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## contents

July 2017



**NEWS BRIEFS** New co-op solar project energized.



On the **COVER** What's next for solar energy? (Photo courtesy of Katie Jagiello, Oconto Electric Cooperative)



**ATVentures** ATV/UTV trails in Black River Country just got better.



YOUNG Members Cute co-op kids get cozy

with their critters.

### 4 LETTER FROM THE EDITOR Separate lightning facts from fiction.

### 10 THE BUCK STOPS WHERE? Co-ops take responsibility for cybersecurity.

### 15 MY CO-OP Find out what's happening at your local electric cooperative.

### 28 CLASSIFIEDS Buy, sell, and trade with readers from across Wisconsin.

### 30 EVENTS Get out and about this July.

### **RECIPES Brilliant** blueberries abound.

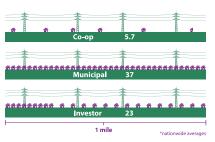




## HASTE, WASTÉD

Thinly populated rural areas make big wireless providers hesitant to serve co-op members.

Consumer Density per Mile of Line, **Electric Cooperatives, Municipal,** and Investor-Owned Utilities\*







Dana Kelroy, Editor

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

### **Lightning fact and fiction**

As we were putting the finishing touches on this month's magazine, co-op lineworkers were restoring power to some of you, our readers. Summer storms

rolled through the state, bringing dangerous lightning.

Lightning strikes the United States millions of times each year, and every strike is a potential killer. There are many myths and old wives' tales about lightning. Some of them just might get you killed.

There is no safe place from lightning when you are outside. To be as safe as possible, you must seek shelter indoors or in an enclosed metal-topped vehicle. A safe indoor shelter is defined as a substantial building with a full roof, walls, and a floor. Unsafe structures include covered patios, open garages, picnic shelters, and tents. The National Weather Service separates lightning myth from fact:

**Myth:** Rubber tires on a car protect you from lightning by insulating you from the ground.

**Fact:** Most cars are safe from lightning, but it is the metal roof and metal sides that protect you, NOT the rubber tires. Cars with fiberglass shells offer no protection from lightning. When lightning strikes a vehicle, it goes through the metal frame into the ground.

**Myth:** If outside in a thunderstorm, you should seek shelter under a tree to stay dry.

**Fact:** Being underneath a tree is the second leading cause of lightning casualties.

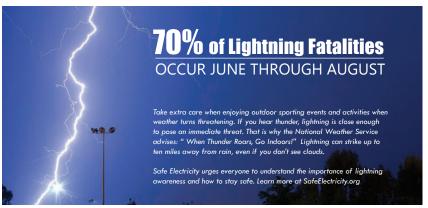
**Myth:** Structures with metal, or metal on the body (jewelry, cell phones, Mp3 players, watches, etc.), attract lightning.

**Fact:** Height, pointy shape, and isolation are the dominant factors controlling where a lightning bolt will strike.

**Myth:** If trapped outside and lightning is about to strike, I should lie flat on the ground.

**Fact**: Lying flat increases your chance of being affected by potentially deadly ground current. If you are caught outside in a thunderstorm, keep moving toward a safe shelter.

Listen to the forecast to know if there is a danger of severe weather, and make sure you can get to a safe location if a thunderstorm develops. Remember, if you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning. — With SafeElectricity.org





July 2017 Vol. 78 No. 1

The Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News (Formerly Wisconsin R.E.C. News) has been published monthly and distributed since July 1940 to members of Wisconsin's non-profit, consumer-owned rural electric cooperatives. It is available to non-members for \$10 per year or \$28 for three years.

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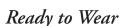
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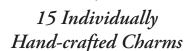
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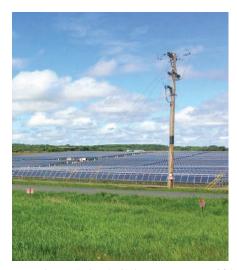
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### **NEW CO-OP SOLAR PROJECT ENERGIZED**

A new utility-scale solar generation facility was brought on line May 24 near Roberts in the St. Croix Electric Cooperative (SCEC) service area, coinciding with a milestone in the co-op's history.

"After all the work that's been put in to make this project happen, it's exciting to have Sunflower II constructed and energized, especially on the 78th anniversary of our cooperative members first receiving power," SCEC President and CEO Mark Pendergast said.

The 2.34-megawatt Sunflower II will utilize tracking technology to follow the sun's path across the sky. It's the latest project to be energized among the 15 solar facilities

operating or being built in response to a 2015 request for proposals from Dairyland Power Cooperative. Under power purchase agreements, Dairyland will obtain 93 percent of Sunflower II's power output and SCEC will obtain the remaining 7 percent.

It follows SCEC's development of Sunflower I, a 103-kilowatt community solar array energized in July 2014 as Wisconsin's first co-op member-owned solar garden to sell out its available subscriptions. Ownership of Sunflower II remains with the developer, So-Core Energy of Chicago, which will continue leasing the 20-acre site from SCEC.

Overall, the 15-unit solar expansion will bring Dairyland's solar generation capacity to 20 megawatts.

### BADGER COULEE CONSTRUCTION HALT LIFTED

La Crosse County Circuit Judge Todd Bjerke at the end of May vacated his order blocking construction on a seven-mile segment of the Badger Coulee Transmission

Badger Coulee is a joint project of the American Transmission Company, Xcel Energy, Dairyland Power Cooperative, the Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency-Wisconsin, and WPPI Energy. The project is expected to improve voltage stability and strengthen Wisconsin's ability to obtain wind energy from generation sites to the west.

On May 1, Bjerke refused the Town of Holland's petition to halt the entire 180mile project but stopped work on the short segment running through the town, finding fault with the Public Service Commission's reasoning in approving separate lines on both sides of an existing right-of-way along U.S. Highway 53.

Though lifting the construction ban, Bjerke ordered the commission to revisit its siting decision on the affected portion of the \$580 million line, to run from the La Crosse area to Middleton and expected in service next year.

### LIGHTING KEY TO REDUCED ENERGY USE

Energy-efficient lighting is the driving force behind declining U.S. household energy use, according to a professor at the University of California-Berkeley.

Professor Lucas Davis said this spring his research and data from the Energy Information Administration and Census Bureau indicate that between 2010 and 2015, household energy consumption declined in 48 of the 50 states, and U.S. households now use less power than five years ago.

The decline is a sharp departure from the previous two decades. Household energy use grew 12 percent in the 1990s and 11 percent in the 2000s, Davis said.

He ascribes the turnaround to energyefficient lighting, noting the installation of more than 450 million LEDs, more than 900 times as many as were in use in 2009, and more than 70 percent of households using at least some compact fluorescents.

LED prices have fallen 94 percent since 2008, Davis said, with a 60-watt equivalent LED bulb, using 85 percent less power than an incandescent, now available for about two dollars.

### TMI SET FOR EARLY RETIREMENT

Chicago-based Exelon Corp. has announced it will "prematurely retire" its Three Mile Island (TMI) nuclear plant near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, by the end of September 2019. The announcement held out the possibility of continued operations if state or federal policy concessions improve the plant's economics.

One policy option to improve nuclear economics, Exelon said, could include "a zero emissions credit program, similar to the approach being implemented in Illinois and New York."

In May, Exelon failed for a second consecutive year to have its bid accepted for future guaranteed power deliveries from TMI into the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland wholesale market.

In 1979, TMI was the scene of a partial core meltdown, described by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as "the most serious accident in U.S. commercial nuclear power plant operating history, although its small radioactive releases had no detectable health effects on plant workers or the public."

### DAIRYLAND TO ADD GAS PLANT

Dairyland Power Cooperative will build new natural gas-fired generation capacity in northwestern Wisconsin, the La Crosse-based generation and transmission co-op revealed in June.

Announced at Dairyland's annual meeting, the 525-550 megawatt Nemadji Trail Energy Center, a combined cycle natural gas plant, will be built in partnership with Minnesota Power on a shovelready industrial site in Superior.

Dairyland President and CEO Barbara Nick called the project a significant component of Dairyland's ongoing "Preferred Plan" for resource diversification.

"We've talked for a long time about the need to add natural gas as a renewable-enabling resource," Nick said. "Dairyland's resource diversification strategy enables renewable forms of generation and ensures reliability, sustainability, and affordability. Natural gas plants provide critical back-up to intermittent renewable sources of power, like solar and wind. The Nemadji Trail Energy Center will respond on demand, providing the energy required by our membership and Minnesota Power's customers exactly when they need it-at the flip of a switch."

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## HASTE, WASTED



Steve Freese President and CEO

Those who have spent time around legislative institutions know that when a proposal is moving so fast it's scheduled for a public hearing before a complete draft exists, the chances of anything good happening are between slim and none.

Let's hear it for slim.

Just before Memorial Day, the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) heard of legislation creating new poleattachment obligations for electric cooperatives and municipal

utilities. Alarms went off when we learned recruitment of cosponsors was limited to one day and the bill, labeled "Preliminary Draft—Not Ready for Introduction," was already scheduled for a hearing the afternoon following the holiday weekend: sure signs that someone was racing to enact a new law with what could most charitably be called minimal public scrutiny.

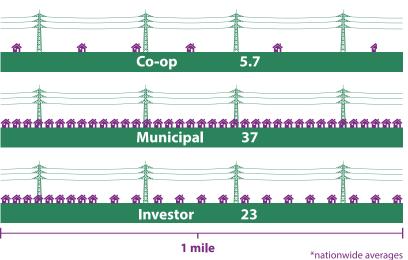
WECA obtained a copy and found the bill would create a presumptive right for any wireless service provider to attach antennas and other devices to utility poles owned by co-ops and municipal utilities; that we'd have to make our poles ready for such installations and would be prohibited from recovering the extra costs when "makeready" provisions compelled the use of outside help; and that easements negotiated between co-ops and their members would be treated as a public utility right-of-way, mandating that wireless providers could install equipment on or over private property intended to host no more than a power pole.

No Wisconsin co-op opposes extending rural wireless service. In fact, one co-op manager said if someone showed up with a plan to provide service, "My first question would be 'how can I help?" Wisconsin co-ops have pole-attachment agreements with others and there have been no complaints about their terms or fees.

But the details matter. We soon learned that AT&T was behind the lightning-fast legislation, seeking guaranteed, low-cost access to consumer-dense municipal utility service areas. Any benefit to co-op members would be an afterthought, at best.

This was confirmed, perhaps accidentally, by the president of AT&T Wisconsin, who admitted at the May 30 hearing that the technology would be prioritized for

## Consumer Density per Mile of Line, Electric Cooperatives, Municipal, and Investor-Owned Utilities\*



"the most urban, most dense areas; that's frankly where the economies of scale work best for the network owners."

In lightly populated rural areas, he continued, "This technology's not going to be very efficiently deployed there, so it'll take an awfully long time before it gets there."

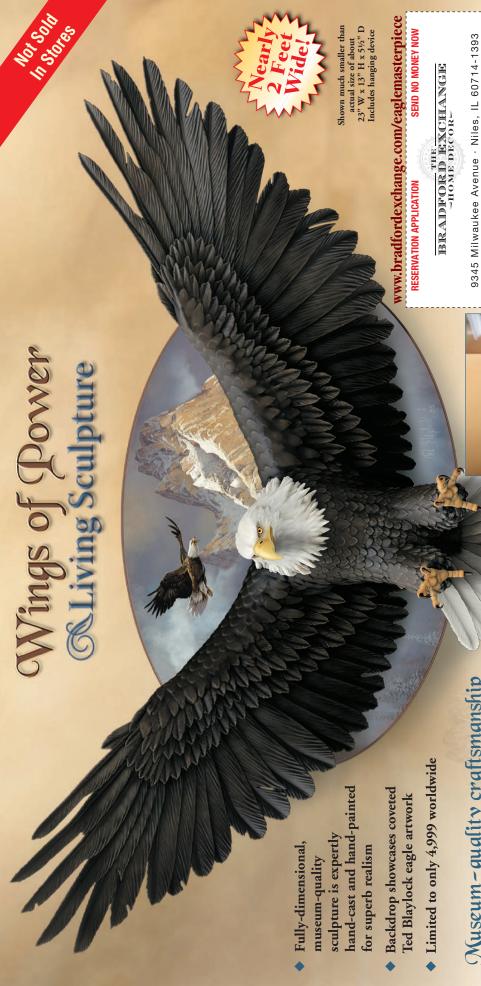
Translation: Co-ops and their member-owners get a new obligation, potential costs, a questionable infringement of private property rights, the eventual risk of lightly trained people installing conductive materials in or near the space occupied by our power lines, and an "awfully long" wait for the widely desired service.

Nevertheless, it was clear a bill was going to pass. Mounting an intensive effort, WECA lobbied for and in a few days obtained a co-op exemption.

The revised draft offered more equitable treatment for those still affected and spells out sensible dispute resolution procedures. If a provider wants access to a co-op service area, existing pole-attachment policies the cooperative already has in place for agreements with others would apply. (The bill may have passed by the time you read this, or might be delayed until fall.)

Nothing in the new legislation will make rural wireless deployment take any longer, and co-op member-owners gain protection against inconvenience and potential expense. It highlights the value of a lobbying effort with a decades-long reputation for honesty—and a willingness to fight when there's no other choice.

A few weeks ago the prospects were slim and none. Thanks to the strong credibility of WECA's government relations program, slim won.



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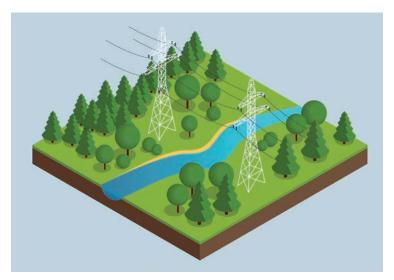
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## The buck stops where?

### Co-ops take responsibility for cybersecurity

en years ago in the United States, hackers armed only with a keyboard and mouse destroyed a diesel-electric generator, demonstrating a dangerous vulnerability of the electric grid. Fortunately, these "hackers" were researchers at the Idaho National Laboratory experimenting with cybersecurity and they devised a defense against the specific attack they'd carried out.

But after an additional decade's worth of increasing sophistication, real hackers with hostile intent might attempt a wider attack seeking spectacular consequences.

This spring, the Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) published "Keeping America Safe: Toward More Secure Networks for Critical Sectors." Broadly critical of cyber defense efforts, the paper declares that the federal government has failed, through several presidential administrations, to coordinate leadership in defending "the infrastructure on which virtually all economic and social activit[ies] depend."

Fact-Finding or Fault-Finding? The paper comprises a report on MIT workshops with government, academic, and private-sector participants in four critical sectors: electricity, finance, communications, and the oil and natural gas industry. It makes recommendations for the Trump administration to focus on what's clearly portrayed as a haphazard approach to cybersecurity.

In an executive summary titled "A History of Hesitancy," the paper states that "The nation can no longer afford a pattern of uncoordinated executive action and scattershot research." Reaching back to 1990, it quotes Presidents George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W.

Bush, and Barack Obama, each calling for vigilance in reducing vulnerability to cyberattack, and concludes that the goal hasn't been met.

Workshop participants asserted that "materially improved" security will require "more energetic and coordinated steps from the president than any of his predecessors has been willing to take."

A Front-Line Perspective Not everyone shares MIT's view that effective cybersecurity demands handson attention from the nation's chief executive. Barry Lawson of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) told *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*, "That's not where the focus is. The focus primarily is with the owner or operator of the infrastructure."

The MIT report, he said, "is a little heavy-handed in potentially seeking new regulation and in some cases legislation, and in most cases that's not where we want to go. It's an informative paper but cybersecurity problems are not going to all be solved by the president or the agency secretaries."

Lawson, NRECA's senior director for regulatory affairs, pointed out that "We already have mandatory and enforceable standards" that generation and transmission cooperatives and several dozen distribution cooperatives must meet along with other utilities, that the standards are set by the nonprofit North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), and that they "have to be complied with and that includes cybersecurity."

NERC standards, once voluntary, acquired serious teeth by an act of Congress following the August 2003 multi-state blackout attributed to deficient vegetation

management practices.

For local electric distribution cooperatives, a cyber attack is unlikely to travel upstream and cripple the transmission grid as a result of something the co-op does or doesn't do, Lawson says. He sees data theft and the implanting of ransomware as a far greater threat at the distribution co-op level and urges adoption, at minimum, of three key defenses.

These include strong passwords, revised periodically; prohibiting use of thumb drives and other portable memory transfer devices; and educating employees and directors to not open attached files or web links in an email unless the recipient is certain of the sender's identity.

"If co-ops work hard in those areas it goes a long way to guard against data breaches and ransomware. It also works for each person at home," Lawson says.

Alison Kennedy, NRECA's communications manager for business & technologies strategies, notes the organization is developing educational resources for small to medium-sized cooperatives to assist them in self-assessment of potential risks, through the Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) program. RC3 was devised with financial support from the Department of Energy, and funding of \$2.5 million has been appropriated for the first year of what's hoped to be a three-year program.

**Uneven Performance** Amid listing many technological needs, the MIT report makes a point reflecting Barry Lawson's remarks about cybersecurity's essential focus on the humans who operate the infrastructure.

"It is a serious error," the report says, "to assume that cybersecurity is entirely a matter of technical specifications and system design. Poor business management, lack of clear responsibility within organizations, and bad user behavior would continue to create significant vulnerabilities even if the technical issues could suddenly be fixed."

The paper faults "many [unnamed] firms" that "fail to take basic securi-

ty precautions" in the fundamentally unsecure world of the internet, noting that most intrusions are "discovered by law enforcement and other third parties and not by the enterprise that owns the network."

And if plugging in the right software is insufficient without broad acceptance of personal and corporate responsibility, the same reasoning says overreliance on federal leadership is the wrong solution. Ellen Nowak, chairperson of Wisconsin's Public Service Commission, told Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News there are "many actors, on the local, state, and federal levels, and in both the private and public sectors, working to improve infrastructure security."

"I think leadership is going to come from all levels of government and industry," Nowak said.

She noted that the commission "meets regularly with Wisconsin's investor-owned utilities, monitoring their work in safekeeping their facilities and data, and we participate in the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council in order to coordinate with other stakeholders to prepare for possible events or developments that might be aimed at affecting or compromising safe and reliable utility services."

Even so, the MIT workshops recognized that "offense remains dominant," that "total security is not achievable," and that "significant efforts" by key federal departments such as Homeland Security, Defense, and Energy have nevertheless "not altered the strategic balance."

Along those lines, Nowak pointed out that "Our infrastructure must not only be resistant to attacks, but resilient as well—able to recover quickly and able to isolate intrusions so that they don't spread throughout the system."

Like Nowak, Lawson takes the view that any business needs to balance prevention and mitigation with quick response and recovery. "You can take the prudent steps to address cybersecurity but you might still have an event," he says. "Because of that, you also need to have response and recovery preparations

as well. You need to realize cybersecurity is now part of doing business."

The MIT paper quotes Edward Amoroso, retired AT&T security chief, in a letter to the then-president-elect last November. Amoroso wrote that large-scale cyber attacks against critical U.S. infrastructure are "inevitable" in the next few years.

"These attacks will shift from the theft of intellectual property to destructive attacks aimed at disrupting our ability to live as free American citizens," Amoroso wrote, adding, "I do not know of a single cybersecurity expert in our country who would disagree with this view."

### The Necessity of Self-Defense

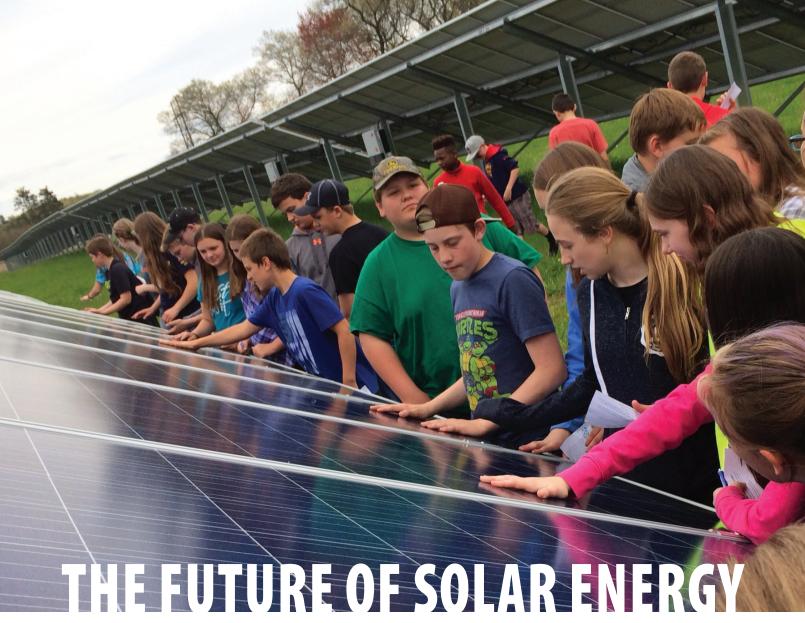
The MIT paper warns that linkages between systems in different business sectors can offer a point of entry for attackers, creating "possibilities for cascading failure...not adequately illuminated" by exercises conducted within single sectors.

Whether more active White House involvement is the answer can be debated, but Lawson's experience confirms challenges coordinating cyber defense.

"Coordination across sectors is challenging but the electric sector has been coordinating with the financial, telecommunications, water, and oil and natural gas industries. It takes a lot of effort to make that happen," he says. "It's going to get better but it's going to take continuous effort by all parties."

Coordination with government also has some hurdles to clear. Lawson notes that the government provides abundant threat and vulnerability information, much of it classified. It therefore needs to be reinterpreted by industry personnel with security clearance and purged of classified material before it can be distributed to infrastructure owners and operators who are ultimately responsible for taking action.

"The federal government has been a good ally and we are working with them to help them understand why we need more information in a timely and actionable way," he says.—Dave Hoopman

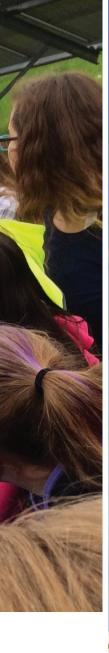


The price of solar has fallen dramatically to become competitive with other generation sources. In 2015 and 2016, the United States installed more solar panels than in the previous 30 years combined. So how did we get here and, more importantly, what's next?

Future co-op members examine solar panels at Eau Claire Energy Cooperative's community solar array. (Photo courtesy of Mary Kay Brevig, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative)

olar power is actually a misnomer because it can refer to any power that comes from the sun. When people talk about "solar power" these days, they usually mean photovoltaic, or PV, solar power. This is a specific physical phenomenon in which light strikes a material and causes an electric current. First discovered in 1839 by Edmund Becquerel, there wasn't a practical application of this effect until Bell Labs realized silicon was a photovoltaic material and used it to make the first solar panel in 1954.

At first solar panels were extremely expensive and only used for niche applications, such as satellites where the ability to produce electricity without fuel is extremely valuable. Gradually the price for solar declined, and solar panels were used for remote off-grid applications and eventually on-grid applications.



Today many homeowners, companies, and utilities have their own solar arrays, and many more are expected to be installed over the next few years.

Let's peek into the future at three different trends and technologies that could emerge: larger-scale solar installations (high probability); solar integrated into new building and home design (medium probability); and a dramatic technology idea of solar arrays in space (low probability).

Large solar arrays, often referred to as utility-scale solar, already make up the majority of newly installed solar capacity. A moderate sized utility-scale solar array can be the equivalent of more than 1,000 residential solar arrays, and every year ever larger arrays are built. Currently, the largest solar array in the world is the Longyangxia Dam solar station in China that covers an area greater than 14,000 football fields. One of the

biggest benefits of these systems is their cost per panel: for a large solar array, less than half the cost of adding a panel to your roof. As solar costs continue to fall and more utilities and other large players get involved, you can expect to see solar trending towards more of the larger arrays.

Many companies have tried and failed to develop products that double as both a building material and a solar panel. Known as building integrated photovoltaics (BiPV), typically, these are either solar shingles or solar windows. The dream is a building material that costs the same as its non-solar counterpart, but also produces electricity. If the costs come down to this point, and as new houses are built, windows replaced,







or roofs redone, they could be replaced by solar parts. This technology has recently gotten more attention from the media because Tesla is planning to begin selling solar rooftop shingles in April 2018.

Lastly, one of the most spectacular ideas for future solar arrays is to put them into space. Large solar arrays would be blasted into space, self-assemble, then beam their power down to earth as microwaves or lasers. There are several advantages to this.

First, without clouds or the earth in the way, these panels will produce electricity 24/7. Second, without an atmosphere in the way, more light would actually reach these panels, making them more productive. Lastly, the power could be sent anywhere in the world, as long as there is a receiving station. Many conceptual designs exist for this technology, and there

are a number of companies around the world working on making this a reality, but the major problem is still the high cost of sending materials into space.

Until Elon Musk develops a cheap, reusable rocketship, or the U.S. builds an elevator to space, this technology will remain just pie in the sky.

Thomas Kirk is an associate analyst of distributed energy resources for the Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Business & Technology Strategies (BTS) division.



 Bayfield Electric Cooperative's Solar Garden. (Photo courtesy of Bayfield Electric Cooperative)
 The future of solar energy may entail blasting selfassembling solar arrays into space.

## Fun and Food FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Brats, hot dogs, beans, chips, pickles, cheese curds, ice cream. cookies, soda, milk and coffee.



Door

**Prizes** 



**Capital credit checks** will be distributed for money accrued in 1997.

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## **OUTAGE MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES IMPROVE RELIABILITY**

"The only things certain in life are death and taxes," as the old adage goes. Well, we can add another to the list: power outages. An outage can range from annoying to dangerous, depending upon its timing and length.

Oconto Electric Cooperative's primary goal is to deliver the highest possible quality of electric service at the lowest possible price. Perhaps the key measure of quality in the eyes of members is the number of times their lights blink or go out. Let's talk a bit about how the grid is designed as a backdrop to how technology is improving reliability by reducing blinks and outages. Along the power lines that bring electricity to your home, OEC installs protective devices in the form of fuses and reclosers (high-voltage circuit breakers). Fuses and reclosers serve the same purpose as the fuses and circuit breakers in your home.

A fuse is a one-shot device. When a fault occurs, the fuse blows and everyone downstream from it loses power. Reclosers are multishot devices, meaning they can operate a certain number of times before they stay open and an outage occurs. A common setting is what's known as a triple-shot. Here's how that works. A tree limb

and software that's already improving reliability. When combined with field construction practices, like building multiple ways to feed power loads and the deployment of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), the future of reliability is bright—pun intended.

Electric co-ops are starting to use more of what are called Intelligent Electronic Devices. "Intelligent" basically means a co-op can program the device to behave a certain way when a specific event occurs. It also means the co-op can remotely command the device to take an action, either preprogrammed or ad hoc.

Eventually, there will be a power outage despite the best efforts of OEC. That is where AMI and outage management systems (OMS) earn their keep. The basic element of an AMI is a meter that can communicate with your electric co-op. The

OMS system configures data and meter locations into a piece of software that models the electric grid. When a member reports loss of power to OEC, the OMS runs calculations to determine the exact location of the fault and the number of members impacted.

Now, the whole suite of systems your co-op



contacts the power lines and creates a fault. The recloser senses it and opens, creating the first blink.

Here's where a recloser differs from your home circuit breaker. It waits a certain amount of a time (typically a few seconds), then recloses to try to complete the circuit. If the fault is still there, it opens again. This creates the second blink. Triple-shot settings allow the device to reclose a third time and if the fault is still there, it stays open and the members downstream experience a power outage.

Blinks are a nuisance, but they eliminate a lot of extended outages by protecting wires and equipment from serious damage.

So, what kind of technology is improving service reliability? The Smart Grid is spawning an amazing array of equipment

uses comes into play. The co-op dispatcher can call out or redirect a crew to the exact location of the problem. A map of the outage and number of impacted members is generated, and member service reps are notified that an outage is in progress. (351300) The end result of all this technology is the minimization of outages and their length, plus more availability of up-to-date information for the consumer.

Mother Nature is a tough opponent, and it's impossible to eliminate outages and blinks altogether. But with the way technology is advancing, we can expect to see some remarkable improvements.

It is always important to call OEC if you are experiencing a loss of power. Please call 800-472-8410.

# **Keep Food Safe**Before, During and After a Power Outage

Unfortunately, power outages do occur from time to time. It's important to know how to keep your food safe during an outage. Use these tips from USDA to help minimize food loss and reduce your risk of illness.

## Before power outage



Keep refrigerator at
40° or below. Freeze
items like fresh meat and
poultry that you won't
use immediately.
Keep freezer set to
0° or below. Group
frozen foods to help
items stay colder longer.



If you anticipate an extended power outage, buy dry or block ice to keep the fridge and/or freezer cold.

## **During** power outage

## Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed!

If the doors stay closed during the length of the outage:



A full freezer will hold its temperature for **48 hours**.



A refrigerator will keep food safe for **four hours**.

## After power outage

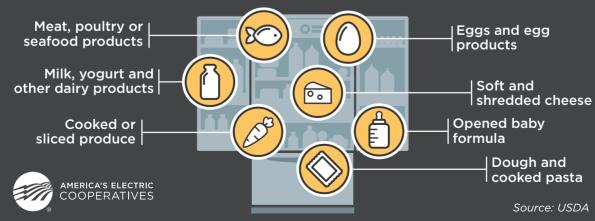


Check the temperature inside your refrigerator and/or freezer.



If the temperatures are safe, the food should be safe to eat.

### Foods that should be thrown out after an extended power outage:





## **CAPITAL CREDITS TO BE PAID**

Capital credits are earned by every member based on how much power was consumed during the year. The money comes from margins that OEC generates from that year. Although the money is allocated to the members, the co-op's board of directors makes the decision when the money is to actually be paid out. Typically, OEC pays out capital credits for the oldest year, which is 20 years ago.

This year OEC will be paying out capital credits from 1997. If you have capital credits of less than \$25 you will receive a credit on your electric bill. If it is \$25 or more, you will receive a check in August. If you would like to pick up your check at the Member Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, August 5, you can do that. Any checks that are not picked up at the picnic will be mailed the following week.

## **SMARTHUB**

### An easy way to manage your energy bill

SmartHub means you have options when it comes to managing your energy bill at Oconto Electric Cooperative. Have you ever wondered when your highest electric usage takes place? Have you wondered why your energy bill is what it is? SmartHub helps you determine those answers. If you have not signed up, you're missing out on a lot of smart benefits including:

- Pay your energy bill online
- Set up your energy bill for automatic payments
- View your billing history
- View and manage your electric usage
- Identify ways to lower your energy bill
- And, even report an outage

Sign up for SmartHub online. It's OEC's FREE and mobile/online payment system that allows you to

monitor your daily energy usage. Click on the sign-up link and follow the prompts to create your user name and password. Questions? Call 920-846-2816, or visit us at www.ocontoelectric.com.

## HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Oconto Electric Cooperative hides two account numbers in the local pages of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* each month. If you spot your account number, call our office before you receive the next issue, and OEC will give you a \$15 credit on your electric bill or a \$25 credit if you have a load management receiver. The June account numbers belonged to Mary Framnes, Gillett, and Joel Gross, Pound.





OEC's office and OEC's RadioShack store located on Highland Drive in Oconto Falls will be closed on Tuesday, July 4.



The Community "Change" board of directors would like to thank the OEC members who recently signed up to be a Community "Change" contributor from the May OEC bill insert.

If you are already a contributor to Community "Change", thank you. If not, won't you please consider signing up as a contributor? It is one of the most rewarding things you can do for literally pennies a month.

Civic groups, charitable organizations, and people who have experienced a catastrophe in their lives (such as illness or fire) can apply for Community "Change" grants. Quarterly, the Community "Change" board of directors meets to look at applications for Community "Change" funds. Grants are awarded based on how much money is available and whether or not the purpose of the request is consistent with Community "Change" guidelines.

For more information or to sign up for Community "Change", please call 920-846-2816.

### Byron C. Nolde, CEO

7479 REA Road, P.O. Box 168, Oconto Falls, WI 54154 800-472-8410 • 920-846-2816 www.ocontoelectric.com

Katie Jagiello, Editor



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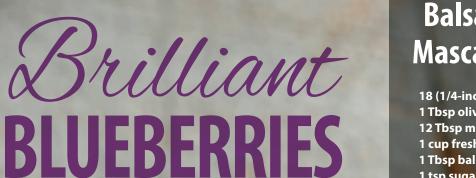
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## **Balsamic Blueberry Mascarpone Crostinis**

18 (1/4-inch thick) french baguette slices

1 Tbsp olive oil

12 Tbsp mascarpone cheese

1 cup fresh blueberries

1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar

1 tsp sugar

1/2 tsp kosher salt

1/4 tsp freshly cracked black pepper

2 Tbsp thinly sliced fresh basil leaves

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Brush bread slices with olive oil. Arrange on baking sheet and bake until crisp and toasted, 8-10 minutes, turning once. Meanwhile, in medium non-stick skillet, heat blueberries, vinegar, and sugar just until blueberries are tender and a sauce forms, 4-5 minutes. Set aside and let cool. Top toasts with mascarpone cheese (about 2 teaspoons per toast) and sprinkle with kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper. Top with blueberry mixture and fresh basil.



Bonus recipe and video for No-Bake Blueberry Cheesecake from Root + Revel for the U.S. Highbush **Blueberry Council at** www.wecnmagazine.com



### **Easy No-Bake Glazed Blueberry Oat Bars**

2 cups blueberries, divided 1 cup oats 1 cup dates, pitted 1/2 cup almonds, sliced and toasted 1/4 cup chia seeds

1 tsp orange zest 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon 1/3 cup confectioners' sugar (optional) 1 tsp orange juice or water (optional)

Line an 8x8-inch pan with foil, leaving a 2-inch overhang and spray with cooking spray. In a food processor, combine 1 cup blueberries, oats, dates, almonds, chia seeds, orange zest, and cinnamon; process until mixture is sticky and holds together. Stir in remaining 1 cup blueberries. Press into prepared pan and refrigerate until set, at least 2 hours. Combine confectioners' sugar and orange juice and drizzle over top if desired. Cut into 16 bars.

## **Gluten-Free Blueberry Oat Pancakes with Lemon Maple Syrup**

1 banana (1/2 cup), mashed 2 large eggs 1/3 cup gluten-free oats 1/2 cup fresh blueberries 1/2 cup maple syrup 1 tsp lemon zest (optional)

Combine banana, eggs, and oats and let stand 10 minutes to thicken. Spray a large non-stick skillet with cooking spray and heat over medium heat. Spoon mixture, 2 tablespoons at a time, onto skillet and top with some of the blueberries. Cook until browned, 1–2 minutes. Turn and cook additional 1 minute or until cooked through. Combine maple syrup and lemon zest and serve with pancakes, if desired.





### Blueberry Greek Salad In A Jar

1/4 cup olive oil

2 Tbsp red wine vinegar

2 Tbsp fresh dill, chopped

2 Tbsp red onion, chopped

1 Tbsp lemon juice

2 tsp lemon zest

1 clove garlic, minced

1/2 tsp kosher salt

4 cups romaine lettuce, chopped

1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved lengthwise

1 cup cucumber, sliced 1 cup blueberries

1/2 cup feta cheese

Serving suggestion: 1 pkg (12 oz) naan (4 naan per pkg)

In a bowl, combine olive oil, vinegar, dill, onion, lemon juice, zest, garlic, and kosher salt; stir until blended. Divide evenly between four mason jars. Top with lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, blueberries, and feta cheese, dividing evenly between mason jars. Seal and refrigerate. Shake before serving. Serve with naan, if desired.

## **Grilled Chicken with Blueberry Relish**

2-1/2 cups frozen blueberries

2 Tbsp fresh chopped rosemary, divided

1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup blueberry preserves

4 medium-sized boneless, skinless chicken breasts

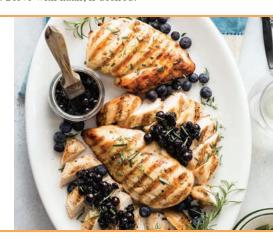
2 Tbsp olive oil

1/4 tsp salt

1/4 tsp black pepper

Add blueberries, 1 tablespoon of rosemary, balsamic vinegar, and blueberry preserves into a pan. Bring to a simmer and cook over medium-low heat for about 20 minutes until the liquid has started to thicken. Crush the blueberries with the back of a spoon and set aside. Preheat grill to high. Drizzle olive oil over chicken and season with salt and pepper. Place on the grill and cook for about 7 minutes on each side depending on the thickness of the chicken. Serve on a large plate and top with the blueberry relish and the remaining chopped rosemary.

2 egg whites





## **Blueberry Walnut "Forgotten" Cookies**

3/4 cup sugar
1/2 tsp cream of tartar
1/2 tsp pure vanilla bean paste
Zest of half of 1 orange
1/2 cup chopped toasted walnuts
1 cup dried blueberries
5 oz bittersweet mini chocolate chips (optional)
1 pinch sea salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Using a stand mixer, beat egg whites on high, gradually adding sugar, until soft peaks form. Reduce speed to medium; add cream of tartar. Turn off mixer and scrape bowl to ensure sugar is incorporated. Add vanilla paste and orange zest. Increase mixer to high speed; beat for 5 minutes. Turn off mixer. Using a rubber spatula, fold in toasted walnuts, dried blueberries, and chocolate chips (if using). Using two spoons, drop cookies onto lined cookie sheets. Sprinkle tops with a pinch of sea salt. Transfer cookies to oven. Cook for two minutes. Turn oven off and let cookies sit overnight, or for 8 hours. (That's what makes them "forgotten!")

Submit your favorite recipes to be featured on our reader recipe page. Email to tina@weca.coop

### **Pineapple Philly Pie**

Diane De Moe, Colfax

### First Layer

9-inch unbaked pie shell 1/3 cup sugar 1 Tbsp cornstarch 8 oz can crushed pineapple, undrained

Cook sugar, cornstarch, and pineapple until clear and thick. Cool and put in unbaked pie shell.

### **Topping**

8 oz cream cheese, softened 1/2 cup sugar 1/2 tsp salt 2 eggs 1/2 cup milk 1/2 tsp vanilla 1/4 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a mixing bowl, combine softened cream cheese, sugar, and salt. Blend well. Add eggs one at a time, blending well after each has been added. Blend in milk and vanilla. Pour into pie shell. Sprinkle with pecans. Bake for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 325 degrees and bake for 40 minutes.

### **Waverly Cookies**

LuAnne Klueckmann, Neillsville

1/2 cup sugar 2 sticks butter Club crackers

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease cookie pan. Line the bottom with club crackers. Melt butter and sugar. Pour over the crackers. Bake for 7-8 minutes. Let cook and break apart.

### **Tropical Cheesecake**

E.K., Gilman

1 pkg cream cheese, softened 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar 1 can crushed pineapple, drained 1 pkg dessert topping mix 1/2 cup cold milk 1/2 tsp vanilla extract 1 graham cracker pie crust

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until fluffy. Stir in pineapple. In another bowl, combine dessert topping mix, milk, and vanilla; beat until stiff. Fold into pineapple mixture. Spread evenly in pie crust. Chill for about 2 hours before serving.



### Barbecued Hamburger

Helen Rawson, Portage

1 lb hamburger 1/2 cup onion, diced 1/2 cup celery, diced 1 cup tomatoes 1 cup water 1/2 cup catsup 1 Tbsp worcestershire sauce 3/4 tsp chili powder 6 oz can tomato paste Hamburger buns

Brown hamburger, onion, and celery together until meat is brown and vegetables are translucent. Mix together with other ingredients and simmer 1–2 hours or until thick. Serve on toasted buns.

### **Chocolate Pudding Cake**

Mary Boland, Eastman

1-1/4 cups white sugar, divided 2 Tbsp melted butter 1 cup flour 2 tsp baking powder 1/2 cup milk 1 tsp vanilla 1/2 cup brown sugar 3 Tbsp cocoa 1 cup hot water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix 3/4 cup white sugar, melted butter, flour, baking powder, milk, and vanilla together in a loaf pan. In a separate bowl, mix together remaining white sugar, brown sugar, and cocoa. Sprinkle over batter in the loaf pan. Pour hot water over the top. Bake for 45 minutes. Serve warm.





We are looking for different ways to incorporate rhubarb into recipes (for example pie, jam/jelly, cake, etc.). If you have a recipe request, or would like to submit a recipe for publication, please write to Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News, What's Cooking? 222 West Washington Ave., Suite 680, Madison, WI 53703-2719

or contact us via our website, www.wecnmagazine.com.



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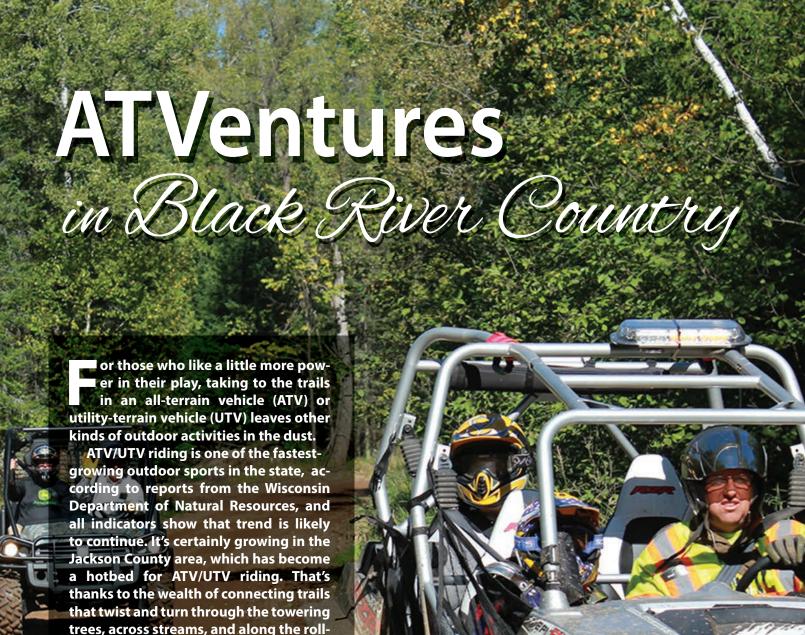
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## **EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE.**

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Your Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Wisconsin The power of human connections



ing fields of Jackson County and beyond.

"The nice thing about ATV riding in Jackson County is there are more than 100 miles of trails in Jackson County that link to an additional 135 miles in Clark County, so it's one very large set of trails," said Chris Hardie, executive director of the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce.

### **WISCONSIN FAVORITES**











1 & 2. With miles of trails winding through abundant state and county forest land, an ATV/UTV ride along Jackson County's trail system reveals beautiful scenery at every turn. 2. The sandy, rolling trails are kept well groomed.

3. A major element of the newest trail is an underpass that eliminates the safety concern of riders passing a four-lane highway. This underpass is now safe for multi-use; the light at the side flashes when a pedestrian is crossing through the tunnel, alerting operators of motorized vehicles to proceed carefully. 4. Another benefit of the new trail corridor is that it connects riders with Black River Falls' hotels and restaurants.

(Photo at left courtesy of the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce)

This year, the trail system in Jackson County is even better thanks to a new corridor that just opened up for the 2017 season. This three-mile stretch of new trail winds through Black River Falls, providing access to the city's restaurants and hotels. A key part of this project is a new underpass that was constructed beneath the four-lane Highway 54, eliminating a safety hazard for both trail users and vehicles sharing the high-speed highway.

"You might say the project kills two birds with one stone," said Jon Schweitzer, assistant administrator of the Jackson County Forestry and Parks Department. "Our big concern was safety. But we were also able to make a connection to the City of Black River Falls, where some of the businesses previously had no access to the trails."

He added the new corridor also connects the Villages of Millston, Hatfield, and Pray with the rest of the trail system.

Award Winner The new trail has provided benefits for both the community of Black River Falls and the visitors who come to enjoy the trails, but local business owners and trail users aren't the only ones who have recognized its success.

The Black River Falls trail project was recently named winner of a 2017 Recreational Trails Program Achievement Award by the Coalition for Recre-



ational Trails (CRT), a federation of national and regional trail-related organizations. The CRT returns federal gas taxes paid by off-highway recreationists to states for trail development and maintenance. These monies, Schweitzer said, were a key source of funds for Jackson County's trail project.

The Department of Natural Resources nominated the project for the award, which was presented in Washington, D.C., in June.

"In a nutshell, it means we're using the money to get the most bang for our buck," Schweitzer said of the award. "Ours was a project that is showcasing what the CRT wants the money to go for."

**Economic Impact** The CRT award culminates years—even decades—of work by a diverse group of organizations and individuals. Hardie noted that this project was 15 to 20 years in the making, due in large part to the land and easement acquisitions necessary. The project's success also hinged on partnerships among the five political jurisdictions through which the new trail passes, the local business community, and private landowners.

The remarkable cooperation that ultimately occurred among all these different entities can be partly credited, Schweitzer said, to all parties recognizing the growing economic value of the ATV/UTV trails.

Helping to fuel the project were the results of an economic impact study conducted by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, UW-Extension, Jackson County Forestry and Parks Department, and the Black River Chamber of Commerce that found trail users bring in \$7–9 million annually to the economy of Jackson County.

Furthermore, the survey found that most of the trail-generated revenue is coming from out of the area.

"Ninety-one percent of the trail users come from outside Jackson County, so it has a great economic impact on this area," Hardie said.

**Evolving Sport** Regardless of where they come from, trail users are coming to Jackson County in big numbers. Schweitzer said 20 years ago, a "big weekend" for the county's trail system was perhaps 100 machines a day. These days, counters placed in certain spots along the trails have registered as many as 900 machines passing by on a prime weekend.

In addition, the sport has evolved as it's grown. Schweitzer said the shift to UTVs, which can seat up to four people, has made the sport more suitable for families because they can ride the trails together. He noted that about 60 percent of all riders on the Jackson County trails are now riding in UTVs, and many of the riders are families.

He also credited ATV safety classes and extensive outreach efforts by the Wisconsin ATV Association for making ATV/UTV riding a safer sport in general, with a greater awareness of trail etiquette.

And he credits a whole lot of people for making ATV/UTV riding a better sport in Jackson County specifically, thanks to the newly enhanced and improved trail system made possible because so many individuals and organizations worked together.

"It was a lot of work, and a lot of not giving up, and just keeping it moving forward," he said.—*Mary Erickson* 

To learn more about ATV/UTV trails in Jackson County, contact the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-404-4008 or blackrivercountry.net, or the Jackson County Forestry and Parks Department, 715-284-8475 or co.jackson.wi.us. Trail maps are available from either source or on wecnmagazine.com.

## YOUNG MEMBERS | Kids and Critters July 2017









- 1. Erin and her Hereford are ready for the show ring. Photo sent in by Erin's parents, Evan and Amy Elsner, members of Taylor Electric.
- Two of a kind—Henry meets Henrietta the chicken. Photo submitted by grandparents Elaine & Ken Lackowski, members of Central Wisconsin Electric.
- 3. Marilyn and Sugar have matching red hair! Photo submitted by grandmother Susan Griffin, a member of Oakdale Electric.
- 4. Sawyer can't contain his excitement when he gets to pet Fluffy Kitty. Photo sent in by Jackie Schmidt, a member of Taylor Electric.



**Upload photos directly** to the new wecnmagazine.com through the "Submit a photo" tab.

Send photos of kids with animals, along with a brief description, to WECN Magazine, 222 W. Washington Ave., Suite 680, Madison, WI 53703-2719.

Please include the name of your electric co-op. Photos will be returned. If in good-resolution, electronic format, photos may also be uploaded via wecnmagazine.com through the "Submit a photo" tab. By submitting, sender implies that he/she has rights to and owns the image, and grants WECN permission to use the image. By submitting, the parent or legal guardian also authorizes us the right to publish the image.

# Beat the Extreme

During periods of extreme heat, hot weather mixed with outdoor activities can lead to dangerous situations. According to the CDC, people can suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to properly cool themselves. During extreme heat, follow these guidelines to protect yourself and your loved ones.



**Stay informed:** Check local news for extreme heat alerts.



**Stay cool:** If you do not have access to an air-conditioned space, visit a shopping mall or public library for a few hours. Call your local health department to locate heat-relief shelters in your area.



**Don't** leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle



**Stay hydrated:** Drink (nonalcoholic) fluids regularly, regardless of your activity level. Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.



**Do** check on elderly friends and neighbors.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Adults over the age of 65, children under the age of four, individuals with chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, and those without access to air conditioning.

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**WANTED: DEER TAGS,** back tags. Trapping, bear, hunting, and fishing licenses. Otter, bobcat, fisher tags. Any old traps. David Schober, W4234 Rock Creek Rd., Loyal, WI 54446. 715-255-9284.

**TARPS-HEAW DUTY,** 14' x 48', hemmed. Expired billboard faces. \$50 each or 10'x 30' – \$24 each. Shipping not included. Tarps can also be picked up at Jones Sign, 1711 Scheuring Road, De Pere, WI 54115. 800-536-7446.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Northern Pacific Railroad caboose. Complete or in pieces. 608-526-5878.

**TORNADO/STORM SHELTERS.** 4 person-30 person. TimberLake Homes; corner of Hwys. 13 and 21. Friendship, WI. 608-339-4663.

**FIREWORKS:** Hyland's Fireworks. Firework shows and sales. All seasons and all reasons. Call 715-325-5020 or find us online at: www.bigboomfireworks.org.

**GOT WOOD! NEW PORTABLE SAWMILLS.** We sell Forestry Equipment for the hobbyist to the professional. Band Sawmills, Firewood Processors, Skidding Winches & more. A-F County Market an authorized Hudson Forest Equipment Dealer. Adams, WI 53910. Phone Joe or Rich 608-339-6703.

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**U-PICK BLUEBERRIES.** Ellsworth. June—July. Bushes for sale also. Pheasant Hill Farm, N4024 County C. Call for availability. 715-307-4064.

### REAL ESTATE

VACATION RENTAL. Five or ten bedroom lodge or cabin. Hatfield, WI. Enjoy Lake Arbutus and Lake Wazee. ATV and snowmobile trails. Bruce Mound ski hill. www.thunderbirdvillage.net.

**LAKEHOUSE VACATION RENTAL.** 1/2 hour from the Dells in Montello. Fully furnished. Sleeps 6, private pier, rowboat, See photos at vrbo.com #422212. 2 night minimum. Call for more information. 847-639-0648.

**6.72 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL WOODED/MEADOW.** Property has electricity and garden shed. Located on Highway 107 near Tomahawk, WI. 715-677-4246.

**FOR SALE:** 3 bedroom cabin on Upper Clam Lake, Ashland County. Fireplace, beds, furniture, appliances. Boat, shed, dock. \$89,000. Call Tim 715-423-6550 or 715-572-2632.

VACATION RENTAL: NORTHERN, WI. Lake cabin, sleeps 4. Good fishing. Dock, rowboat, and canoe with rental. \$550 per week. Camp-Echo Cabin, Iron River, WI. Email camp-echo@charter.net or call Bonnie at 715-829-5688.

**WOODED 72 ACRES SW OF COLOMA**. Some MFL & mature pines. Hiking trails. Big bucks. Quiet. \$2600 an acre. 920-210-0664.

### VACATION RENTAL ON SCENIC FLAMBEAU RIVER.

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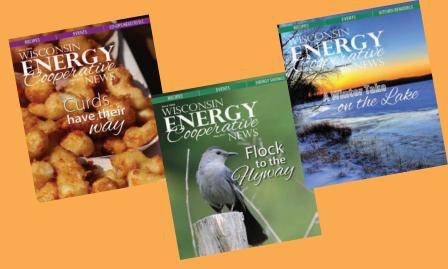
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### WISCONSIN EVENTS

- June 30-4 Pleasantville 4th of July Fastpitch—Pleasantville. Lions Club Park. Fireworks, ecumenical polka mass, softball games, charcoal chicken and brats, fun. Pie and ice cream social Sunday. 715-694-2325.
- **2, 16, 23** Live Music on the Bay—Little Suamico. Geano Beach Bar & Grill, 3–7 p.m. Rain or shine. Live music on the shores of the bay. 920-826-2631.
- **2, 16, 23, 30 Kinstone Guided Walking Tour**Fountain City. Kinstone, 1–2:15 p.m. 608-687-3332.
- **3 Rib Lake Fireworks**—Rib Lake. Baseball game, indoor and outdoor activities.
- **3–4 Rock Falls Festival**—Mondovi. Rock Falls. Bean bag & kickball tournaments, parade, grilled chicken, fireworks.
- **3–4 Fourth of July**—Medford. City Park. Family fun run, Red Higgins, Milk Jug Regatta, food, beverages, free swimming, farmers market, crafts, more.
- **4 Tractor Pull**—Jump River. Parade, tractor pull, horseshoe pitch, kids activities, food. Fireworks at 10 p.m.
- 4 Breakfast Buffet—Thorp. Yellowstone Park, 6–11 a.m. 12 and up: \$9; 6–12: \$4.50; Under 6: Free.
- **6,13,20,27** Music in the Park—Shullsburg. Badger Park, 7–8:30 p.m. Food available. Rain or shine. Free.
- **7–8, 21–22 Lions Brat Sale**—Lake Delton. Walmart, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. 608-253-6567.
- 8 Namekagon Art and Music Festival—Seeley. Art, music, poetry jam, kids' art tent, food. FREE family event.
- 8 Wood Co. Master Gardeners Garden Walk—Wis. Rapids. 9:30 a.m—3:30 p.m. 6 gardens. Chef demonstrations, artists' displays, Art in the Garden Boutique. \$10. Tickets at each garden.
- 8 Mutts Yappy Hour—Nekoosa. South Lake Center, 1–4 p.m. Pet parade, raffles, food & more. Raise money for the Adams County Humane Society.
- 8 The Newlands Co-op—Amherst Junction. South New Hope Church, 2–3:30 p.m. Finnish/Norwegian cultural and folk music experience. \$10 donation appreciated. 715-824-2509.

- 9 Black Hawk Folk Music Festival—Wautoma. Mt. Morris Town Park, 10:30 a.m—7 p.m. 4-H food stand, artisan booths.
- **9 Bowl with Band Wayland**—Rothschild. Coral Lanes, 3–9 p.m. For \$25, bowl with the band, Wayland, plus dinner, raffles, and acoustic show afterwards. For \$10, raffles and acoustic show. All proceeds benefit Star Treatments.
- 14 Garden Tour—Rio. Library, 4–8 p.m. 7 gardens. Benefit the Rio Community Library. Historical Society cemetery tours. \$8 tickets at the library. Lunch available from 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. for \$6.920-992-3206.
- **14–16 LCO Honor the Earth Pow Wow**Hayward. LCO Tribal Grounds. Ojibwe tradition and celebration. Music, dancing, crafts, & food.
- 15 Big George Smith Memorial Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show—Endeavor. Trinity United Church of Christ, 8 a.m.—3 p.m. \$10 entry fee. Door prizes, raffle, music, food. Proceeds to Marquette County Budda Box. 608-379-1476.
- 15 Run for Jamison—Colby. City Park, 8:30 a.m.—noon. 5K, 10K, and Kids 1-Mile. In memory of Lt. Jamison Kampmeyer who was killed in the line of duty as a member of the Colby Fire Department.
- **15 Family Fun Day**—Cassville. Riverside Park. BBQ chicken, games for kids.
- **15–16 Antique & Tractor Expo**—Phillips. Price County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Display, tractor parades, kids' activities, car show, antique machinery, model railroad and more. 715–339–3652.
- **16 Pie and Ice Cream Social**—Whitehall. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- **20–22 Lumberjack World Championships**—Hayward. 21 events, competing for world records in events like logrolling, chopping, pole climbing.
- **22 Wild Wild Westboro Event**—Westboro. 3D archery shoot, "Burn Out" event, car show, 'Outlaw Dash," kids' fun, more.
- **22** Rummage Romp for Pets—Richland Center. Ocooch Mountain Humane Society, 7 a.m.—1 p.m. Charity rummage sale. 608-604-8834.

## July 2017

- 22 Wild Rose Days—Wild Rose. Roberts Park, 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m. Parade, food, fun, foosball, animals, carnival games, and bouncies.
- **22 Macaroni Express**—North Freedom. Mid-Continent Railway, 1 p.m. 608-522-4261.
- **22** Margarita and Taco Train—North Freedom. Mid-Continent Railway, 5:30 p.m. 608-522-4261.
- **26 Music in the Park**—Durand. Downtown, 6–9 p.m. Free Music by Biesterveld, Jim Ulwelling & Company. Food. Bring your own chair.
- **28–30 RUMBLEFEST Auto Show**—Medford. City Park. Food, fun run, Red Higgins, flame throwing, auction, pinewood derby races. 715-600-2520.
- **29 Chequamegon Archery Club 3D Shoot**—Ashland. 9 a.m. 715-264-2094.
- 29 Park and Bark—Adams. Friendship Park. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Fun, food, vendors, demos, raffles, more. Socialized dogs welcome on 6' non-retractable leashes.
- **29 Charcoal Chicken Dinner**—Strum. Downtown, 11 a.m.—4 p.m.
- **29 Collector Car Show**—Eau Claire. Expo Center, 5:30–8:30 p.m. Bring your collector car for display.
- **30-31 Cowboy Mounted Shooting Sports**—Eau Claire. Expo Center. Free.



### **Upload events directly**

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## Upload your August events by July 6.

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