

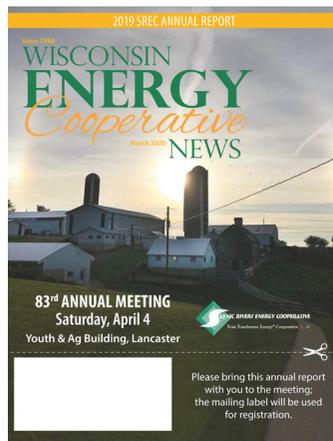
WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

See You at the 2020 Annual Meeting

We would like to cordially invite you to our 2020 Annual Meeting. The meeting program is listed to the right for your preview. Our Annual Meeting is an opportunity for you to meet with our staff and with your Board Members. You will have the chance to get your blood pressure checked, discuss energy saving issues with a Focus on Energy representative and share a meal catered by the Wisconsin Pork Association. We will also be awarding 52 scholarships to area Seniors and giving away door prizes.



As a member of the community, you have a perspective that is valuable—and we invite you to share it with the co-op. At the annual meeting, co-op leaders will discuss priorities and challenges, and discuss the financial health and priorities for the coming years. Questions can be written out and dropped in the question box at the meeting. The annual meeting is also the time to vote for new board directors who will represent you—the members of the co-op. Board Directors are local consumers, just like you. Elections will be held for Districts 1, 5, and 9. The candidates are:

- District 1: Marcus Saegrove (incumbent)
- District 5: Delbert Reuter (incumbent)
- District 9: Jack Larson (incumbent)

Scenic Rivers Electric Cooperative is one of the few local organizations that is uniquely positioned to bring together all members of the community. It is worth noting that the health of the co-op and the well-being of the community are closely intertwined.

Perhaps you may feel that you have nothing to add to the discussion, so there is no need to attend the annual meeting. However, every energy bill you pay to the co-op helps ensure

continued on next page...

Annual Meeting Program April 4, 2020

9:00 a.m.

- Registration Begins
- Informational Booths are open
- Blood Pressure checks available

9:30 a.m.

- Meeting Called to Order
- Invocation
- Introduction of Directors and Guests
- Determination of Quorum
- Minutes of the last Annual Meeting
- Election of Directors
- Audit Committee Report
- Treasurer's Report
- CEO Report
- Question and Answer Session
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Election Results
- Scholarship Winners
- Prize Drawings
- Adjournment
- Breakfast will be served
- Scholarship Drawing

Winners must be present to win and be present for a picture that takes place after the meeting adjourns.

Prize Drawing

This is for members that mailed in their ballots. They do not need to be present to win. The winners will have their certificate applied directly to their electric bill.

- Six (6) \$50.00 certificates

Prize Drawing

To enter, members must bring registration card that is on the back cover of this report. You must be present to win. The winners will have their certificate applied directly to their electric bill.

- One (1) \$100.00 certificate
- Three (3) \$50.00 certificates
- Ten (10) \$25.00 certificates

continued...

See You at the 2020 Annual Meeting

better service and reliability for the whole community. Your dollars are reinvested locally into improvements that impact the reliability and affordability of your energy, and Scenic Rivers Electric Cooperative wants to hear from you to better inform our decisions as we plan for the future.

Look for the Annual Report inside your March issue of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News magazine, which due to the bylaws, will be mailed on March 4th. Please remember to cut out the registration card on the front cover so that you can register for door prizes. The report will also be available on our website at www.sre.coop under the "About Us" heading on March 4th.

Members in Districts 1, 5, and 9 will receive ballots after March 4th to vote for your board candidates. Please be sure to mail in your ballot, or come to the meeting to vote. Remember that if you mail your ballot, you must follow the instructions correctly in order for your ballot to count. Please remember to sign the outer envelope which is marked for your signature.

If you've never attended our annual meeting, or if it's been awhile, please stop by. Our co-op family looks forward to visiting with you! So, mark your calendar for the annual meeting on Saturday, April 4, 2020, at the Grant County Youth and Ag building in Lancaster. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. ■

Census 101: Make it Count

Why it's important to participate in the U.S. census.

The United States census is conducted every 10 years. The 2020 census will count every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia and five U.S. territories. However, the census is much more than a head count. It provides a picture of the nation that helps determine how federal funding is distributed to support states, counties and communities which benefit schools, hospitals, roads and public works; and how congressional seats are apportioned. Local governments use the census data for public safety and emergency planning and businesses consult the data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which creates jobs and fosters economic development. Real estate developers use data from the census to build new homes and revitalize neighborhoods. Residents evaluate the data to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality of life initiatives and consumer advocacy. An accurate count is vital.

How do I complete the census?

In 2020, the census will be accessible online or by phone, and available in English and 12 additional languages. Invitations to respond to the census will begin in mid-March. The official Census Day is April 1, 2020. By mid-April, a paper questionnaire will be mailed to every household that has not yet responded online or by phone. Participants can also respond in person beginning in mid-May. Census takers will visit all households that have not yet responded.

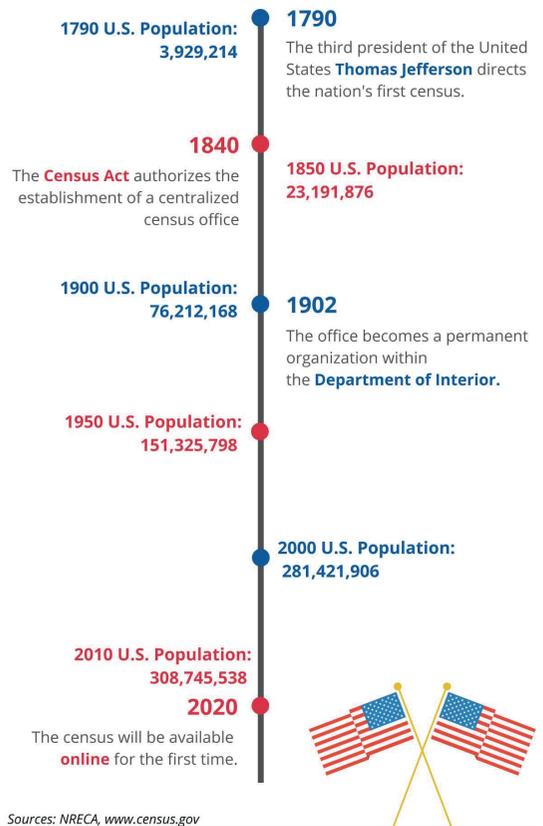
Strict federal law protects census responses. It is against the law for any census Bureau employee to disclose or publish any census information that identifies an individual or business. The Census Bureau will never ask for your Social Security number, bank or credit card account numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party. By March 2020, the public can begin responding to the 2020 census online. To make sure you and everyone you know is counted, visit www.2020census.gov. ■



A BRIEF HISTORY OF

THE U.S. CENSUS

Per the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Census counts every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia and five U.S. territories every 10 years.



Youth Programs Build Strong Citizens



2019 Youth Leadership Congress attendees

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative offers two opportunities for high school students to learn more about cooperatives and the political process while developing leadership skills.

The first opportunity is the Youth Leadership Congress (YLC). SREC will sponsor up to 10 high school sophomores, juniors or seniors, who have a parent or grandparent who is a member of SREC, to attend YLC in July. YLC is held on the UW-River Falls campus from July 14 – 16. The program introduces students to cooperative business basics, demonstrates the value of

cooperation in everyday life, and offers session to help develop leadership skills.

Students who attend YLC are exposed to campus living in air-conditioned housing units, provided with transportation and meals by SREC, and have a great time with other students from around the state. Past entertainment has included comedians, hypnotists and live musical acts.

The second opportunity is the Youth Tour which occurs each June and takes an area student to our nation's capital, Washington D.C. The trip includes all travel, housing and meals for 6 days. Past trips have included visits to The Kennedy Center, Mt. Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, and Gettysburg. Students visit 'the Hill' and meet with our representatives to discuss issues that affect our area. More than 1,800 students from across the nation participate in this wonderful learning experience and SREC makes this available to students who attend YLC.

SREC is accepting applications for YLC right now! Don't miss out. Applications and more information are available on our website, www.sre.coop under the News and Information tab. Or, call Judy Mims at 800-236-2141x554 with questions. ■

Reminder SREC College Scholarship Deadline is March 30, 2020



The application can be mailed or emailed to the addresses below and needs to be received on or before **March 30** to qualify:

Mailing Address: Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative
Attn: 2020 Scholarships
231 N. Sheridan St.
Lancaster, WI 53813
Email Address: csolmstead@srec.net

The student must be present at the SREC Annual Meeting held on **April 4, 2020**, to win.

If you have questions, please contact Carrie Olmstead at **608-723-2121** or **800-236-2141 ext. 556**.

2020 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST



Our annual member photo contest is now underway!

Our focus this year is "Rural life—farm animals."

Photos must be taken within the Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative service area. Winning photos will be featured in our 2021 calendar and may be used in future newsletters or cooperative publications. High-resolution photos must be submitted via email to jmims@srec.net.

For a complete list of rules and criteria as well as downloadable forms, visit our website, www.sre.coop. Entry forms can also be picked up at our office, or we will email a copy to you.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Placing hot food in the refrigerator makes the appliance work harder than necessary, using more energy. Allow food to cool down before you place it in the fridge.



Wings Over Wisconsin — Southwest Chapter



Seed Day

The Southwest Chapter of Wings Over Wisconsin is hosting their annual Seed Day on Friday, April 3rd, 2020 from 9 a.m. until noon at the Grant County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn at 916 East Elm (County Rd A) Lancaster, WI.

Corn, sorghum, soybeans, and sunflower seed will be available free to landowners for planting on wildlife food plots. Food plots must not be harvested, but left for wildlife food and habitat. Our chapter has a 10-foot and a 6-foot Great Plains no-till seeder, and a 3-point broadcast seeder which are available for rent to members and non-members, for a fee plus delivery and pick-up charges. The seeder is also available for native prairie grass seeding. We encourage landowners to make long-term commitments to prairie grass plots.

Some seed is donated by local seed dealers; the rest is purchased by our chapter with profits from our annual banquet. For wildflower enthusiasts, we will also have for sale small quantities of flower seed, such as Purple Coneflower, Yellow Coneflower and Black Eyed Susan.

Membership in Wings Over Wisconsin is not required to receive seed. However, new members are always welcome. This is the only day that free seed is available, so if you plan to plant this spring, please be there or send your representative.

Refreshments will be available.

Contact: Carolyn Hauptert, Secretary, 563-542-4416
Chauptert01@gmail.com ■



Scenic Rivers Electric Cooperative would like to note the passing of Leslie Leirmo. Leslie was a director of Crawford Electric Cooperative from 1980 to 1995. We extend our condolences to his family and friends.



Vegetation Management



Zielie's Tree Service will be finishing up on the south circuit of the Gays Mills Substation. They will start trimming on the Gays Mills Substation east circuit along County Road B, County Road X, Pine Knob Road and Vance Road the month of March.

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 are working throughout the area, at times on your property, to operate and maintain the electric system and our rights-of-ways. We appreciate your cooperation. **If you have questions, please contact Jay at jgardner@srec.net or call 800-236-2141 ext. 566.**

WATT'S HAPPENING

Watt's Happening is published monthly as an information service to the member-owners of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

Any questions or comments can be directed to Watt's Happening, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 North Sheridan, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free 800-236-2141.

www.sre.coop

Steve Lucas CEO

Our board of directors consists of Chuck Simmons, Don Schaefer, Sandra Davidson, Ellen Conley, Jack Larson, Larry Butson, Delbert Reuter, Steve Carpenter and Marcus Saegrove.

printed on recycled paper

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.