

RECIPES

EVENTS

CONSUMERS WEIGH IN

Since 1940


WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* July 2016 NEWS

Habitat Helpers

*Co-ops to create
monarch butterfly
habitat*



TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASKS YOUR HELP TO SHIFT SUMMER DEMAND



Help limit rising energy costs this summer

Summer is here, and that means plenty of sunny warm days. Our gardens, lawns, and flower beds are growing; kids are home for the summer; and we will want to keep our homes comfortable with air conditioning.

Each year the total amount of electricity we use as a cooperative family increases. Our electricity demand and the regional market's power prices are highest on summer weekdays between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. We all have an opportunity to curb our use during those hours to prevent our cooperative from being charged expensive wholesale time-of-use charges and extra demand charges that must be passed on to our members. We call our summer campaign to shift the time of our energy use outside of the 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekday hours **Together We Save**.

Taylor Electric is requesting your participation in **Together We Save**. We need your help to shift summer peak period energy use as much as possible on hot summer days to help us hold the line on our rates. We will need to use less electricity during the summer peak demand on weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. to accomplish this. We are asking for your help in shifting electricity use outside of this window as much as is reasonable and possible for your household.

It's about community

Together, when we shift the time of our use of any non-essential electricity to avoid these peak hours, we help limit additional charges assessed back to the co-op. Our goal is to lower our entire co-op's demand for power during these costly summer peak demand hours to prevent higher energy charges from being passed along to you, our members. This also helps to delay Taylor Electric Cooperative's need to contribute to building costly new power generation plants to handle our increasing electricity demand. It is our goal to provide reliable access to all the power your family needs and to help you use it most wisely to help manage our costs today and in the future.

What can you do?

Shifting your family's electricity use to before 11 a.m. and after 7 p.m. on weekdays is the key. Do you have power needs that can be met earlier in the day or later in the evening? Can you wait until after 7 p.m. to recharge cell phones and portable electronics? Can you delay laundry until after 7 p.m., or move some of it to the weekends? Perhaps closing your drapes and windows during the day so your air conditioner runs less is a possibility for you. You may decide it is time to try either raising the temperature a couple of degrees on your air conditioning or switching to cycled air conditioning—we can help you figure out what makes sense for your household.



REMINDER

Please be sure to follow the new rate schedule.

Standard single-phase rate for residential, farms, and small commercial accounts

- The facility charge will increase from \$33 to \$35.10 per month.
- The billing rate will increase from 11.12¢ per kWh to 11.4¢ for all months except the three summer months (June through August) when the rate will be 12.9¢ per kWh

Time-of-day single-phase rate

- The facility charge will increase from \$34.50 to \$36.60 per month.
- The off-peak rate will increase from 6.5¢ per kWh to 7.25¢ for all months except the three summer months when the rate will be 8.75¢ per kWh.
- The on-peak rate will increase from 25¢ per kWh to 30¢ for all months except the three summer months when the rate will be 35¢ per kWh.
- "On-peak" hours will change to:
 - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays only, during the three months of June–August
 - 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., weekdays only, during the three months of December–February
 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., weekdays only, during the months of March–May and September–November
- "Off-peak" hours and rates will apply all other hours during the year (85% of all hours).



Taylor Electric Cooperative BRIGHT HORIZONS

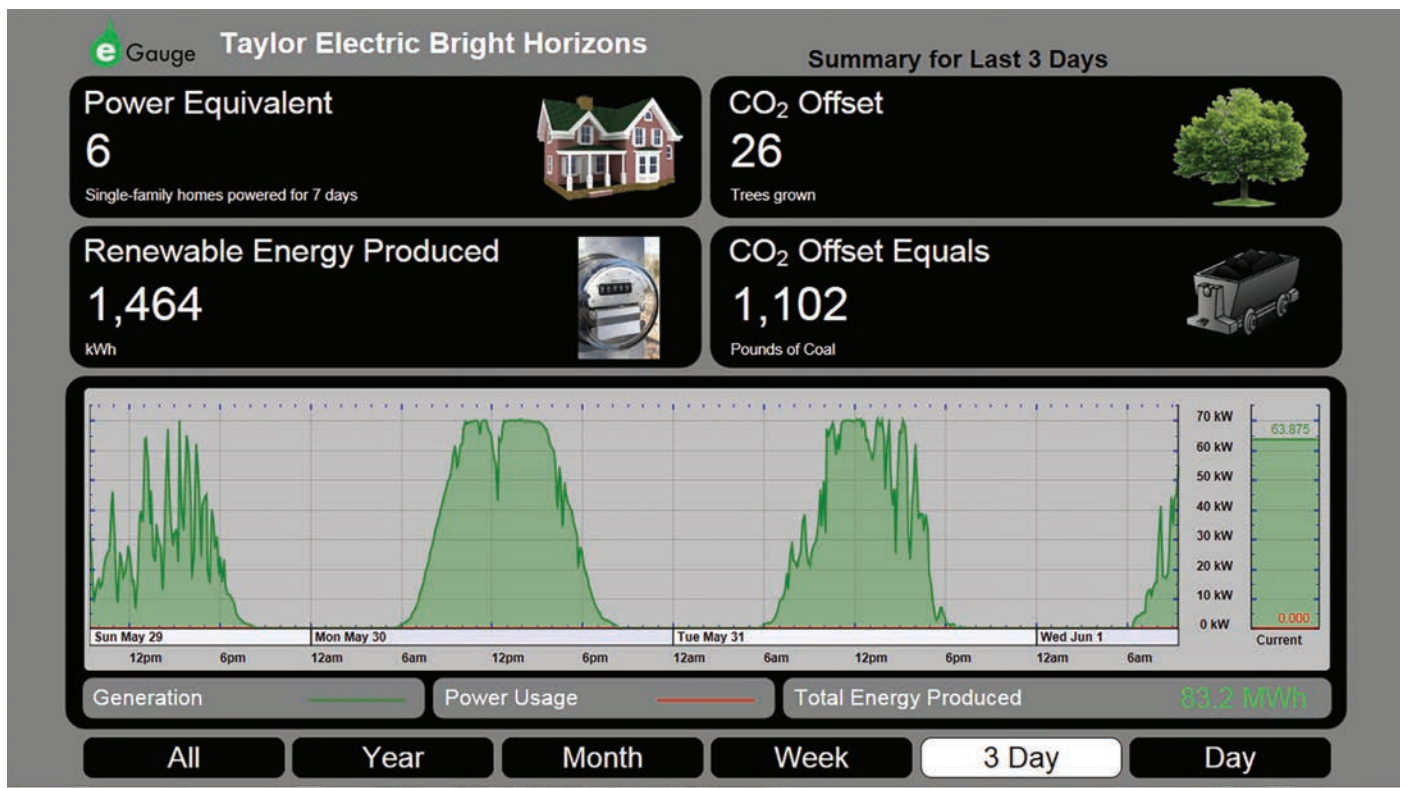
**WE'VE MADE IT
EASIER AND MORE
AFFORDABLE!**

- **Purchase one unit of solar for \$930 or purchase a half unit of solar for \$465.**
- **Can't pay all at once? No problem! Make monthly payments until the end of 2016.**
- **Now available for you to purchase for your non-profit organizations (served by Taylor Electric).**

If you like the idea of going green with solar power, but don't have the site or the budget to install solar panels of your own, we have a solution for you. The Bright Horizons Community Solar Garden is a 100.8 kilowatt solar array located at Taylor Electric's headquarters. Units of solar can be purchased for \$930 or half unit for \$465. Any member of the cooperative may participate by signing a Solar Subscription Agreement and making a \$300 down payment. The bill can be paid in full or monthly payments can be made through 12/31/16.

Bright Horizons is interconnected with the grid, so all the energy produced here goes directly onto the cooperative's distribution lines. That means all power produced by the solar array is being used right here in our community.

Call us today at 715-678-2411 for more information.



Follow the Bright Horizons solar output online! Go to www.taylorelectric.org and click on Bright Horizons–Community Solar.

MORE SAVINGS, MORE SUMMER.

Membership has its advantages!
Present your Co-op Connections card at
any of the local businesses listed below
for discounts and other specials!



A-Z Town & Country, Colby

Free suet cake with the purchase of any 20# or larger bag of bird seed.

Bearly Used Children & Maternity Consignment, Medford

\$1 off purchase of \$10 or more. Must present card at time of purchase. Not valid with any other discounts or promotions.

Broadway Theater, Medford

Purchase any size popcorn and get a matching size soda for free.

Carquest Auto Parts, Medford

10% discount on purchases up to \$200.

C&D Lumber, Rib Lake

5% off single purchase over \$500, not good in conjunction with other coupons or other offers.

Computer TR, Abbotsford

10% off on labor.

Glass to Go, Inc., Medford

5% off in-shop windshield replacement. Buy one Rain-X Wiper Blade, get second blade half off.

Heartland Cooperative Services

Athens, Dorchester, Greenwood, Hamburg, Owen

10% discount on all dog and cat food.

Holmes Studio East, Medford

10% off on studio family portraits including sessions.

Jack's Auto Repair LLC, Stetsonville

10% off exhaust repairs over \$50, 10% off any brake related parts & labor.

Life's High Points Photography, Medford

15% discount

McDonald's, Abbotsford, Medford, Stanley and Thorp

One free biscuit sandwich with the purchase of a medium or large size McCafe beverage.

Medford Health Mart Pharmacy, Medford

20% off any Health Mart label.

Meyer Auto Body, Medford

5% discount on any body repair over \$500. Up to a \$100 value.

Meyer Lumber, Dorchester

5% discount on discountable items, excluding all sale and clearance items (cash sales only). Cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts/promotions. Card must be presented at each purchase.

Meyer Tire and Service, Medford

\$5 off any passenger or light truck tire- not good in conjunction with any other coupons or offers.

Mypride Kennel, Medford

10% off grooming or boarding services

Napa Auto Parts, Medford

10% discount on cash & carry items (excludes engines, engine kits, transmissions, oil labor & sale items).

Northwoods Embroidery, Medford

Free digitizing on embroidery. Free set up on first color of screen printing.

Pernsteiner Carpets, Medford

Cost plus 10% on 10 yards per year of ordered in carpet or vinyl.

Ron's Auto Body Repair, Medford

10% off for anyone over 55 or older on labor

Schierl Tire & Service Center, Medford

\$5.00 off an oil change. \$10.00 off parts for service repairs.

Stetsonville Lumber, Stetsonville

5% off single purchase over \$500—not good in conjunction with other coupons or offers.

Stetsonville Oil Company, Stetsonville

\$5 off oil lube filter service.

Strama's Self-Serve, Medford

Buy one ice cream (cone or dish) and get the second half price.

Subway, Medford & Colby

50¢ off any sub or salad.

Taylor Credit Union, Medford and Abbotsford

Free rental for one year on 3"x5"x22-1/2" safe deposit box—new rentals only. Requires existing savings account or initial savings account with \$5.00 balance. Limit one per family.

Wanke Builders, Medford

Free foundation water proofing on your new home purchase.

Willow Cottage Pet Grooming, Medford

\$5 off full groom service.





By Meghaan Evans

The month of July has always been a favorite of mine. It's the middle of summer, the kids are out of school, and of course, we celebrate Independence Day! Typically, we celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, ice cream and other sweet treats, and last but not least, fireworks. This is a time for fellowship with family and friends, but at Taylor Electric Cooperative, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we would like to remind you about a few important safety tips from The American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local fireworks show. But, if you want to put on your own show at home, be sure to follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
- Make sure to wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time, and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures, or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your back yard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side helping of safety! We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches, or anything that could catch fire.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited. Better yet, avoid charcoal altogether and use a safe, clean electric grill!
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using grills.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather, and if we do, make sure you are practicing sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke (hot red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; rapid, shallow breathing).

However you choose to celebrate, Taylor Electric Cooperative wishes you a safe and Happy Fourth of July!

Meghaan Evans writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

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Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor



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