

Light Notes

Jacob Lindholm
PHOTOGRAPHY

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative

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"Hayfields at First Light" courtesy of Jacob Lindholm, a member in Mt. Hope, WI.

KEEP ENERGY VAMPIRES FROM HAUNTING YOUR WALLET!

You may have energy wasters in your home

Some electronics draw power from the outlet and money from your wallet, even when they are turned off. They go into standby mode, which uses electricity for features like displays and remote controls.

Phantom power draw is not always wasteful. Some electronics need a constant, small supply of power. These include thermostats and answering machines. Some electronics, such as televisions, maintain a constant power supply so they can be remotely operated and so that they can be turned on quickly. Other appliances, however, do not require constant electricity and you lose money when they constantly draw electricity.

Reducing phantom power draw is a painless money saver. You won't notice that your appliances aren't constantly drawing electricity, but you will notice a difference in your energy bills.

Safe Electricity has advice to help you put a stop to energy vampires in your home:

- When possible, unplug electronics that you are not using.
- If you have a room that you do not use regularly, plug electronics into a power strip, and turn the power strip off when items are not in use.
- Purchase smart power strips for your computers and televisions. These devices sense when the computer or television is sleeping or off. The smart strip cuts off power to related electronics, such as video game consoles and printers.
- Buy low-standby products. Most Energy Star endorsed products draw smaller than average amounts of electricity when turned off.

Energy Vampires



can add up to **10%** to electric bills.

Safe
Electricity.org

research collected from Energy.gov





As a thank-you to our members, we're giving away bill credits all month long in celebration of Co-op Month!

Three Ways to Win

- 💡 All members will be automatically entered to win a \$20 bill credit.
- 💡 Those enrolled in paperless billing by Oct. 20 will be eligible to win a \$25 bill credit. Log in to SmartHub to enroll today.
- 💡 Members enrolled in auto pay by Oct. 20 will be eligible to win a \$25 bill credit. Fill out and return the form on the back of your bill or enroll through SmartHub.

Winners will be announced on our Facebook page (facebook.com/sreccoop). More details can be found in the October WEC News magazine.

RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE NOTES



Zielie's Tree Service will be trimming the Gays Mills Substation, south circuit, west side of Seneca along the river during the month of October.

It is important for SREC to maintain its rights-of-way for the following reasons:

- Accessibility for field crews, vehicles and equipment
- Fire prevention
- Reliable electric service
- Quality service with the reduction of outages and blinks
- Safety for workers and the public
- Meeting state and federal code requirements

On a daily basis, SREC employees and contractors may be working throughout the area, and at times on your property, to operate and maintain the electric system and our rights-of-way.

If you have questions, please contact us at 800-236-2141.



Scam Tip of the Month

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which is the perfect time to take a fresh look at your passwords. Forget the old advice about cramming passwords with symbols and random capitalization. Today's cybersecurity experts recommend using longer passphrases. A password made up of four or five unrelated words is easier to remember and much harder for criminals to crack than a short, complex password. Use a unique passphrase for every account and enable multi-factor authentication whenever available for added protection.

Safety Tip

Frayed wires, damaged plugs and overloaded outlets can spark a fire. Check cords and plugs regularly and replace worn items. Never run cords under rugs or furniture, and unplug small appliances when not in use.



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Light Notes is a monthly newsletter for members of SREC. Please contact us with questions or comments at 206 County Road K, Lancaster, WI 53813, via email at srec@srec.net, via phone at (608) 723-2121 or (800) 236-2141.



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Jason Knapp, CEO



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