

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* January 2018 NEWS

COLD COMFORT FOR TAX REFORMERS?



TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Taylor Electric Cooperative
**BRIGHT
 HORIZONS**

Why not try community solar?

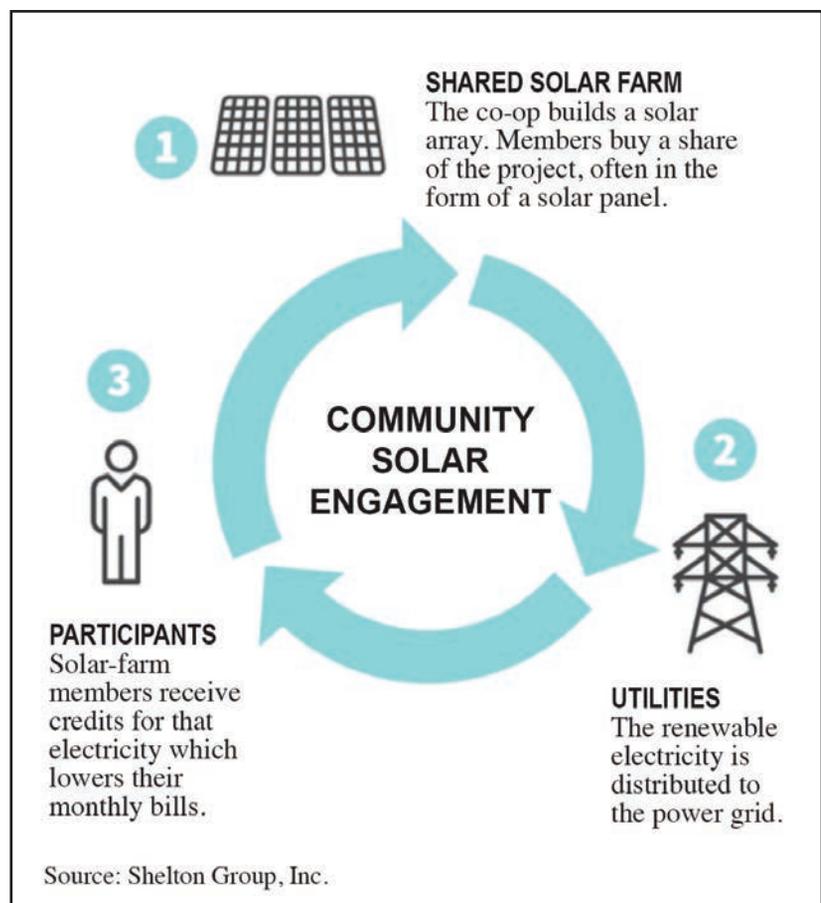
If you have considered solar as a part of your home's energy mix but have been dissuaded by high costs or maintenance requirements, we here at Taylor Electric are happy to tell you that solar energy is more accessible than you might think!

Taylor Electric's Bright Horizons solar garden, located at our office on Highway 13, comprises 274 saleable units. Community solar programs harness natural energy from the sun and cost less than installing a solar system at your home or business.

The community solar model is easy to understand. Bright Horizons solar array is a group of solar panels located in the field next to the cooperative's office. You purchase a share of the energy produced, often in the form of one or more solar panels. The energy is distributed to the power grid, and solar-farm members receive credits that lower their electric bills.

Participating in a community solar program also eliminates maintenance costs and concerns that can be a hassle for those who own and maintain their own residential solar system. With community solar, Taylor Electric takes care of installation, maintenance, and insurance fees, making it easy for members to participate.

To learn more about community solar, call us today at 715-678-2411.





TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INCENTIVES

Effective January 1, 2018 – Incentives subject to change without notice

2018 Incentive

ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES

Clothes Washer	\$25 per unit
Clothes Dryer	\$25 per unit
Clothes Dryer – Heat Pump – <i>all heat pump clothes dryers qualify</i>	\$50 per unit
Refrigerator \geq 10 cubic feet	\$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

Flow Restrictor – shower (<i>2.5 gal. per min. or less – capped at 20% of cost</i>)	\$5 per unit
Flow Restrictor – faucet (<i>1.5 gal. per min. or less – capped at 20% of cost</i>)	\$1 per unit
Electric vehicle charging station (<i>must be controlled as defined by the co-op</i>)	\$100 per unit

AUDITS & ASSESSMENTS

Compressed Air Audit	20% cost of audit, \$500 max.
Audit Recommended Improvements	20% of cost measures implemented, \$500 max.
Touchstone Energy Home Program—new home, must meet one of five requirements	\$500 each

ELECTRIC WATER HEATER***

Commercial and Residential—75-99 gallon (<i>Energy Factor .90+, Residential</i>)	\$125 per unit
Commercial and Residential—100 gallon+ (<i>Energy Factor .85+, Residential</i>)	\$200 per unit
Solar storage, w/electric auxiliary tank	\$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 20% of cost	Not to exceed	\$1 per bulb – 5 bulb minimum
LED fixture (residential & non-residential) – capped at 20% of cost	" " "	\$1 per fixture per 800 lumens
LED Exit signs – capped at 20% of cost	" " "	\$5 per sign
Occupancy Sensors – capped at 20% of cost (<i>excludes motion detectors</i>)	" " "	\$5 each
T-5 Fixtures – capped at 20% of cost	" " "	\$6 lamps/fixture
T-8 Fixtures (Retrofit only) – capped at 20% of cost	" " "	\$4 lamps/fixture

A/C & HEATING****

Heat Pump – Air-Source & MiniSplit (<i>14+ SEER, 8.2+ HSPF, or EER 11.5+</i>)	\$150 per ton
Heat Pump – Commercial Air Source & PTHPs (<i>Less than 20 ton: EER 11.5+ 20 to less than 60 ton: EER 10.5+, Greater than or equal to 60 ton: EER 10+</i>)	\$150 per ton
Heat Pump – Geothermal	\$400 per ton
New Furnace w/ECM Blower Motor – <i>Variable speed motor (not multi-speed) "or" AFUE \geq 95% & Eae \leq 670 kwh/year</i>	\$35 per unit

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 Heat Recovery w/Electric Backup	\$300 per unit
Low/zero Energy Livestock Waterer (<i>500 watts or less, insulated tank</i>)	\$50 per unit
Scroll Refrigeration Compressor (<i>max. \$1,000 per compressor</i>)	\$30 per HP
Variable Frequency Drive (<i>max. \$1,000/drive, min. 1 HP</i>)	\$30 per HP
Ag Fan – Exhaust, less than 36" (<i>18 cfm/Watt or more</i>)	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Exhaust, greater than 36" (<i>21 cfm/Watt or more</i>)	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Circulation, less than 36" (<i>18 ft. lbs./kW or more</i>)	\$1 per inch diameter
Ag Fan – Circulation, greater than 36" (<i>21 ft. lbs./kW or more</i>)	\$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. (timeclock control when under the time of day rate is acceptable.)

Maximum rebate = \$20,000 per member account per year.
Most rebates must be applied for within 6 months of purchase.

Plus, call FOCUS ON ENERGY 800-762-7077

CO-OPS PUSH FOR COMMON-SENSE REPLACEMENT RULE IN PLACE OF CPP

In October, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced plans to repeal the Clean Power Plan, a regulation that would have increased costs and impacted many electric cooperatives across the nation. Now the EPA, informed by public comment, must work to develop a common-sense replacement plan.

Taylor Electric Cooperative is glad to see the rule go. We're working with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), our national trade association, to encourage the EPA to replace the rule with a plan that focuses on individual power plants. We

hope the agency will craft a replacement rule to address power plant emissions legally, provide co-ops with the certainty and flexibility they need to meet their members' needs, and support co-ops in their mission to provide affordable and reliable electricity.

Electric co-ops depend on a diverse fuel mix to meet the energy needs of 42 million members across the nation, protect reliability of the energy system, and ensure affordable power. The fact is that no two electric co-ops are exactly alike. The nation's 900 electric co-ops rely on a diverse fuel mix to meet members' energy needs, maintain reliability, and

ensure affordability. Each one makes strategic long-term investments in energy sources that make the most sense for them. Any new regulation needs to account for this reality.

This flexibility to pursue a diverse fuel mix allows co-ops to respond to local and regional factors and member preferences while ensuring affordable and reliable power. Past federal policy pushed co-ops away from natural gas use for electricity to developing coal-based electric generation. In many cases, co-op members are still paying for those facilities—and the roughly \$12 billion in pollution-control measures that were added to them since the early 1990s.

But as it turns out, electric co-ops and other utilities are already making significant changes in how they generate power. Co-ops and their members value a healthy environment and vibrant rural communities. Market forces and members' interests are driving co-ops to further diversify their electric generation portfolios. As a result, co-op-owned coal-fired generation has dropped 9 percent since 2014, and co-op solar capacity has increased five times in just the past two years.

We live in a carbon-constrained world, and electric co-ops are reducing their carbon footprint. In fact, since 2005, co-ops have increased electric generation by 15 million megawatt-hours while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 10 percent.

Given the progress happening without the Clean Power Plan, you may ask why we want the EPA to go back to the drawing board to come up with a replacement rule. The main reason is certainty. A workable, common-sense rule that adheres to the law clarifies the rules of the road for co-ops, which will then be better able to make smart, long-term investments in electric generation. Regulatory certainty is an essential ingredient in ensuring a reliable supply of affordable power.

Co-ops are looking forward to working with the EPA on a plan that gets it right this time around.—*Dan Riedinger, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*

New Year's Energy Savings Resolutions

Resolutions You Can Afford to Keep!

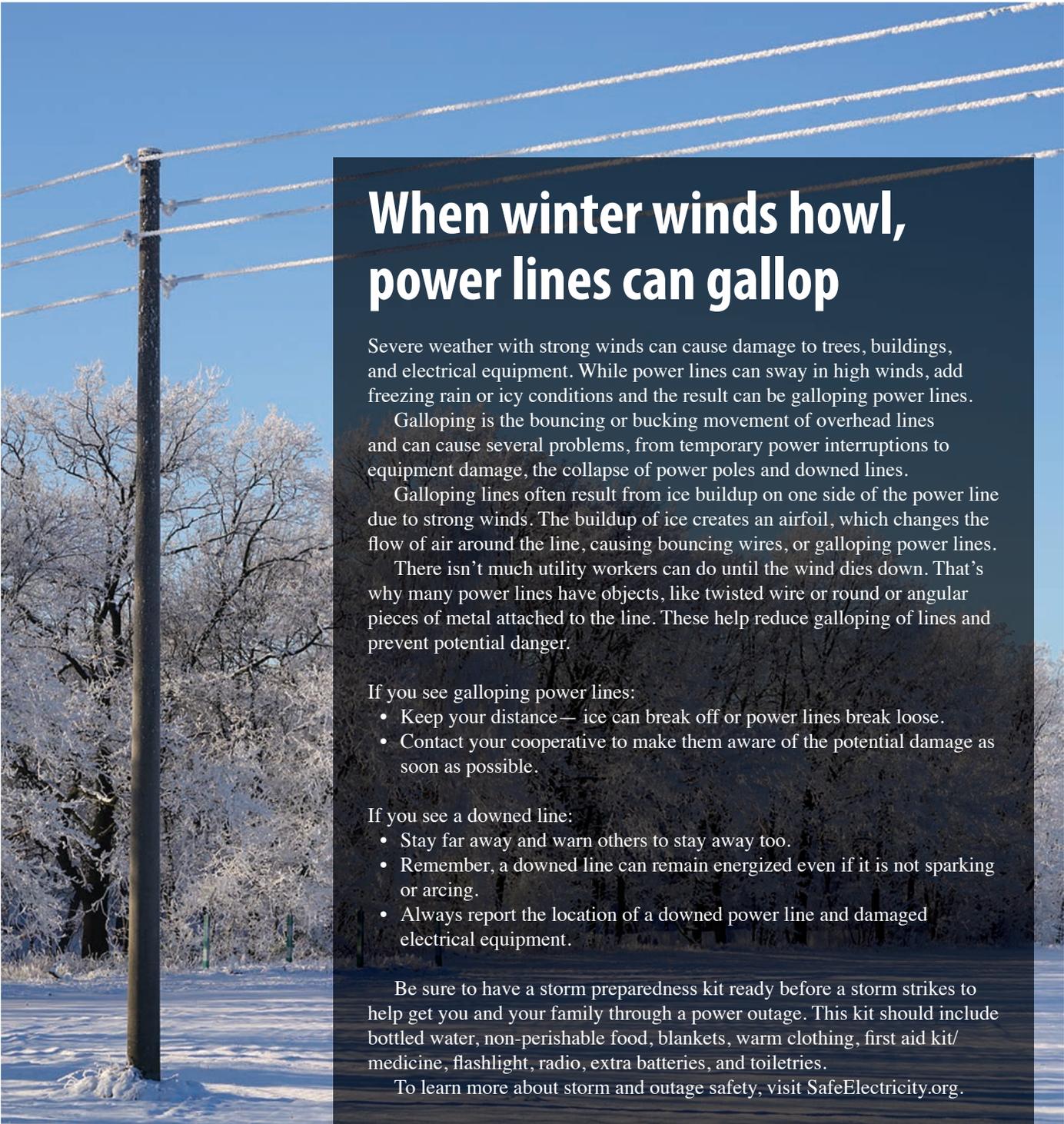
It costs nothing to...

- Set the water heater temperature to 120 degrees.
- Run only full loads in the washer or dishwasher.
- Turn off lights when you leave a room.
- Unplug electronics and chargers not in use.
- Adjust your thermostat when going to bed or leaving the home.

Spend a few dollars to save a lot more ...

- Get a water heater blanket.
- Use a programmable thermostat.
- Seal air leaks around windows, doors, plumbing, etc.
- Replace regular bulbs with CFL or LED light bulbs.
- Use a smart power strip for electronics.

To generate more energy savings, visit EfficiencyResource.org.



When winter winds howl, power lines can gallop

Severe weather with strong winds can cause damage to trees, buildings, and electrical equipment. While power lines can sway in high winds, add freezing rain or icy conditions and the result can be galloping power lines.

Galloping is the bouncing or bucking movement of overhead lines and can cause several problems, from temporary power interruptions to equipment damage, the collapse of power poles and downed lines.

Galloping lines often result from ice buildup on one side of the power line due to strong winds. The buildup of ice creates an airfoil, which changes the flow of air around the line, causing bouncing wires, or galloping power lines.

There isn't much utility workers can do until the wind dies down. That's why many power lines have objects, like twisted wire or round or angular pieces of metal attached to the line. These help reduce galloping of lines and prevent potential danger.

If you see galloping power lines:

- Keep your distance— ice can break off or power lines break loose.
- Contact your cooperative to make them aware of the potential damage as soon as possible.

If you see a downed line:

- Stay far away and warn others to stay away too.
- Remember, a downed line can remain energized even if it is not sparking or arcing.
- Always report the location of a downed power line and damaged electrical equipment.

Be sure to have a storm preparedness kit ready before a storm strikes to help get you and your family through a power outage. This kit should include bottled water, non-perishable food, blankets, warm clothing, first aid kit/medicine, flashlight, radio, extra batteries, and toiletries.

To learn more about storm and outage safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

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Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor



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