

RATE CHANGES

In today's modern, connected world, having a source of safe, reliable, and affordable electricity is crucial. That's what Oconto Electric Cooperative strives to deliver to you all day, every day. We're proud of our efforts to serve your needs with competitively priced electricity, responsive member service, proactive and necessary investments in the electricity delivery grid, all while maintaining the financial ability to pay out capital credits on a regular basis.

Please keep in mind that your local electric cooperative is a not-for-profit utility. It always has been OEC's goal to provide the highest quality electric service at the least cost possible. Our rates are designed not to make a profit, but simply cover the costs of providing that power.

This is our first rate change in four years, and your electricity rates will continue to remain highly competitive, as all utilities in the area are facing similar cost pressures. Our residential rates are going up a little more than 3%. Elsewhere around our service territory, some utilities are raising rates by as much 6% beginning in January, and as much as 14% by the end of 2023.

The past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic have caused supply-chain disruptions in manufacturing, warehousing, and shipping. These have led to all kinds of product price increases on items required to build and maintain our system.

The facility charge covers the basic cost of bringing electricity to each account location. It covers expenses the cooperative incurs regardless of how much electricity is sold.

The facility charge covers things such as:

- Substation equipment and property;
- Trucks and equipment;
- Wire, transformers, meters, and power poles needed to build and maintain the electric distribution system.

All members benefit from having reliable electric service available when they need it, and the facility charge ensures that all members pay their fair share of the basic costs. Some of our members use a lot of electricity all year long, and some may use electricity only one or two months per year. Whether you use a lot or a little, the cost of getting electric power to your home remains the same.

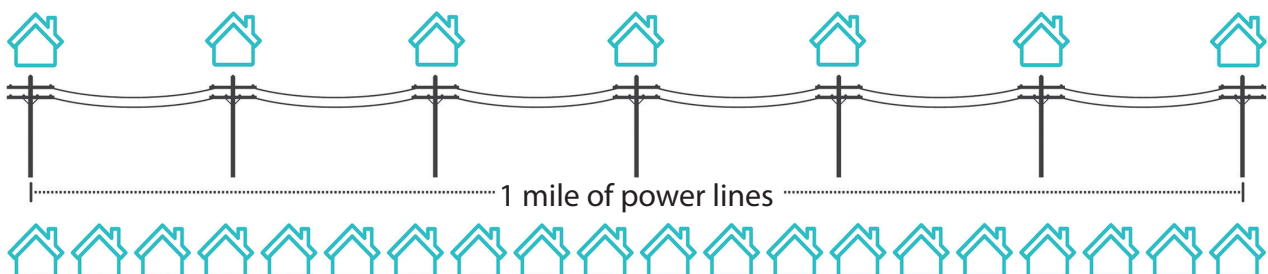
The new rates will be effective
December 1 and will be reflected
on the bill you receive in January.

- **Farm & Residential:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$30.70/mo to \$35.70/mo for single phase and \$53.75/mo to \$58.75/mo for three phase
- **Seasonal & Non-residential:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$31.20/mo to \$36.25/mo
- **Farm & Residential Time of Use:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$31.20/mo to \$36.20/mo for single phase and \$53.75/mo to \$59.25/mo for three phase
- **Small Commercial, Seasonal & Non-residential Time of Use:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$31.70/mo to \$36.75/mo for single phase and \$53.75/mo to \$59.30/mo for three phase
- **Small Commercial:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$31.20/mo to \$36.45/mo for single phase and \$53.75/mo to \$59.00/mo for three phase
- **Small Commercial Group Service - Three Phase:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$34.20/mo to \$39.45/mo
- **Small Commercial Time of Use Group Service - Three Phase:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$34.20/mo to \$39.95/mo
- **Large Commercial Time of Use:** The energy charge will increase from \$.0631/kWh on peak to \$.0694/kWh and \$.0461/kWh off peak to \$.0507/kWh
- **Large Power Time of Use:** The energy charge will increase from \$.0524/kWh on peak to \$.0561/kWh and \$.0469/kWh off peak to \$.0502/kWh
- **Irrigation:** The energy charge will increase from \$.0524/kWh on peak to \$.0561/kWh and \$.0469/kWh off peak to \$.0502/kWh
- **Community Facility:** The monthly facility charge will increase from \$19/mo to \$22/mo

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Did you know electric co-ops power fewer consumers per mile of line compared to other utilities?

OCONTO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE — Serve 7 consumer-members per mile of line



OTHER ELECTRIC UTILITIES — Serve 20 consumers per mile of line

CONGRATULATIONS 2022 **WINNERS** OF THE MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

Calendars are available in our lobby while supplies last.



COVER

Kerri Zastrow



JANUARY

Sandi Kane



FEBRUARY

Ron Friedman



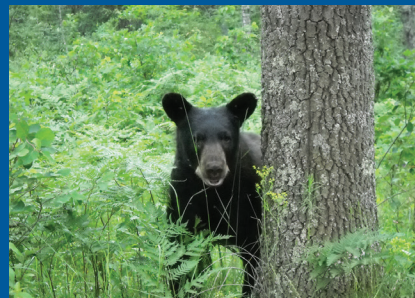
MARCH

Dorothy Berth



APRIL

Kristen Broeren



MAY

Ken Klemme



JUNE

Emery Orlikowski



JULY

Leon Bitters



AUGUST

Stachia Desterheft



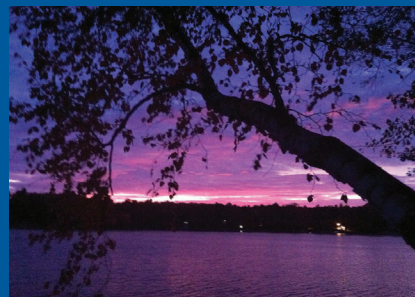
SEPTEMBER

Brenda Friction



OCTOBER

Katie Jagiello



NOVEMBER

Rita Lang



DECEMBER

Julie Armstrong



District meetings serve an important function

Each year we have district meetings in accordance with your cooperative's by-laws. The district meeting serves as a prelude to the upcoming annual meeting in April. The meeting is held to place names on the ballot for director positions.

As a member of Oconto Electric Cooperative, you have a unique opportunity to take an active role in the business of your electric cooperative—because you're not just (267900) a customer, you're a member-owner too.

The profits made by OEC go to you in the form of capital credits. The control lies with our board of directors. The seven people on our board are all local people who live and work in this area and are elected by you. The decisions they make affect their lives as much as yours and mine. You, our member, can help decide who guides our cooperative.

In January, members in Districts four and six will be able to nominate candidates for election for the upcoming board of director terms. The persons nominated must reside within the district they are running for. If there are two nominations, those names will be placed on a ballot, and every member of OEC is entitled to vote at the upcoming annual meeting.

Being a cooperative member has a benefit and a responsibility. To make the cooperative system work, it is your responsibility to attend the district and annual meetings to have your vote count. These meetings also provide Oconto Electric the opportunity to keep our members updated with co-op information.

In December, all members in Districts four and six will receive an official notice of the meetings. All OEC members are welcome to attend district meetings, but only the members from the specific district will be eligible to vote. Any interested OEC member residing in districts 4 or 6 wishing to be nominated to represent your district should stop in and see Kriss Krause, executive assistant, for more information and to complete a Director Qualification Form.



OEC DISTRICT MAP

Districts 4 and 6 are up for nominations to be elected onto the OEC board of directors.

DISTRICT 6

Incumbent director — Dan Kanack

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

Registration begins 6:00 p.m.; Meeting begins 6:30 p.m.
Lena High School, 304 E Main Street in the Village of Lena.

District 6 consists of the Townships of Lena and South Brazeau in Oconto County, and the township of Pound in Marinette County.

DISTRICT 4

Incumbent director — Doug Allen

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Registration begins 6:00 p.m.; Meeting begins 6:30 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, 1253 County Road J in Little Suamico

District 4 consists of the townships of Abrams, Chase, Little Suamico township that lies in T26N-R20E also in Oconto County

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Blocked air vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and increase pressure in your ductwork, which can cause cracks and leaks to form.

Make sure all air vents are unobstructed from furniture, drapes or other items to ensure sufficient circulation throughout your home. If necessary, purchase a vent extender, which can be placed over a vent to redirect air flow from underneath furniture.

Source: energy.gov





Eagle service project completed

Eagle Scout is the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouting. Thanks to a Community Change grant, Boy Scout Collin Marquardt, Troop 1033, was able to accomplish his project.

Collin built two benches and a Little Library for Grace Lutheran Church in Oconto Falls. Over the course of two evenings, he led kids and adults in sanding, staining, and assembling. He showed Scouts how to do some of the tasks, dealt with problems which arose during the workdays, and listened to advice from (149103) others on how to improve the project.

The goal of his project was to improve the playground area at the church by adding seating for parents while their kids play, and help spread more literature in the Oconto Falls community.



HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING

Recycle your used holiday lights
in our lobby for free!

December 1 – January 13

STRING LIGHTS ONLY



OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 23 & 26 AND JANUARY 2.

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 November account numbers belonged to Mary Duttweiler, Cecil, and Sheryl Fitzgerald, Little Suamico.

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

