

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

School bus safety tips - *It's back to school time which is a good time to review some school bus safety rules and tips*

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), less than 1% of all traffic fatalities nationwide are on school transportation vehicles. But, back to school means taking extra precautions. Every year there are preventable crashes involving school buses.

- Every state has school bus traffic laws, and it is important for everyone to know what those are.
- Everything about a school bus is specifically designed for safety — the flashing lights, giant mirrors, color, shape and even the high seat backs.
- Seat belts play an important role in keeping passengers safe, but school buses have a different kind of safety restraint system than other vehicles that has proven to work well.
- School bus designs and regulations have changed over the years which helps reduce the risk of injury or accidents for riders.

Safety tips for children and parents

- Review bus stop rules such as waiting away from the road and always crossing in front of the bus, not behind.
- Wait with the little ones at the bus stop. Make sure you and your child are visible.
- Teach your kids to stand, at a minimum, three giant steps from the curb and board one at a time using the handrail when getting on and off the bus.
- If your child needs to cross the street after exiting the bus, teach them to:
 - ▶ Look both ways before crossing the street.
 - ▶ Look carefully to make sure the bus driver sees them.
 - ▶ Take five giant steps in front of the bus.
 - ▶ Cross the street only when the driver gives them the go-ahead that it's safe.



The school bus is the safest vehicle on the road – your child is 70 times more likely to get to school safely when taking a school bus instead of traveling by car.

- Teach your kids to wait until the school bus completely stops before getting off, and always walk in front of the bus, not behind.
- Remind kids to sit quietly while the bus is in motion and follow any additional rules the bus driver has.
- Teach your child the importance of behaving on the bus since any disruption can cause the bus driver to become distracted and could result in a crash.

Safety tips for all drivers

- Follow the speed limit and laws especially in school zones and at bus stops.
 - ▶ Never drive distracted or use a phone or device while driving.
- Pay attention to flashing lights and never pass another vehicle with the stop-arm extended.
- Slow down and watch for children walking in the street, especially when there are no sidewalks.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.

Together, let's get all our students to and from school safely this year.

Five Easy Ways to Exercise Your Civic Duty

America's electric cooperatives, including Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, understand the value of building relationships with elected officials at all levels of government. There are many important policy issues that directly impact electric utilities and ultimately, you, the consumer-members we proudly serve. Strengthening our relationships with elected leaders positions us to advocate for our local community.

While SREC is a locally-owned cooperative, we're part of a larger network of electric co-ops. Through our non-partisan grassroots program known as "Co-ops Vote," we're working to enhance the political strength of electric co-ops and boost voter turnout. There's power in numbers, and when we all show up at the polls, we can voice the issues that matter most to our community.

National Voter Registration Day is September 20, and midterm elections are right around the corner. If you're looking to get involved or simply make sure you're ready to vote, here are five easy ways you can exercise your civic duty.

1. **Don't assume your voter registration status is up to date.** Visit www.vote.coop, then click "Election Resources" to verify your status.
2. **Get informed.** In addition to ensuring your registration is up to date, learning about local policy issues and candidates is one of the best ways you can prepare to vote.

3. **Get active on social media.** Follow @coopsvote on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and let others know you're a #coopvoter and #VoteReady; encourage your friends and family to do the same.



4. **Help others prepare to vote.** Work a National Voter Registration Day event (visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/events), volunteer to be a poll worker during midterm elections or offer to drive others to their polling places.
5. **Vote!** It's the easiest—and most important—way you can exercise your civic duty.

Voting is a form of personal empowerment that gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the issues that matter most to you. Make a plan to vote and help others in our community get #VoteReady.

We encourage everyone, regardless of political beliefs, to vote, stand up for our local community and make a collective impact. ■



Protecting Agriculture's Future - September 18-24, 2022

The 2019 data for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the agricultural sector is still the most dangerous in America with 573 fatalities, or an equivalent of 23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers.

Fall harvest time can be one of the busiest and most dangerous seasons of the year for the agriculture industry. For this reason, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week. This annual promotion






initiated by the National Safety Council has been proclaimed as such by each sitting U.S. President since Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944. National Farm Safety and Health Week is led by the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS), the agricultural partner of the National Safety Council.

Register online for any of the free daily webinars listed below hosted by the AgriSafe Network. ■

FREE WEBINARS!

National Farm Safety and Health Week 2022



	12 PM - 1 PM CT	2 PM - 3 PM CT
 MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19	Crashes Involving Agricultural Vehicles in the Southwest Region	ATV/UTV Safety for Farm Women
 TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20	Putting Time and Distance Between Someone at Risk of Suicide and Lethal Means	Heat and Wildfire Smoke Exposure Among Agricultural Workers
 WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21	Protecting and Promoting the Health of Young Agricultural Workers	Farm Youth Mental Health: What We Know and How to Help
 THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22	Roundtable Discussion: Grain Bin Safety	Confined Space: Grain Bin Entry
 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23	More than Milk: Strong Bones and Injury Prevention for Aging Women in Ag	¡Basta! Working Together to Prevent Sexual Harassment in the Ag Workplace

WE MOVED INTO OUR NEW BUILDING!

Lancaster office new location

**206 County Road K
Lancaster, WI 53813**

Be sure you are addressing mail correctly




**We Will Be
closed on
LABOR DAY**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

Temporary Change in Business Hours

All Scenic Rivers Offices
will be open

**Monday - Thursday;
6:30 am - 4:30 pm**

until further notice.

***Please call 1-800-236-2141
for assistance after hours.***



Vegetation Management



Zielie's Tree Service will be trimming on the Prairie du Chien Substation in Crawford County during the month of September.

Badgerland Utility Solutions will be completing the spraying on the King Substation in Grant County. Scenic Rivers Energy employees will be completing the spraying on the Platteville Substation in Grant County.

Badgerland will be continuing the pole inspections on the Prairie du Chien Sub in Crawford County.

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, 206 County Road K, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free 800-236-2141.

www.sre.coop

Steve Lucas CEO

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