

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

2022 Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

We were pleased to see many members back in person for our 85th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 9. Brent Ridge, CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, spoke about the trends and headwinds in the energy industry. SREC's CEO, Steve Lucas, reported on the state of the Cooperative. Sandra Davidson, Secretary-Treasurer and Mary Butson from the Audit Committee both shared financial reports, which indicated that our Cooperative remains financially sound and healthy.

During the annual meeting, Attorney Parrish announced the results of the director elections, indicating that incumbents Sandra Davidson (District 2), Donald Schaefer (District 6), and Lily Long (District 7) were re-elected. The full tally of the ballots received are as follows:

District 2

Sandra Davidson 175 votes;
Alan Buss 93 votes.

District 6

Donald Schaefer 234 votes.

District 7

Lily Long 271 votes; and
Brenda Martin (write-in) 1 vote.

In the matter of the Bylaw Amendments, 1,829 ballots were received across 9 districts, with 1,677 Yes votes and 152 No votes. The Bylaws were therefore adopted in full.

Door Prize winners were announced and prizes will appear on your May bill statements as billing credits. Additionally, 52 area students were awarded \$1,000 each. A full listing of door prize winners and scholarship winners was printed in the May edition of Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors conducted their annual Reorganization meeting. The Board of Directors elected the following members to these positions:

- Chairman – Charles Simmons
- Vice-Chairwoman – Sandra Davidson
- Secretary-Treasurer – Steve Carpenter
- Assistant Secretary-Treasurer – Don Schaefer
- Dairyland Power Cooperative Representative – Sandra Davidson
- Alternate Dairyland Power Cooperative Representative – Marcus Saegrove

The full recording of the 85th Annual Meeting is available on our web-site at www.sre.coop along with all of the documents, lists of winners and much more. Be sure to check it out.





Youth Leadership Congress

UW-Stout | July 12-14, 2022

The annual **Youth Leadership Congress** is a dynamic three-day event for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their **leadership skills** while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of **cooperative businesses**.



Take the opportunity to...

- See **what makes the cooperative business model different and successful**, then apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.
- Identify and learn how to develop your own **leadership skills**.
- Discuss **cooperative careers** with industry professionals.
- Be **entertained and challenged** by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and talk about topics that are relevant in your life.

This is a **by-teens, for-teens cooperative leadership conference** that is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

Who should apply?

- High school students with family members who belong to a participating electric cooperative.
- Students active in their school and community.

What does it cost?

- All registration costs* are covered by the generous support of your local cooperative.
- Students should contact their cooperative to apply for a full sponsorship.

Sign up today!

Deadline is June 1, 2022

Contact Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative to request sponsorship and registration forms to attend the Youth Leadership Congress. Complete the forms and return them to Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 N. Sheridan St., Lancaster, WI 53813.



Questions?

If you would like more information regarding the program or registration, please contact:

Judy Mims: 800-236-2141 ext. 554 or jmims@srec.net
OR

Tina Walden, 608-467-4599 or tina@weca.coop

Restoring Power Safely and Efficiently

We do our best to avoid them, but there's no way around it: power outages occasionally happen.

For most Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC) members, outages are rare and only last a few hours. But when major storms impact our area, extended outages are unavoidable.

So, when the power goes out, how do SREC crews know where to start working? How do you know if your outage has been reported? We've got answers to these questions and more, and it all starts with a safe, efficient plan for power restoration.

When the lights go out and it's safe for our crews to begin the restoration process, they start by repairing power lines and equipment that will restore power to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible.

This process typically begins with repairs to the larger main distribution lines that service a great number of homes and businesses. After those repairs are made, crews work on tap lines, which deliver power to transformers, either mounted on utility poles (for above-ground service) or placed on pads (for underground service). Finally, individual service lines that run between the transformer and the home are repaired.

We can't control the weather, but we can prepare for it. SREC keeps a supply of extra utility poles, transformers and other equipment on hand so we can quickly get to work in the event of an outage. When widespread

outages occur, multiple crews will be out in the field simultaneously working to repair damage at multiple locations. We also coordinate with nearby co-ops to bring in additional crews when necessary.

A proactive approach to maintenance helps minimize the chance



We can't control the weather, but as a member of SREC you can feel confident knowing we're standing by, ready to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. (Photo by Terry McGraw, Pixabay user.)

of prolonged outages; this is why you see SREC crews periodically trimming trees and clearing vegetation near rights-of-way. We love trees too, but it only takes one overgrown limb to knock out power for a large number of members. Trimming improves power reliability for our entire service territory. In addition to managing vegetation, we regularly inspect utility poles, power lines and other critical equipment to maintain a more reliable system.

If you experience a power outage, don't assume a neighbor reported it. It's best to report the outage yourself. The quickest way to report an outage is to call us at 800-236-2141.

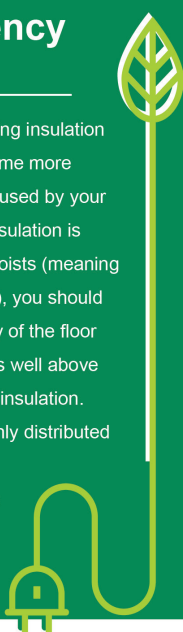
If you have a medical condition that requires electrical equipment, please let us know, and always have a backup plan in place. This plan could include a portable generator, extra medical supplies or moving to an alternate location until power is restored. If you plan to use a generator for backup power, read all safety information and instructions before use.

Mother Nature can be unpredictable, but as a member of SREC you can feel confident knowing we're standing by, ready to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Even in summer months, adding insulation to your attic can keep your home more comfortable and save energy used by your cooling system. If your attic insulation is level with or below your floor joists (meaning you can easily see your joists), you should add more. If you can't see any of the floor joists because the insulation is well above them, you likely have enough insulation. Attic insulation should be evenly distributed with no low spots. Make sure the areas along the eaves are adequately covered.

Source: energystar.gov



2022 Member Photo Contest

"Bright and Shiny Faces"

With the new year now begun, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative is kicking off our annual photo contest. We are searching for photos that show off the faces of our members, both young and old. Faces can also include those of our pets, farm animals, and the wildlife you might encounter. The winning members' photos will be featured in our 2023 calendar. Winning photos may also be used in future newsletters, on our social media pages or in other cooperative publications.



Photos must be submitted by August 15, 2022.

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.

Celebrate JUNE DAIRY MONTH

Saturday, June 4

Crawford County Dairy Breakfast

6–11 a.m. at the Nolan Family Farms, 30990
Johns Ln, Prairie du Chien

Saturday, June 11

Lafayette County Dairy Breakfast

Details TBD

Sunday, June 12

Grant County Dairy Breakfast

7–11:30 a.m. at the Nobland Farms,
2561 Buckwheat Ridge Rd, Lancaster



Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service will be trimming on the Harrison Substation in Grant County during May. All trimming on the Gratiot Substation in Lafayette County should be completed.

Badgerland Utility Solutions will be testing poles in Castle Rock, Hickory Grove and Millville Townships of Grant County. All pole testing in Lafayette County should be completed.

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. During this time, we especially appreciate your cooperation as we maintain social distancing between our essential staff and our members. **If you have questions, please contact Jay at jgardner@srec.net or call 800-236-2141 ext. 566.**



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, Delbert Reuter, Steve Carpenter, Marcus Saegrove and Lily Long.



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