

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Your meter didn't leave for vacation with you

When vacation time comes, and you're planning to be gone for a couple of weeks or so, your electric bill should decrease significantly, right? Wrong!

Many people believe that when they leave on vacation, their electric meter stops until they return. However, this is not the case.

Few people turn their electric water heater off when they leave for vacation. Remember, if the electric water heater is left energized, it will continue to operate and maintain the tank temperature even if you're not using any hot water.

Unless the refrigerator and freezers were emptied and turned off, they will continue to operate to maintain the preset temperatures.

Take a look at other electrical appliances that keep running while you are on vacation—clocks, attic fans and power ventilators, heating and air conditioning equipment, lights, and TV sets with the “instant-on” feature. You may wish to unplug all appliances not in use.

If you are determined that no electricity is to be used during your vacation, you can accomplish this by turning off your main breaker or pulling the main disconnect. But remember, when you do this, the automatic appliances and lighting will stop. Your refrigerator and freezer will defrost, your electric water heater will not have hot water ready for use upon your return, and your home may be too hot or too cold when you walk in the door.

Dairy Breakfasts

The Lafayette County breakfast will be held on Saturday, June 11th starting at 6:30 a.m. The location is the Meylor Family Farms, 16209 County Road G, Mineral Point, Wisconsin (6 miles north of Darlington off State Road 23 on G).

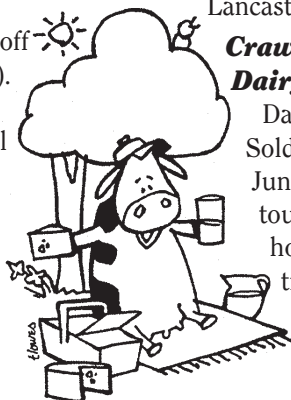
The Crawford County breakfast will be held Saturday, June 11th from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The location is Jim and Jean Moret Farm, 61102 State Highway Old 18,

Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin (1 ½ miles south of Prairie du Chien).

The Grant County breakfast will be held Sunday, June 12th from 7:00 a.m. until noon. The location is the Grant County Fairgrounds in Lancaster, Wisconsin.

Crawford County June Dairy Days

Dairy Days will be held in Soldiers Grove the weekend of June 18th and 19th. Softball tournament, food stands, horseshoe tournament, bands, tractor pull, volleyball tournament and a parade on Sunday at 1 p.m.



Want Your Child to Succeed in School?

Give Them a Head Start!

Head Start is a federally funded comprehensive preschool program, for families in Grant, Iowa, Lafayette and Richland Counties with children ages 3–5 years. (Must be 3 by September 1, 2005). Income verification required. 90% of families enrolled must meet federal income guidelines. Families receiving Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance are considered income eligible. All families are encouraged to apply.



For an application or more information please contact: SWAP Head Start, 212 E. Chapel Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533, phone: 1-800-494-8899 or 608-935-3379, email: swcaphs@mhtc.net.

Just For Fun



Eternal truths:

- ▲ Once you get over the hill, you'll begin to pick up speed.
- ▲ Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.
- ▲ Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.
- ▲ A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand.
- ▲ If the shoe fits... buy a pair in every color.

Currently Cooking



Vitality NOTE

This apple cake would be a good one to serve at one of your gatherings this summer.

German Apple Cake

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 2 eggs | 2 tsp. cinnamon |
| 2 C. sugar | 1 tsp. salt |
| 2 C. flour | ½ C. walnuts |
| 1 C. salad oil | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 tsp. soda | 4 C. thinly sliced apples |



Mix together in large bowl. Do not use mixer. Bake at 350° for 45 to 60 minutes in 9 X 13 pan, floured and greased. Serve with whipped cream.

Grant County Rural Safety Day

The Grant County Rural Safety Day will be held June 14, 2005 at the Grant County Fairgrounds in Lancaster, Wisconsin. It will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Children that will be in grades 2 through 8 in the fall are invited.

For questions or concerns, please contact the Grant County Health Department at 111 South Jefferson Street, Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813 or phone 608-723-6416.



EARTH NOTES

Conservation Practices Have Multiple Benefits

Anyone who has seen one of the beautiful pheasants along the roadside can thank those landowners who have the foresight to know that these magnificent birds need ground cover to survive. Besides giving wildlife shelter and nesting cover, conservation practices control soil erosion.

Contour strip cropping, contour buffer strips, and contour farming in conjunction with reduced tillage and no-till will help to control sheet and small brook erosion. Practices such as dams and other grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and diversions are effective in controlling gully erosion. Field borders can also be effective in controlling the gullies that are caused by planting end rows. Practices such as filter strips and riparian buffer strips are effective for trapping sediment before it reaches a stream.

Contact your local county conservation office to see if your property could use one of these conservation practices.

If you want to help wildlife, limit mowing as much as possible in areas that could be beneficial to wildlife and no mowing roadsides before July 15th so nesting birds can hatch their young. Leave some areas on your property just for wildlife. You may wish to add some native grass areas. Native grasses prefer warmer temperatures. They thrive as the temperatures warm. Cool season grasses grow fast early in the spring and are drying up by the time warm season grasses are growing, providing different covers at different times of the year.



To keep your kitchen clean and bacteria-free:

- ▼ Prepare raw meats and vegetables on separate cutting boards or work surfaces.
- ▼ Wash your hands before and while cooking—especially after handling raw meat or petting your dog or cat.
- ▼ Scrub the sink and its drain plug before washing produce in it.
- ▼ Wash dishtowels and dishcloths daily.
- ▼ Microwave clean, damp sponges for one minute on high.
- ▼ Wash your meat thermometer after each use.
- ▼ Wash refrigerator door handles, cabinet knobs and work surfaces regularly with soap and hot water.
- ▼ Clean out your refrigerator several times a month. Clean all interior surfaces and throw out food past its use-by-date.

Relay for Life

Help support your local Relay for Life, an American Cancer Society sponsored event held throughout the counties. Lancaster's Relay for Life is June 10th and 11th. A special auction is being held on Friday at 7 p.m.

The Relay for Life will be held in Prairie du Chien on June 10th and 11th and in Darlington on June 18th and 19th.

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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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