

Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* June 2018 NEWS

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AMERICA'S  
DAIRYLAND



TAYLOR ELECTRIC  
*Cooperative*

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# ADOPT THE SUMMER SHIFT

## Make today's new habit part of tomorrow's lifestyle

Are there products you purchase or tasks you perform on certain days of the week because that was part of the routine when you were growing up? When was the last time you thought about how your habits today can affect the next generation?

This summer, consider a new habit—one for all ages; one that can be started without spending a dime, yet can help your local electric cooperative keep your electricity rates stable and affordable. It's called the Summer Shift.

The Summer Shift is not a new dance move. It means shifting flexible electricity use to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., during the months of June, July, and August. This helps Taylor Electric Cooperative (TEC) keep rates affordable by purchasing less power when electricity is in high demand and most expensive, thus "shifting" the demand for electricity to times of the day when electricity costs less to purchase. (see *MISO sidebar on page 16*) One of the best parts of the Summer Shift is that everyone can participate. How?

1. Set the thermostat to 78 degrees when no one is home. Utilizing a programmable thermostat means one less thing to remember!

Do The  
**SUMMER  
SHIFT**

- Do laundry before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m.
- Go solar with Mother Nature and hang up clothes to air dry.

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2. By starting a load of laundry after 7 p.m. (use cold water, if possible), a member could get a load (or two) of clothes washed and hung up to dry overnight before going to bed. Or, wash clothes first thing in the morning and use solar energy to dry your clothes outside on a clothes line during the day.
3. Start the dishwasher after 7 p.m., then open the door when the "dry" cycle begins to let dishes air dry overnight.
4. Shut off lights. Longer days have arrived, so use the extra daylight to delay turning on lights around the house.
5. Balance closing curtains to keep the home cool with using LED lights in lamps. Be sure to turn off lights when exiting a room.
6. Enjoy a picnic lunch and/or dinner at least once a week with sandwiches and other foods that do not require a microwave or stove to prepare.
7. Get out of the house! Check local community schedules to see if there are softball/baseball games, or concerts in the park. Is there a local library that offers fun summer activities during the week? Most of these events will be free and are great ways to connect with local community members.

### Enroll in a load management program

In addition to the tips above, residential members can participate in Taylor Electric Cooperative's load management program, which is a strategy utilized by our wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, to automatically shift electricity use and reduce demand.

As part of the program, a load management receiver is installed on eligible electric appliances, such as water heaters, air conditioners, or (in the winter) electric heat units. During times of high electricity demand or when the price to purchase electricity is high, Dairyland will initiate a load control event, and the receiver will automatically respond by curtailing electricity to the connected appliance for a period of time. In exchange for load control participation, members may be eligible for a reduced, off-peak electricity rate or bill credit.

Load control events are designed to achieve the benefits of demand reduction and energy shifting, while balancing the impact to household comfort and convenience. Event duration and frequency vary according to the capabilities of each enrolled appliance. Many households do not notice when a load control event is taking place, especially those members who are already taking a conservation-minded approach to energy use. More information is available by contacting your trusted energy advisors at Taylor Electric. ▶




## PEAK Alert Participation Options for C&I Members

Commercial, industrial, or agricultural members can also contribute to demand reduction, along with their residential counterparts, through the PEAK Alert load management program. PEAK Alert events are issued during the winter and summer seasons during critical time periods where the demand for electricity is expected to be at its peak for the season.

A limited number of times throughout summer (June through August) and winter (December through February), Dairyland Power Cooperative (Taylor Electric's wholesale power provider) will call for a full load control—or PEAK Alert—event.

During a PEAK Alert, participating three-phase commercial and industrial members will either shut down or switch their electricity needs to a generator. Agricultural members can participate further through curtailment of irrigation pumps or grain drying systems during this time. Participation can be manual or automated. Contact Taylor Electric to learn more about available programs.

Together, local electric cooperative members can take control to help ensure their electricity remains safe, reliable, and affordable. 

## What is MISO?

Taylor Electric is a distribution cooperative that receives power from Dairyland Power Cooperative, a generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative in La Crosse. Taylor Electric is a member-owner of Dairyland, just like TEC members are member-owners of their local electric cooperative. As a G&T cooperative, Dairyland is part of the MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.), which is one of seven regional transmission organizations (RTOs) in the United States. MISO was created in 1998 to provide safe, cost-effective delivery of electric power across all or parts of 15 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba. Through MISO, Dairyland sells the power it generates and purchases power it needs for its members, including Taylor Electric.

Employees in Dairyland's System Operations Center balance members' electricity needs against MISO's pricing for electricity. If members can do the Summer Shift and move unnecessary electricity use to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., electricity demand during times of peak pricing within the MISO system can be reduced, thus keeping overall electricity rates stable and affordable.

More information on MISO can be found online at [www.miso.org](http://www.miso.org).

# Avoid the Big Green Box

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing, or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities.

Keep areas surrounding the pad-mounted transformer clear so that workers can safely maintain transformers as needed. Keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from the transformer doors and 4 feet away from the sides.



Never touch, climb or play on pad-mounted transformers. Never put fingers, sticks or other objects through cracks in the transformer.



Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer. They are surrounded by underground cables. Hitting the cable could result in electrical shock or disruption of service. Always dial 8-1-1 before you dig.



Report problems. If you notice anything amiss, like an unlocked transformer or one that has been damaged, please contact us immediately.





# ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR RV CAMPING

**Camping is an outdoor leisure activity that many people take advantage of during the summer season. As with all summer fun, safety needs to be a priority. Taylor Electric wants you to stay safe and has some electrical safety tips to take along on any trip that involves RV camping.**

Tragically, in the summer of 2014, a 3-year-old boy was electrocuted as a result of faulty wiring that electrified the family's camper. The child was touching a door handle of the camper while standing on wet ground when he was electrocuted.

Such a situation in which an RV frame is electrically charged is often referred to as "hot skin." Improper wiring or connection, no grounding, reversed polarity, and loose or worn outlets are just some of the potential causes. If a hot skin hazard exists, simply opening the door or coming into contact with the hitch can cause shock or electrocution.

To help prevent hot skin, your RV's electrical system needs to be regularly tested and maintained. A professional electrician can help you make sure the wiring in your RV is safe.

Perform a visual inspection of cords, plugs, and outlets. If there are cracked or frayed cords or broken or discolored plugs or outlets, do not use them. Have them replaced or repaired.

Make sure RVs are equipped with fire extinguishers as well as permanently installed carbon-monoxide and fire detectors. Here are a few other tips to help keep you safe:

- Always use electrical cords rated for the use they will get. Make sure the power demand of the appliances that will be used does not exceed the cord's rating. To plug your RV into a campground power pedestal, use a heavy-duty, four-wire cord with a grounding wire, not an extension cord.
- Know the amperage your RV draws and the amperage available. If you try to draw more amperage than is available, you can cause serious damage to the electrical source and your RV. You could even start a fire. Also make sure you know where your electrical panel and major switches are.
- Before using a campground hookup, do a visual inspection of the area. If a campground hook-up appears to be damaged, put safety first and request another spot. Making the campground aware of the damage will also help future campers at that site. In addition, be sure to have the proper cord. Never plug more than one RV into a single hook-up. As with a generator, plug your RV in before turning appliances on. (Source: Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative)



**Sunday, June 10, 2018**

**6:30 a.m. to noon**

**Taylor County Fairgrounds, Medford  
Corner of Hwy. 64 and 13**

**TICKETS: \$5**

**Kids 5 and under eat FREE**

**MENU: Omelets, scrambled eggs,  
sausages, cheese,  
fresh-baked buttermilk biscuits, honey,  
juice, coffee, milk, & ice cream**

**Farm tour to Brandner Dairy**

*(Must take bus from fairgrounds to attend the tour)*



**Ag machinery and  
educational  
displays**

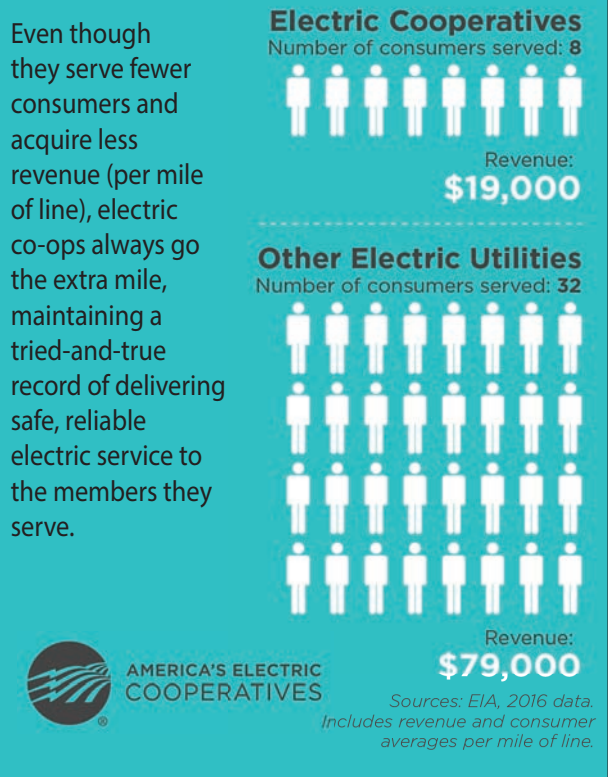
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## RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE MAY 1

Taylor Electric Cooperative has been notified by our wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power, that, effective May 1, 2018, there will be a 2.09 percent increase in the cost of wholesale power we purchase from them. The "Wholesale Energy Charge" on your May 2018 electric bill will reflect this increase of \$0.00151 per kilowatt-hour (this will begin with electric bills due in June 2018).

## Going the Extra Mile

Did you know electric cooperatives maintain more miles of power lines per consumer and acquire less revenue than other types of electric utilities?



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