



WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Load Management of Air Conditioners Benefits All of Us

Members that choose to participate in our cooperative's load control program for air conditioners are not only saving money on their own energy bills, they are helping to reduce power usage at times when the greatest demand is placed on our power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative. Load management is a great tool for our cooperative to work together with members to hold down the price of electricity.

One goal of load management is to minimize the impact of interruptions on participants while getting the benefits of reduced energy demand on the power system. Air

conditioners are large energy users, and greatly impact the peak demand at the cooperative. They also present a special challenge to load management, because in order to benefit from the cycling of air conditioners, the air temperature of a home may rise a little. However, if the air conditioner thermostat has been set to keep the home comfortable and dry, there should be no significant change in the comfort of your household.

Members who participate in air conditioning load control can expect their air conditioners to be cycled when the heat index approaches 100 degrees for several days in a row.

The simple guideline for participants is, don't wait until you can't stand the heat and humidity a minute longer before turning on the air conditioner. If the weather has been hot and

humid for more than one day, set the air conditioner thermostat to the desired temperature early in the day and your home should remain comfortable even if the air conditioner is cycled by load management.

To reduce impact on individual members, air conditioners are cycled throughout the system during periods of peak loads, 15 minutes off and then 15 minutes on. This pattern repeats for the duration of the peak period, typically four hours, but no longer than is necessary to reduce energy demand from peak conditions.

Thank you to members who conserve resources and help keep our rates lower by participating in this valuable program. If you have any questions about this, call 1-800-236-2141, extension 105, and talk to Leann Handel.

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How to Protect Yourself From Identity Theft

Identify theft is the fastest growing crime in the United States and more than 700,000 Americans will become victims this year. Listed below are ways that you can protect yourself from Identity Theft:

- 1.** Obtain and review your credit report each year from the three major credit report agencies: Equifax 1-800-525-6285, Experian 1-888-397-3742, and Trans Union 1-800-680-7289.
- 2.** Opt out of receiving pre-approved credit card offers by calling 1-888-5-optout.
- 3.** Shred pre-approved credit card offers and other personal

financial documents before you put them in your garbage or recycling.

- 4.** Do not carry your social security card, or any other card such as a medical insurance card containing your social security number, in your wallet or purse.
- 5.** Do not put your phone number or driver's license numbers on your checks.
- 6.** Pick up new bank checks from your bank; do not have them sent to an unlocked mailbox.
- 7.** Do not mail financial documents from an unsecured mailbox.

8. Check monthly credit, utility, and phone bills for charges you did not make. If monthly statements do not arrive on time, call your lender, utility or telephone company right away.

9. Do not give identifying information over the phone to someone who called you.

10. Only use your credit card number at secured internet sites that are identified by a padlock icon or provide a security statement.

11. Do not use your mother's maiden name or birth date as your password.

Currently Cooking



If you love onion rings but not the fat from deep-frying them, try baking them. You can serve them for lunch or have a scrumptious snack.

Baked Onion Rings

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|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 large sweet onions | 1 tsp. paprika |
| 2 eggs | ¼ tsp. garlic salt |
| 1-1/2 C. crushed corn flakes | ¼ tsp. seasoned salt |
| 2 tsp. sugar | |

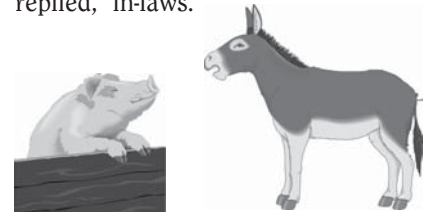
Cut onions into ½-inch slices; separate into rings. In a shallow dish, whisk eggs. In another shallow dish, combine the corn flake crumbs, sugar, paprika, garlic salt and seasoned salt. Dip onion rings into eggs, then coat with corn flake mixture. Arrange rings in a single layer on greased baking sheets. Bake at 375° for 20-25 minutes or until tender. Yield: 6 servings. *Taste of Home Magazine*

Just For Fun



A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position.

As they passed a barnyard of mules, jackasses and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."



Vitality NOTE

To give yourself more energy each day: Go outside soon after waking up; early morning light helps set your body rhythms for the day. One night a week, go to bed early. Breathe more deeply. Use energizing scents, such as peppermint-scented shower gel.



OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS
Meter reading days for August are 25, 26, 27, and 28.

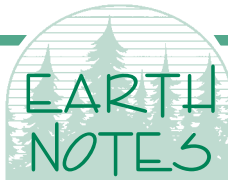
WATT'S HAPPENING

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 Joan Wagner, 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.

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Vanishing Before Our Eyes



Like the dinosaurs 65,000,000 years ago, humanity finds itself in the midst of a mass extinction. Unlike the dinosaurs, though, humans are not simply the contemporaries of a mass extinction—they are the mason for it.

The loss of species touches everyone, no matter where or how they live. Earth's endowment of species provides humanity with food, fiber, and many other products and "natural services" for which there is no substitute.

Listed below are things that you can do to protect wildlife resources and preserve biodiversity:

- ◆ Improve the habitat on a patch of the earth in your immediate environment, emphasizing the promotion of biological diversity.
- ◆ Refuse to buy furs, ivory products, reptile skin goods, tortoiseshell

jewelry, rare orchids or cacti, and materials from endangered or threatened animal species.

- ◆ Leave wild animals in the wild.
- ◆ Reduce habitat destruction and degradation by recycling paper, cans, plastics, and other household items. Better yet, reuse items and sharply reduce your use of throwaway items.
- ◆ Support efforts to sharply reduce the destruction and degradation of tropical forests and old-growth forests, to slow projected global warming, and to reduce ozone depletion in the stratosphere.
- ◆ Encourage elected officials to pass laws requiring larger fines and longer prison sentences for wildlife poachers—and to provide more funds and personnel for wildlife protection.



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