

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

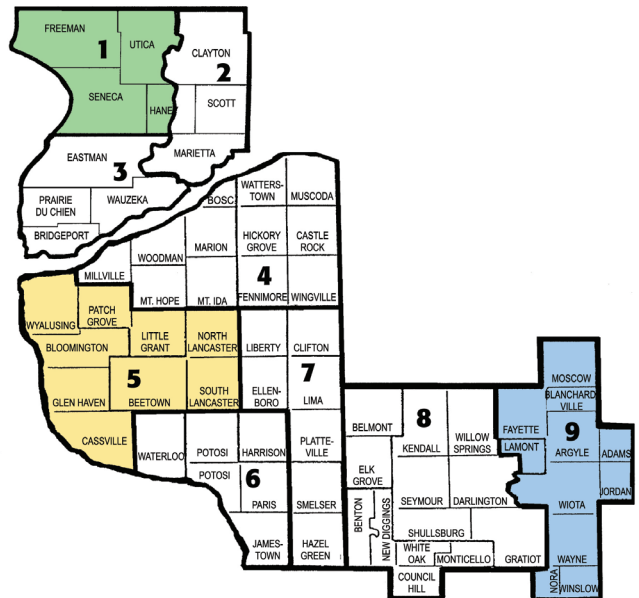
Calling all Director Candidates Districts 1, 5, and 9

If you reside in Districts 1, 5, or 9, and you are interested in running for a seat on the SREC Board of Directors, you must act quickly. The deadline for turning in the necessary paperwork is **Sunday, January 15, 2023**. Potential candidates must be in good standing with the Cooperative, cannot be an employee of the cooperative as well as other qualifications.

Potential candidates must gather a minimum of 15 signatures on the petition form in order to become eligible to run for a position on the board. Petitions must be signed by 15 members who reside in the district in which the nominee resides. In the case of a joint membership, the signature of one of both joint members counts as one (1) signature per the Bylaws. The nominee must receive service from the cooperative, at the address in the district they are interested in representing. As provided by the Bylaws, directors receive a per diem for attendance at monthly board meetings. The current per diem is \$500 per meeting.

Completed petitions must be received at the SREC office in Lancaster no later than January 15, 2023.

Our 2023 Annual Meeting and election will be held on Saturday, April 15 and is scheduled to be held in person at the Grant County Youth & Ag



Building in Lancaster. Current Directors, Marcus Saegrove, Delbert Reuter and Jack Larson, respectively are all seeking re-election. Petition forms are available on our web-site or by calling our offices.

For additional information about the petition process or qualifications for directors, please refer to the Bylaws, the sample petition form, and the director district map which are available on the cooperative's website at www.sre.coop. Please contact Judy at 800-236-2141 x554 with any questions. ■

NEW newsletter look is coming in 2023

Five Ways to Fight the Winter Chill *and* Save Energy

We all have our favorite season. Some people love crisp, cool weather and bundling up under a favorite blanket, while others prefer the warm temperatures summer brings and all fun outdoor activities that go with it.

But there's one thing we can all agree on: high winter bills are never fun. Scenic Rivers is here to help you find ways to manage your home energy use and keep winter bills in check.

Here are five tips to help increase your home's energy efficiency this winter:

1. **Mind the thermostat.** This is one of the easiest ways to manage your home energy use. We recommend setting your thermostat to 68 degrees (or lower) when you're home. When you're sleeping or away for an extended period of time, try setting it between 58 and 62 degrees; there's no need to heat your home when you're away or sleeping and less active.



Before you turn the thermostat up, put on an extra layer of clothing and get cozy under your favorite blanket.
Photo Source: M. Mazer, Pixabay



Get cozy under your favorite blanket for additional warmth. Don't forget to bundle up your furry friends, too. Photo Source: Matthew Henry, Unsplash

2. **Button up your home.** The Department of Energy estimates that air leaks account for 24% to 40% of the energy used for heating and cooling a home. Caulking and weather stripping around windows and doors is another simple, cost-effective way to increase comfort and save energy. If you can feel drafts while standing near a window or door, it likely needs to be sealed.

3. **Use window coverings wisely.** Open blinds, drapes or other window coverings during the day to allow natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to keep the cold, drafty air out. If you feel cold air around windows, consider hanging curtains or



Heavier window coverings can make a significant difference in blocking cold outdoor air. Photo Source: Nathan Dumlao, Unsplash

drapes in a thicker material; heavier window coverings can make a significant difference in blocking cold outdoor air.

4. **Consider your approach to appliance use.**

When combined, appliances and electronics account for a significant chunk of our home energy use, so assess how efficiently you're using them. For example, if you're running the dishwasher or clothes washer, only wash full



When running larger appliances like the washing machine or dishwasher, only wash full loads to maximize efficiency. Photo Source: Nathan Dumlao, Unsplash

loads. Look for electronic devices that consume energy even when they're not in use, like phone chargers or game consoles. Every little bit helps, so unplug them to save energy.



During winter months, set your thermostat to 68 degrees when you are home. Photo Source: Mark Gilliland, Pioneer Utility Resources

5. **Think outside the box.** If you're still feeling chilly at home, think of other ways to warm up—beyond dialing up the thermostat. Add layers of clothing, wear thick socks and bundle up under blankets. You can even add layers to your home! If you have hard-surface flooring, consider purchasing an area rug to block cold air that leaks in through the floor.

Winter months often bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. By being proactive about saving energy, you can increase the comfort of your home and reduce monthly bills. Visit our website at www.sre.coop for additional energy-saving tips. ■

Happy
Holidays

Wishing you a joyous holiday season
and happy and peaceful New Year!

We will be closed Monday, Dec 26,
and Monday Jan 2, 2023

SEVERE STORMS

CAN BRING DOWN POWER LINES

Never drive over a downed power line, as snagging a line could pull down a pole or other equipment.

If you're in an accident involving a power line, do not exit your vehicle.

Remember, power lines need not be sparking or arcing to be energized.

 **Safe Electricity.org**



Holiday LIGHTING Safety

- Use holiday lights that are **certified by a safety testing lab such as UL.**
- Before using, **check each strand** for broken sockets, frayed cords or faulty plugs.
- Always **unplug lights** before leaving your home or going to bed.
- **Do not string** more strands together than recommended by the manufacturer.

Learn more:  **Safe Electricity.org**

Vegetation Management

Zielie's Tree Service will be finishing up trimming on the Glen Haven Substation in Grant 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


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

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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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Save the date for our
Annual Meeting – April 15, 2023