

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* NEWS

April 2024

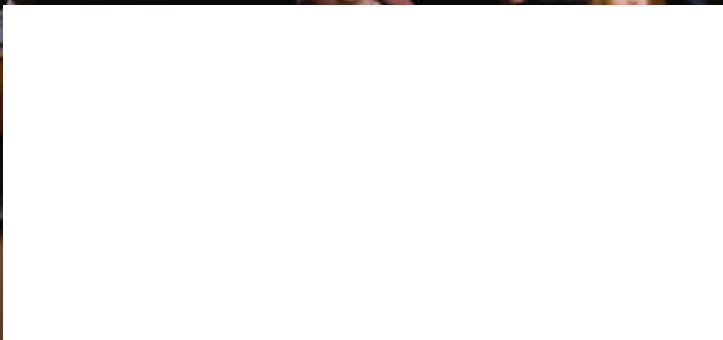
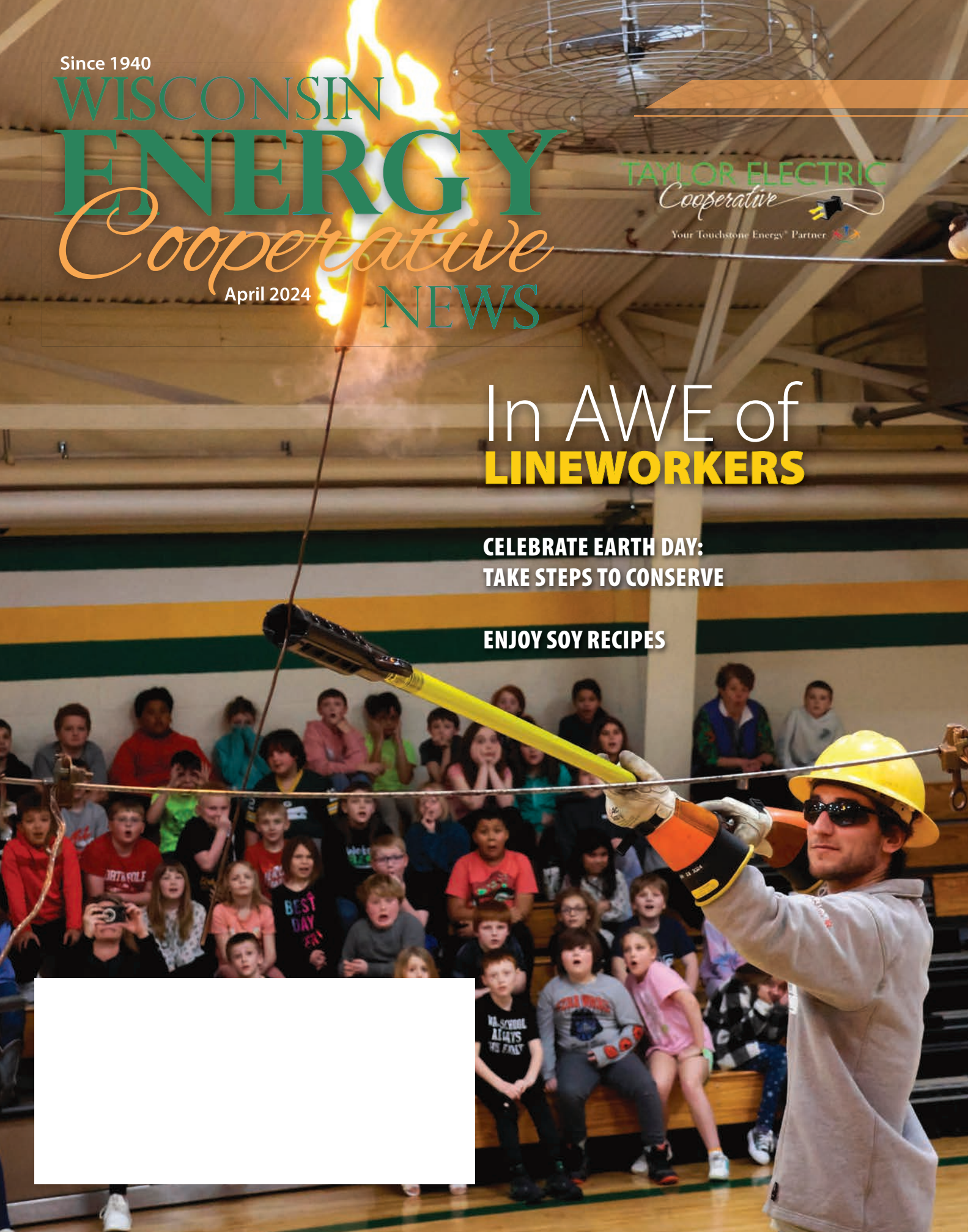
TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

In AWE of LINEWORKERS

**CELEBRATE EARTH DAY:
TAKE STEPS TO CONSERVE**

ENJOY SOY RECIPES





Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

CAPITAL CREDITS TO BE ALLOCATED SOON

In the next month or two, you will receive a capital credit allocation notice from Taylor Electric Cooperative. In addition to your member number, which may contain multiple account numbers, the notice will provide your 2023 allocation along with your new balance. To avoid confusion, there are three things you should know about your capital credit allocation notice:

- **It is not a bill, so do not pay the amount shown on the face.**
- **It is not a credit that can be used to pay an electric bill.**
- **There is no provision in Taylor Electric’s bylaws to make early payment of capital credits to those members who leave the service area. It is important that we be provided with a current address so when the time comes to pay, we’ll know where to mail the check.**

The capital credit allocation notice represents the amount of ownership you have in your cooperative. In future years, this amount may be returned to you as a capital credit check or bill credit. Meanwhile, your capital credits are an investment in the cooperative’s electric distribution system. Member investments, capital credits, and long-term loans are the only sources of funding for the co-op; there are no outside investors.

You will receive a capital credit allocation notice only for the years in which you are a member of Taylor Electric Cooperative. It is a good idea to keep all of your notices with other important documents as a record for future years. Members with questions about capital credits are encouraged to contact our office at 715-678-2411.



Behind Every Lineworker

IS A FAMILY WAITING FOR THEM TO COME HOME SAFE

#ThankALineworker

Lineworker Appreciation Day | April 8

Please join us in thanking our dedicated lineworkers, who keep the power flowing day and night, all year long, in any kind of weather. We’re grateful for all you do!



Taylor Electric’s lineworkers: (front row, l to r) Tim Habermeyer, Jessie Knoll, and Mike Eloranta; (back row, l to r): Justin Fuchs, Geoff Mueller, and Colten Cummings.

CANDIDATES SELECTED FOR DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

There's still time to be a candidate yourself; petitions are due April 27

The Nominating Committee has met and we have two candidates for the two seats on the board of directors that are up for election this June. Incumbents Brian Hallgren and Cheri Klussendorf are running again.

If you have interest in running for the board, there is still an opportunity to get a petition signed by at least 25 members and returned to the office prior to April 27. Keep on the lookout for your copy of the TEC Annual Report arriving in your mailbox in late May or early June. We will have details on the candidates, bylaw changes, and much more.



Dig Smart. Dig Safe.

Before you dig, call 811 or visit call811.com to mark underground utility lines. 811 is a free service that helps keep our community safe.



April is Safe Digging Month

Youth Leadership Conference

July 16-18, 2024

UW-Stout



The annual Youth Leadership Conference is a dynamic three-day event for high school students across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses.

Who should apply?

High school students with family members who belong to Taylor Electric Cooperative.

What does it cost?

Nothing to the student! All registration costs are covered by the generous support of sponsoring electric cooperatives.

Want to learn more?

Visit www.weca.coop and click on Youth Education under Education in the menu, or contact Taylor Electric Cooperative, 715-678-2411, for more information.



Registration forms are due at Taylor Electric Cooperative June 1, 2024.



SPRING INTO ENERGY SAVINGS

Spring brings a fresh opportunity to find ways to save energy and money. Here are just a few simple things you can do to improve the energy efficiency and comfort of your home as warmer temperatures arrive:

- 1. Service your air conditioner.** Easy maintenance such as routinely replacing or cleaning air filters can lower your cooling system's energy consumption by up to 15 percent. Also, the first day of spring could serve as a reminder to check your air conditioner's evaporator coil, which should be cleaned annually to ensure the system is performing at optimal levels.
- 2. Open windows.** Opening windows creates a cross-wise breeze, allowing you to naturally cool your home without switching on air conditioners. This is an ideal tactic in spring when temperatures are mild.
- 3. Use ceiling fans.** Cooling your home with ceiling fans will allow you to raise your thermostat four degrees. This can help lower your electricity bills without sacrificing overall comfort.
- 4. Cook outside.** On warmer spring days, keep the heat out of your home by using an outdoor grill instead of an indoor oven to cook dinner.
- 5. Install window treatments.** Energy efficient window treatments or coverings such as blinds, shades, and films can slash heat gain when temperatures rise. These devices not only improve the look of your home, but they also reduce energy costs.
- 6. Switch on bathroom fans.** Bathroom fans suck out heat and humidity from your home, improving comfort.
- 7. Bring in sunlight.** During daylight hours, switch off artificial lights and use windows and skylights to brighten your home.
- 8. Set the thermostat.** On warm days, setting a programmable thermostat to a higher setting when you are not at home can help reduce your energy costs by approximately 10 percent.
- 9. Seal ducts.** Air loss through ducts can lead to high electricity costs, accounting for nearly 30 percent of a cooling system's energy consumption. Sealing and insulating ducts can help lower your electricity bills.
- 10. Caulk air leaks.** Using low-cost caulk to seal cracks and openings in your home keeps warm air out—and cash in your wallet.—*Source: energy.gov*

Looking for easy ways to save energy and money at home?

Install and set a programmable thermostat.

Save an estimated 10 percent per year on heating and cooling costs by using a programmable thermostat.



Switch to ENERGY STAR® appliances, fans, and electronics.

Using Energy Star® certified products throughout your home could save nearly \$750 over the lifetime of the product.



Reduce energy for water heating. Take simple steps like lowering your water heater's temperature and installing low-flow showerheads to reduce your water heating bills.



Choose energy-saving lighting. Replacing five of your home's most frequently used lights with energy-efficient ENERGY STAR bulbs could save you \$75 a year in energy costs.



Use an electronic power strip.

Help reduce phantom loads—and save up to \$100 a year—by plugging electronic devices into a power strip that is turned off when not in use.



Use sunlight to your advantage.

Choose window treatments that allow you to use natural light while reducing heat loss and gain.



Source: energy.gov

GRILLING SEASON IS UPON US



Do it the easy way this summer

Take advantage of the simplicity and convenience of an electric barbecue grill. It's easy to operate—just plug it in to any standard 110-volt grounded outlet, turn the thermostat knob, and cook. Enjoy great barbecue taste for only cents per month to operate:



The Lock & Go portable electric grills cost \$70 plus tax.



The Combination Electric Grill and Water Smoker costs \$115 plus tax.



The Deluxe Cart electric grill costs \$220 plus tax.

Electric grills come unassembled in a box and can be easily transported.

Stop with the hassle of flames, and running out of gas or charcoal—start grilling the electric way!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

A well-designed landscape can add beauty to your home and reduce home heating and cooling costs. Plant deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns to the south of your home to block sunlight in the summer and reduce the need for air conditioning. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

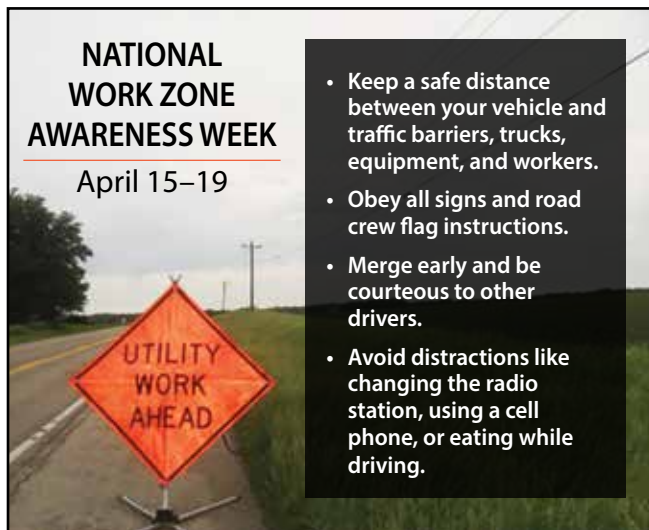
Plant evergreen trees and shrubs with low crowns to block winter winds. Dense evergreen trees and shrubs planted to the north and northwest are the most common type of windbreak and can help lower energy used for home heating.

Source: energy.gov

NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

April 15–19

- Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, equipment, and workers.
- Obey all signs and road crew flag instructions.
- Merge early and be courteous to other drivers.
- Avoid distractions like changing the radio station, using a cell phone, or eating while driving.



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