects for extra interest (the tubes glow), and many yard figures are constructed with these as the main structural element. Imagine the possibilities!

Now if that isn’t enough for your holiday pleasure, how about wearing

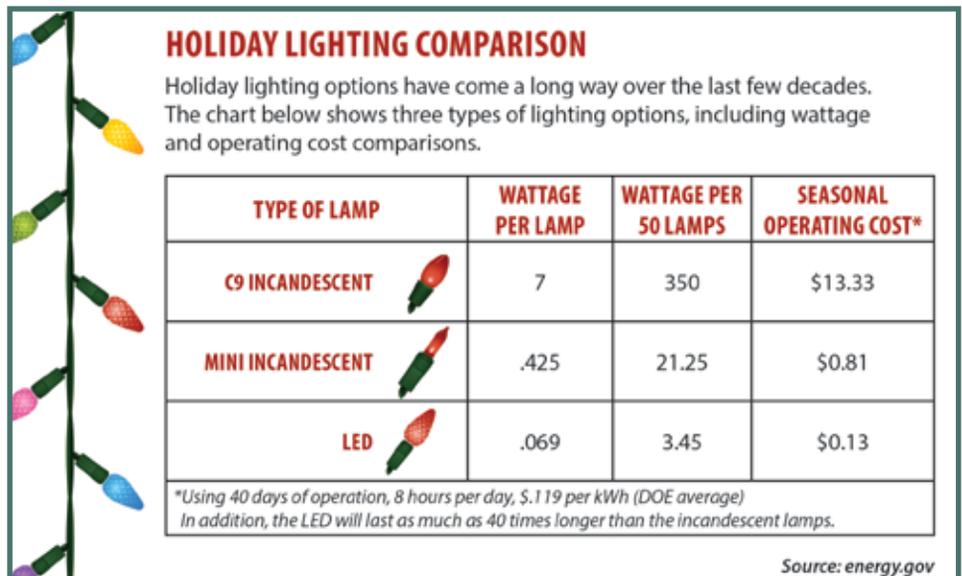
some holiday LED bling? Yes, the tacky (but ever so popular) holiday tie with tiny lights that illuminate has been around for years. But, combine the advances in LEDs with conductive paints and micro controllers like the Arduino or Raspberry Pi and you can create some truly memorable fashions for the holidays. Just imagine the sensation you can cause at the office holiday party arriving in a coat of many, many colors. You could even spell out special holiday greetings with the proper display or simply glow all night long.

Don’t worry about needing clunky power supplies or treacherous extension cords to keep your fashion style illuminated. These displays sip electricity from batteries like a fine wine. Just be sure to turn yourself off before driving home.

Two of my favorite sources for such goodies are www.sparkfun.com and www.adafruit.com (click the “wearables” link on both sites).

You have worked hard all year to reduce your energy consumption to save money and slim down your carbon footprint. Now reward yourself with a splendid holiday display that will be the envy of all who see it while still being miserly with power use.

Tom Tate writes on cooperative issues 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. ■



Recipes

This recipe comes from Cathy Skaife (Platteville). She said, "I made this and took it to work and everyone loved it. So simple and so delicious!!"

Cranberry Freeze

- 1 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 2 (14-oz) cans whole berry cranberry sauce
- 1 (8-oz) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (14-oz) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 7 oz miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup chopped pecans



In a very large bowl combine all ingredients and mix well. Pour into 13 x 9 baking dish. Freeze overnight. Thaw 10 minutes before serving.

This recipe comes from Sandra Jerrett (Lancaster). She said, "This is my Mother's recipe, which I also make."

Top of Stove - Caramel Pudding

1. 2 Tbsp Butter
2. 1-1/2 c. Brown Sugar
3. 1-1/2 c. Cold Water
4. 1/8 tsp. Salt
1. 1-1/4 c. Flour
2. 2 Tbsp Butter
3. 1/3 c. Milk
4. 1/2 tsp Salt
5. 1/3 c. Sugar
6. 1-1/2 tsp Baking Powder
7. 1/2 tsp Vanilla



Mix the last 7 ingredients as a cake batter. Mix the first 4 ingredients in a frying pan, (I use an iron skillet) and heat until lukewarm, add batter by tablespoons to pan. Cover pan and cook over low heat for 20 minutes. Take off stove and enjoy while warm.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Remember to close your fireplace damper (unless a fire is burning). Keeping the damper open is like leaving a window wide open during the winter, allowing warm air to escape through the chimney.

Source: energy.gov



Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service Inc has completed the Fennimore north circuit so there will be no vegetation management until next February. DJB Inspections LLC has started the underground inspections of transformers and cabinets on the Mt Hope Substation in Grant County.

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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