

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative*

February 2023

NEWS

TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

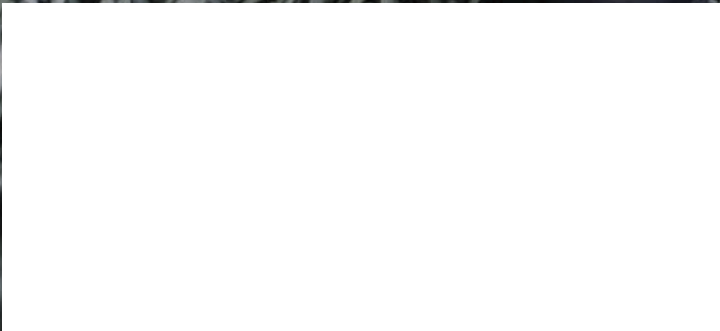


TOY SHOW TIME

EASY WAYS TO CONTROL WATER USE

SPLENDID SPUDS

KIDS AND CRITTERS





DECEMBER DELIVERS DAMAGING STORMS

Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO

December 2022 brought us yet another round of “interesting and unusual” weather as did last December, almost to the day. The storm started by bringing ice that accumulated slowly and in varying amounts across the system. We didn’t see the long-term outages that the tornados and high wind brought us in 2021, but the 2022 storm did its damage nonetheless.

The longest outages in the 2022 storm were around 6 hours, vs. the 20-hour-plus outages in 2021. Our crews worked through the night and into the next evening restoring lines as fast as they safely could. With the ice and snow accumulating, many trees well outside our normal right-of-way bent over to reach the lines, or the lines got so loaded up with ice that they sagged into trees below. Another common occurrence was ice buildup on the lines combined with wind, which created galloping lines. When that happens, the lines either fault across each other or pound on the mechanical connections

until something breaks.

After completing repairs on our system, most of our crew went north to assist Jump River Electric restore power to many of their members who were dealt a similar blow and were experiencing much worse outages, some lasting days. The cold temperatures that followed didn’t allow the excess ice and snow to clear rapidly, so we were dealing with smaller areas of damage lingering almost to the New Year.

Board Activity

If you have an interest in running for the board, you can reach out to one of our board members for their thoughts on what is involved. Be sure to also reach out to the nominating committee to express interest in running for the board. The nominating committee will be meeting in February to establish the slate of candidates for the upcoming elections at the annual meeting in June. The committee is listed on page 17 of this magazine.

This year the board has established a method for absentee balloting. In May, following the deadline for candidates registering by petition, we will be taking requests for the mail-in absentee ballots. To request a ballot at that time, contact the office. We will verify that you are the account holder and send you a ballot packet with return envelope. All ballots will be held unopened until the day of the annual meeting and counted with the rest of the ballots.

Two bylaw amendments will be brought up for consideration as well. The first one calls for clarification and cleanup of some language in the bylaws. Another is for the consideration of extending the term limits for directors from 5 three-year terms to 6 three-year terms. When you consider the time and funds spent on education and training for the average director, it seems to make sense to keep them on the board a little longer. Taylor Electric is in the minority of electric co-ops that have term limited director seats at all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST WINNERS



Age group 1-3
Greta Wernham, daughter of Ned and Lori Wernham



Age group 4-6
Logan Christians, daughter of Craig and Lisa Christians



Age group 7-9
Jacob Hraby, son of Lyle and Beth Hraby



Age group 10-12
Renae Rymer, daughter of Josh and Connie Rymer

Winners received a \$25 Chamber gift certificate. Each child received a gift for entering.
Thanks to all of our participants!

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INCENTIVES

Effective January 1, 2023 • Rebates and Rebate Criteria are subject to change without notice

	2023 Incentive
ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES — MUST BE ENERGY STAR	
Clothes Washer	\$25 per unit
Clothes Dryer	\$25 per unit
Refrigerator >= 10 cubic feet	\$25 per unit
Inductive Range – <i>all inductive ranges qualify</i>	\$25 per unit
Freezer – <i>freezer must be ≥ 10 cubic feet to qualify</i>	\$25 per unit
Dishwasher	\$25 per unit
Dehumidifier	\$25 per unit
Recycling – Refrigerator/Freezer/Room A/C (<i>Signed certification required – must be working</i>)	\$25 per unit
CONSERVATION	
Electric Vehicle Charging Station (<i>Load Management control required</i>)	\$400 per unit
Electric Vehicle Smart Charger with Integrated Meter (<i>Load Management control required</i>)	\$800 per unit
AUDITS & ASSESSMENTS	
Compressed Air Audit	capped at cost - \$500 max
Audit Recommended Improvements	capped at cost - \$500 max
Touchstone Energy New Home Program – <i>must meet 1 of 5 requirements</i>	\$500 each
<i>(criteria for multi-family dwellings include one incentive per habitable structure(not warehouse, not per apartment), structure must be on cooperative lines and person requesting incentive must be owner and a member)</i>	
ELECTRIC WATER HEATER***	
Commercial and Residential –75-99 gallon (<i>Energy Factor .88+, Residential</i>)	\$150 per unit
Commercial and Residential – 100 gallon+ (<i>Energy Factor .88+, Residential</i>)	\$300 per unit
Solar storage, w/electric auxillary tank – 75-99 gallon	\$150 per unit
Solar storage, w/electric auxillary tank – 100+ gallon	\$300 per unit
Heat pump water heater (<i>Integrated (all-in-one) units, Energy Factor 2.0 or greater</i>)	\$300 per unit
LIGHTING	
LED bulb (residential & non-residential) – capped at cost	\$.50 per bulb- 5 bulb minimum
LED fixture – non-residential only – capped at cost	\$.50 per fixture per 800 lumens
LED Exit signs-capped at cost	\$5 per sign
Occupancy Sensor – doesn't include motion detector fixtures	\$5 each
HVAC***	
Heat Pump – Air-Source & MiniSplit (<i>14+ SEER, 8.2+ HSPF, or EER 11+</i>)	\$300 per ton
Heat Pump – Commercial Air Source & PTHPs (<i>Less than 20 ton: EER 11+</i>)	\$300 per ton
<i>20 to less than 60 ton: EER 10.5+, Greater than or equal to 60 ton: EER 10+</i>	
Heat Pump – Geothermal	\$500 per ton
New Furnace w/ECM Blower Motor – <i>Variable speed motor (not multi-speed)</i>	\$35 per unit
<i>'OR' Eae <=670 kwh/year</i>	
Dual Fuel (8 KW min. – new installations)	TEC only - \$100 bill credit
ETS Units	TEC only - \$30 per KW
Electric Hydronic or Slab	TEC only - \$20 per KW
AGRICULTURAL & C&I	
Commercial Vending Machine Controls	\$25 each
Dairy Plate Cooler/Well Water Pre-cooler	\$500 per unit
Dairy Refrig Heat Recovery w/electric backup – used with controlled water heater	\$300 per unit
Low/zero Energy Livestock Waterer (<i>500 watts or less, insulated tank</i>)	\$50 per unit
Scroll Refrigeration Compressor (<i>\$1,000 cap per compressor</i>)	\$30 per HP
Variable Frequency Drive (<i>\$1,000 cap per drive</i>)	\$30 per HP
Electric Forklift Battery Charger – <i>must be controlled as defined by cooperative</i>	\$200/each
Ag Fan – Exhaust, less than 36" must be >= 18 cfm/Watt @ 0.05" SP	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Exhaust, greater than 36" must be >= 21 cfm/Watt @ 0.05" SP	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Circulation, less than 36" must be >= 18 lbs. force/kW	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Circulation, greater than 36" must be >= 21 lbs force/kW	\$1 per inch diameter
****Water heater rebates require installation of co-op's Load Management (LM) control.	
****A/C and Heat pumps require LM only when separately metered for off-peak rates.	
****Dual Fuel, ETS, & Hydronic or slab systems require LM control to qualify for incentive. (<i>timeclock control when under the time of day rate is acceptable</i>).	
Maximum rebate = \$20,000 per member account per year.	
Most rebates must be applied for within 3 months of purchase.	

**Plus, call
FOCUS ON ENERGY
800-762-7077**



Want to serve as a board member?

HERE'S HOW

Members interested in serving on the board should contact CEO Kenny Ceaglske or one of the nominating committee members:

Rod Adams, 715-678-2397
Jack Johnson, 715-785-7777
Kathy Jochimsen, 715-785-8049

Interested candidates will need to fill out a form and be willing to submit a brief questionnaire for publication in the annual report candidate section.

Please contact one of the committee members by February 24, 2022 if interested.



5 Ways to Save During Winter

Winter weather typically means increased energy use at home. Keep your bills in check with these tips to save energy — and money!

Mind the thermostat. If you have a traditional heating and cooling system, set the thermostat to 68 degrees or lower. Consider a smart or programmable thermostat for additional savings.

Get cozy. Add layers of clothing for additional warmth, and snuggle up under your favorite heavyweight blanket.

Don't block the heat. If your air vents or heating elements (like radiators) are blocked by furniture or rugs, your home isn't being adequately heated.

Take advantage of sunlight. Open window coverings during the day to let natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to block the chilly night air.

Block air leaks. Seal windows and exterior doors with caulk and weather stripping to improve indoor comfort and decrease the amount of energy used to heat your home.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY WORD SCRAMBLE

Electricity is essential for our daily lives, but it can also be dangerous if you don't play it safe!

Read the safety tips below and unscramble the bolded text to complete the phrase. Use the answer key to double check your work.



1. Never place extension **rdsoe** under rugs or carpet.

2. Make sure electrical cords are not **yrafde** or broken.

3. Smoke **maalsr** should be tested every month.

4. Place electrical cords in areas where you won't **itpr** on them.

5. Keep flammable items at least 3 feet away from space **shetear**.

6. Electricity and **rwtea** never mix.

Answer Key: 1) cords 2) frayed 3) alarms 4) trip 5) heaters 6) water



CLEAN UP YOUR PAPER CLUTTER THIS NEW YEAR!

Begin the New Year cleaning up your paper clutter by signing up for paperless billing through SmartHub. While you're there, check out the other great benefits SmartHub has to offer:



- **Pay your bill online**
- **Check your usage**
- **Manage your account**
- **Set up recurring and stored payments**
- **Communicate directly with the co-op**

Start the New Year off right and sign up for SmartHub online. It's Taylor Electric's FREE and mobile online payment system. Click on the signup link and follow the prompts to create your username and password. Questions? Call, click or visit us at 715-678-2411 or www.taylorelectric.org.

Kenneth Ceagske, President/CEO

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Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor

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