

# WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

## *Make one call to Diggers Hotline to locate all underground utilities*

**Q. Do I have to call before I dig?**

**A.** Yes, it's the law. And it might make the difference between life and death. The required state hotline service is free, but if you damage a buried line without contacting Diggers Hotline, you will be financially responsible for the damage, as well as fined up to \$2,000.

**Q. How far ahead do I have to call?**

**A.** Plan ahead! Contact Diggers Hotline at least three working days before the start of your excavation. The call center is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The busiest times are Monday and Tuesday mornings.

**Q. What do I do if I get a busy signal?**

**A.** Recently, Diggers Hotline has experienced lengthy phone delays due to staff shortages and equipment problems. If you get a busy signal, try again later, or better yet, submit your request via the Internet at [www.diggershotline.com](http://www.diggershotline.com).

**Q. Can I just call the electric company?**

**A.** Sorry, but no. According to state law, the initial request for locating utilities must go to Diggers Hotline. Scenic Rivers contractors will only locate and mark power lines after receiving a request from Diggers Hotline.

**Q. What do the colors mean?**

**A.** Red indicates power lines; yellow means gas lines; and orange marks phone and communication lines.

**Q. Can I call if I need assistance locating my own private utility lines?**

**A.** No. Private lines installed by you, the property owner, are not located and marked by Diggers Hotline. Following a request from "Diggers Hotline, Scenic Rivers contractors will only locate and mark lines owned by the cooperative. Contact your local electrician for help locating lines that deliver power to your shed, garage, holiday light display or other private facilities. Locating private water and sewer lines are also your responsibility before digging. If your electrician is unable to locate your lines, we will mark them, but must charge for this service.

**Q. Who's responsible for removing the marks and flags?**

**A.** The individual who made the request should remove the flags when excavation is complete, since this is the only one who knows for certain when the marks are no longer needed.

**Call before you dig!!**  
**1-800-242-8511**  
**Open 24 hours a day**  
**\* 7 days a week \***  
**365 days a year.**

## *Operation Roundup*

**O**peration Roundup is a SREC member-funded program designed to raise funds for charitable and educational purposes. Due to the generosity of you, our members, more than \$50,000 has been donated to worthwhile causes.

We need the help of our members in finding organizations or individuals that need assistance. If you know of a family that has experienced a personal tragedy, such as a fire, illness, or death, or if you belong to an organization that has a specific project it needs help funding, please contact Linda Bendorf at the Lancaster office.

This program is proof that together and for pennies a month, we can make a difference!



## *Lineman Change*

Kirk Peschel, journeyman lineman that worked with Buck Hampton's construction crew left our cooperative on July 20, 2006. He is moving to the Milwaukee area. Joe Ihm has been hired to replace him. Good luck in Milwaukee, Kirk.

# Currently Cooking



If you would like a good and easy salad to fix for a picnic try this one. This comes from a member of St. Clements Parish in Lancaster. It was brought to a potluck and was a big hit.

## Tomato Salad

- 2 or 3 large cans of diced tomatoes (drain and save liquid)
- 1 cucumber seeded and peeled, diced small
- 1 small onion diced small
- 1 ½ C. uncooked noodles (cooked)
- 1 C. sugar
- ½ C. vinegar (white)
- 1 Tbsp. oil
- ½ C. green pepper, if desired, diced small
- salt and pepper to taste



Mix all ingredients, let stand overnight to flavor. If dry in morning, may add reserved tomato juice as needed. This makes a large salad; for a small group, cut in half.

# Just For Fun



Some New Yorkers were on a safari in the jungles of a little-explored faraway country when they were captured by cannibals.

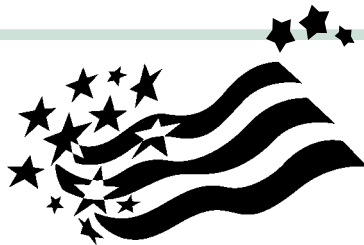
“Oh, yes!” the chief of the tribe exclaimed. “We’re going to put you all into big pots of water, cook you and eat you.”

“You can’t do that to me,” the tour leader said. “I’m the editor of The New Yorker!”

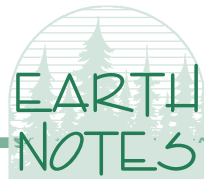
“Well,” he responded, “tonight you will be editor-in-chief.”

# Armed Forces

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative wants to recognize and honor those of our members that have someone in the armed services in the Middle East. We are very proud of them and hope that a solution be found soon to restore peace.



# Would you like to Save on Your Energy Bills?



Touchstone Energy offers consumers free, online energy audit tool.

With the click of a mouse, consumer-members of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, that includes Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, can take a major step toward managing their home energy consumption and controlling electricity bills.

The Home Energy Saver is available at [www.touchstoneenergy.coop](http://www.touchstoneenergy.coop). The Home Energy Saver is sponsored by the U. S. Department of Energy as part of its ENERGY STAR program.

When users log onto the program, they are asked to respond to a series of questions about their home, its location, their regional weather and their appliance use. All energy applications, including heating, cooling, lighting and refrigeration, are part of the questionnaire.

The energy saver quickly calculates home energy usage and helps consumer-members estimate how much money they can save through a variety of energy-efficiency improvements. All information is based on a massive database of heating and cooling information from across the country.

If you feel that your energy bills are getting to high, we encourage you to try this website to see if there is something you can do to lower your energy costs.

# Vitality NOTE

To reduce your risk of West Nile Virus:



At dusk and dawn, when the mosquitoes that carry the virus are most active, wear insect repellent and long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Get rid of standing water near your home, such as in birdbaths or potted-plant saucers. Repair window screens on your home.

University of Washington Health Science and Medical Affairs, Seattle.




**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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