

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Director Nominations Needed

Would you like to be a Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative Board of Director and help set policies to serve more than 11,000 members in the 3-county area? Nominations for directors in Districts 3, 4 and 8 will be needed for the election at our next annual meeting in April 2009. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors and you live in one of these districts, please send a letter to the following address:

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative
 ATTN: Nominating Committee
 231 N Sheridan Street
 Lancaster, WI 53813

The Nominating Committee will meet in November to finalize the nominations. The townships and qualifications for directors are as follows:

- District 3-** Bridgeport, Eastman, Prairie du Chien, and Wauzeka townships
- District 4-** Boscobel, Castle Rock, Fennimore, Hickory Grove, Marion, Millville, Mt. Hope, Mt. Ida, Muscoda, Watterstown, Wingville, and Woodman townships
- District 8-** Belmont, Benton, Council Hill, Darlington, Elk Grove, Gratiot, Kendall, Monticello, New Diggings, Seymour, Shullsburg, White Oak, and Willow Springs townships

Director Qualifications:

- A director shall be elected to a three-year term. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative, who:
- 1) is not a member and a bona fide resident of the director district which he or she has been nominated or elected to represent and who does not receive service from the cooperative at his or her residential abode; or
 - 2) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling energy or supplies to the cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to members of the cooperative; or
 - 3) is an incumbent of, or candidate for, an elective county, state or federal office filled by election on a party ticket.

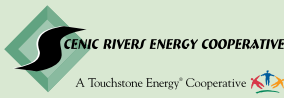
Load Management System to be tested November 19th

Each year, a test of the load management system is conducted for members of the Dual Fuel program. This year's test will take place on Wednesday, November 19. Electric heat will be turned off at 5:00 p.m. and will be turned back on starting at 8:05p.m., with everyone's electric heat scheduled to be back on by 11:15p.m.

The test is done to ensure that your back up system to electric heat is working properly and that the cooperative's load management equipment is working properly. We would appreciate it if all Dual Fuel program participants would check their systems on November 19th during the test times and let us know if their electric heat does not turn off.

Please contact us if you have any questions. **Thank you for your cooperation!**

Enter your chance to win \$100 off your electric bill



SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Questions call Megan at
 800-236-2141 ext. 105

●●● **Text Energy to 50857** ●●●

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative wants to educate our members on issues that call for an immediate response!

Join our network and receive notices about:

- Load Management-including water heater and dual fuel controls
- Planned Outages
- Peak Demands
- Large Storm Outages
- Upcoming Events
- NO SPAM MAIL

Looking Out For You

Electric use increases during the holiday and winter seasons

- Holiday house guests mean more hot water for showers, laundry, and dishwashing; more heating; more lighting; and more cooking.
- Colder temperatures mean longer run times for electric heating systems, space heaters, and furnace fans.
- Big users of electricity include engine block heaters, stock tank heaters, livestock heat lamps, and electric heat tapes.
- Longer nights mean that both indoor and outdoor lights are used for longer periods of time.
- Holiday lighting accounts for 60 megawatts of electricity use through our power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative.

Energy-efficient products and practices can save you money

- Consider Light Emitting Diode (LED) holiday lights to save energy and money. They are 90 percent more efficient when compared to traditional incandescent lights. Rebates from SREC are available!
- According to the U.S. Department of Energy, if every string of incandescent holiday lights were replaced with LED holiday lights, the energy saved would total 2 billion kilowatt hours. That's enough electricity to power almost 200,000 homes per year.
- Use timers on holiday lights and engine block heaters.

- Take advantage of energy-saving programs such as load management.
- Monitor your own electricity use by reading your meter daily, noting any special activities such as increased baking or guests.

Holiday Lighting

- Inspect extension cords and decorations for broken sockets, frayed cords, bare wires, or faulty plugs. Do not overload outlets.
- Do not connect more than three light sets together unless you are using LED holiday lights. Check LED packaging for details on how many strings can be safely connected together.
- Never nail or staple light strings or extension cords. Never use electric lights on metallic trees.
- Always unplug decorations before replacing spent bulbs or fuses, going to bed, and leaving home.
- Do not allow children or pets to play with electrical decorations.
- Plug outdoor lights and decorations into circuits protected by GFIs (ground fault indicators).



2008 Rebate Coupon

How to apply:

1. Must purchase LED Christmas lights by **November 30, 2008**.
2. Cut out and submit the entire proof of purchase (UPC) label from the product box. **No photocopies will be accepted.**
3. Complete this form and submit it to your cooperative by January 15, 2009 with a **copy of the sales receipt**.

Customer information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Account Number: _____

Rebate: \$2 per string. (Limit of 12 strings.)

of strings: _____ X \$2.00 = _____



Lancaster 800-236-2141
Darlington 800-236-6656
Gays Mills 888-735-4314.



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

The power of human connections

Portable Heaters

Skyrocketing prices for liquid propane, fuel oil, and natural gas have opened the door for new companies to try and get a piece of your energy dollar. If you are thinking about a supplemental heating unit, you are not the only one. Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative has taken several calls every day on what kinds of heater to purchase, where is the best deal, etc. Lately, we have been seeing full-page ads taken out in reputable newspapers and magazines,

radio ads from reputable radio talk-show hosts, infomercials on TV, and colorful brochures coming in our mailboxes. Some of these products may be good, especially if used in the right application, but be careful. Do some research and take your time with your purchase. Some of the high-pressure marketing techniques can be very convincing to get you to buy a product you don't really need or at a higher price than what it is worth.

Electric Heaters

A watt is a watt is a watt. 1,000 watts is equal to 1 kilowatt (kW). One kilowatt used for one hour is one kilowatt-hour (kWh). You are billed for electricity based on how many kWhs you use. The average SREC member is billed for \$.10/kWh. One kW contains 3,413 British Thermal Units (Btus)- no more, no less.

A common size electric space heater is 1,500 watts. A 1,500-watt space heater will put out 5,120 Btus.

Environmental Update- Note from the editor

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative does not take sides on the global warming debate; however, we do know that our legislators have opinions based on what they have been told. As the Government starts to address these beliefs the nation's utility sectors will see mandates on energy efficiency and conservation as a result. These mandates will have major technology requirements along with other multi-million dollar changes in the generation of electricity. Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative feels it is our duty as a member-owned business to inform our members of the predicted future based upon the environmental pressures we are seeing. SREC wants our members to understand the impacts that not only Dairyland Power Cooperative, our transmission and generation company, will see with the future of energy but also our members/consumers.

A Thimbleful of Co-Op Vision

People predict the future poorly. That's because there are so many variables beyond the knowledge and, yes, imagination of the human mind.

In 1998, Google, Inc. was conceived in the Stanford University dorm room of two graduate students. No one predicted that by 2008, just one decade later, Google would be the Internet's most widely accepted search engine.

Google's incredible growth came to mind recently when I learned its founders were investing \$10 million in the development of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (another innovation not predicted 10 years ago).

As the electric utility industry works with others to address the problem of global climate change, one thing is clear: technological innovation flowing from human creativity is virtually limitless.

We will need the creative energy of our best engineering minds if we are to find a balanced solution that meets the nation's growing appetite

for energy while meeting industry's obligation to help reduce greenhouse gases.

Part of the co-op challenge is to convince elected representatives that technological innovation offers the best strategy for reaching affordable and long term solutions.

In co-op boardrooms today, directors are taking a long, hard look at the effectiveness of energy efficiency and conservation in order to maximize the value of member service and minimize the impact outside factors are having on electric bills. Not since the energy crises of the 1970s-early 1980s have efficiency and conservation received so much attention.

Electric cooperatives are recognized industry leaders in promoting energy efficiency to help consumer-members reduce electricity consumption and save money. Virtually all electric co-ops provide energy efficiency education to their members, while more than 40 percent offer ser-

vices such as high-efficiency lighting systems, geothermal and air-source heat pumps, energy audits, insulation, and Energy Star appliances.

A free and open market for new ideas and new technology, unfettered by government restraints, is the best incubator for those solutions. Importantly, any proposed solution that increases rates and puts the cost of electricity out of reach for our consumer-members is unacceptable.

In the 1930s, electric co-ops demonstrated their vision for a more productive rural America by committing to delivering electricity to the very last house on the line. Their vision - and the work of those who followed in their footsteps - built a generation and distribution network that reliably serves 40 million Americans in 47 states today.

A thimbleful of their vision will be enough to guide us through the current challenge. May we be worthy of their legacy.

Continued . . . Portable Heaters

Whether you spent \$400 on your space heater or \$40, you will get the same amount of heat out of a 1,500-watt space heater. Now, a \$400 space heater might have a few more bells and whistles, but it will not be more efficient and it will not cost you less to operate. And, it doesn't matter if it is convective, radiant, or conductive. Please keep these facts in mind when purchasing an electric heater.

Using Space Heaters Wisely **Follow these tips:**

- *Always read the manufacturer's instruction manual before using any space heater. Check to make sure the heater bears the mark of a certified testing organization.
- *Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from bedding, clothing, draperies, and rugs. Keep space heaters away from water, and use GFI-protected outlets when possible. Test your GFI outlets regularly by pressing the "test"

button and checking to make sure the outlet is then disabled.

- *Test the space heater regularly to make sure the shutoff function works when the space heater is tipped over.
- *Do not allow children to play with space heaters or to be unsupervised in a room with a space heater.
- *Turn off and unplug a space heater when not in use.



Currently Cooking:

Roasted Garlic-Parmesan Mashed Potatoes

Try this delicious recipe this holiday season!

Ingredients:

- 2 garlic bulbs
- Olive oil (optional)
- 3 pounds potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 2 tsp. salt, divided
- ¼ cup whipping cream
- ¼ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 3 Tbsp. butter or margarine, softened
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh parsley
- ½ tsp. pepper
- Garnish: fresh thyme sprigs

Directions:

Cut off pointed ends of garlic bulbs; place garlic on a piece of aluminum foil, and drizzle with oil, if desired. Fold foil to seal. Bake at 425 degrees for 30 minutes; cool to touch. Squeeze pulp from garlic cloves and set aside. Bring potato, 1 teaspoon salt, and water to cover to a boil in a Dutch oven; boil 20-25 minutes or until potato is tender. Drain. Mash potato, or press through a ricer. Stir in garlic, remaining 1 tsp. salt, whipping cream and next 4 ingredients. Garnish, if desired. (Add a little more milk is desired)

Recipe comes from www.betterrecipes.com.



Tree Maintenance

Tree Crew Locations for November-

Lafayette County-

Benton,
New Diggings,
Leadmine

Grant County-

Wyalusing,
Bagley,
Jellystone

Crawford County-

Clayton



Power Your Mind – Learn who is bringing you power

Fred Maughan Materials Clerk

Family-

- **Wife-** Bonnie
- **Son-** Douglas & Tekoni Maughan
- **Grandsons-** Dashle & Mylerson Maughan
- **Daughter-** Jeannie Maughan and friend Bob Lear

Hobbies-

- Hunting and going to gun shows
- Reloading metallic cartridges
- Restoring collector car
- ATV Club



Why did you choose to become employed at SREC?

We wanted to return back to this area and SREC seemed to be a good fit.

What do you enjoy most about your job at SREC?

With efficient crews working outside it is a challenge to keep ahead of them with material orders.

Evergreen

YOUR ENERGY CHOICE FOR THE FUTURE



for information visit www.dairynet.com

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*, c/o Megan Graney, Editor, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 North Sheridan, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free Lancaster 800-236-2141, Darlington 800-236-6656, and Gays Mills 888-735-4314.

www.sre.coop

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Our board of directors consists of Tom Bennett, Don Walters, Sandy Davidson, Norman Gordon, Gerald Koeller, David Stute, Merlin Kvigne, Larry Butson, and Ellen Conley.



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