

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* June 2023 NEWS

TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



FOR THE LOVE OF DAIRY

TRANSFORMER RULE PAIN,
LITTLE GAIN

KIDS AND CRITTERS

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
ANNUAL MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 27





Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



PLAN TO ATTEND YOUR ANNUAL MEETING



Kenneth Ceagske, President/CEO

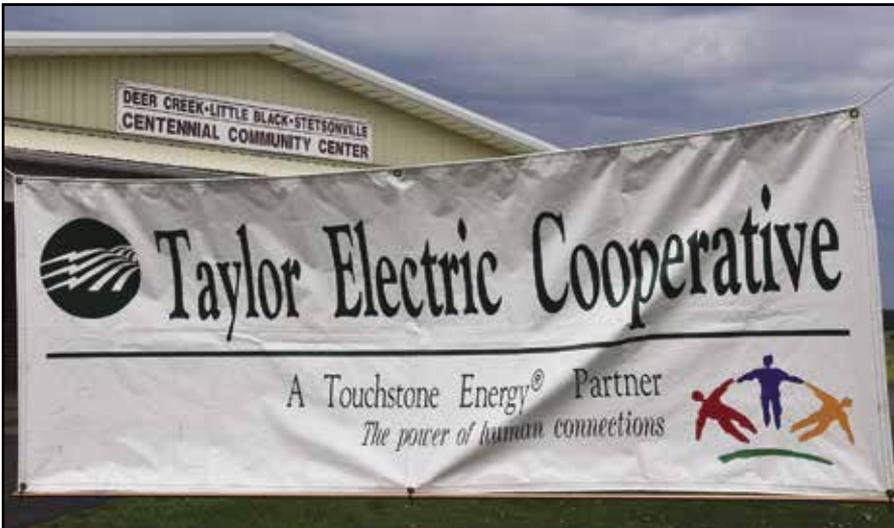
I am looking forward to seeing many of you later this month at Taylor Electric Cooperative's

annual meeting. It will be held at the Centennial Community Center in Stetsonville on Tuesday, June 27.

Four candidates have expressed interest in running for the three open seats on Taylor Electric's board. They include incumbents Chuck Zenner and Don Everhard, as well as Sara Matyka and Paul Woods. A change to this year's voting process will include Absentee Ballots. Please contact the office if you are interested in utilizing this method.

Also, we have three bylaw amendments to consider:

- The first bylaw amendment extends the term limit for directors from five to six terms, to allow the cooperative to better utilize the experience and training the co-op invests in for its directors.
- The second extends the language for unexpired terms to match other sections in the bylaws with regards to unexpired terms.
- The third clarifies the description of the process for member review of (and opportunity to modify) any changes in the director per diem.



TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 27

Centennial Community Center
412 E. Centennial Ave., Stetsonville, WI

- Registration begins at 4:30 p.m.
- Dinner served starting at 4:30 p.m.
- Business meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.



NEW VOTING METHOD AVAILABLE THIS YEAR!

Absentee Ballot by Request

Call or stop by the office, verify your account information, pick up your ballot, and submit completed ballot back to the office!

Absentee Ballots will be available after May 8, 2023.

In-person voting will still be available at the annual meeting on June 27 as in the past.

Celebrate
JUNE DAIRY MONTH

**38th Annual
 Town and Country
 Dairy Breakfast**

Taylor County Fairgrounds
 Corner Highways 13 & 64, Medford, WI 54451

Please make plans to attend a celebration of the industry that defines our state and makes us who we are. June Dairy Month is a time when we all come together to embrace our title as the one and only America's Dairyland.

MENU:

Choice of omelet (plain, ham and cheese, or the works), sausage, fresh buttermilk biscuits and honey, milk, cheese curds, and ice cream.

Carry-outs available

\$7 per person
5 and under FREE



Sunday, June 11, 2023
6:30 a.m. to noon

Event sponsored by: Town & Country Dairy Breakfast Committee



ABBOTSFORD



34th Annual

34th Annual

DAIRY BREAKFAST

Sunday, June 4, 2023

Serving 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

at **MIDWEST SIDEWALLS LLC**
 213 Circle Drive, Curtis, WI

From Abbotsford: Take State Hwy. 29 west 4 miles to exit 127, 1/8 mile north on Cty. Rd. E, 1 block west on Mathis Street, then 2 blocks south on Circle Drive.

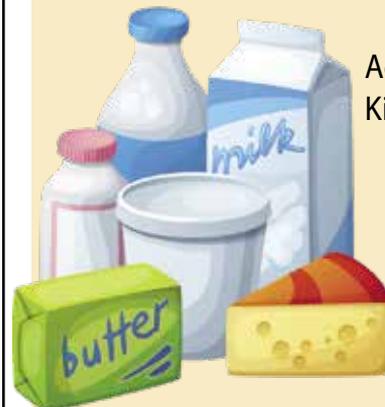
*There will be bussing to/from the Abbotsford School District's south parking lot and the farm.
 First bus leaves school at 7 a.m. • Last bus leaves farm at 12 p.m.*

Please enjoy this year's delicious menu consisting of:

Pancakes, Maple Syrup, Sausages, Variety Of Cheese, Butter, Applesauce, Cookies, Juice, Coffee, White or Chocolate Milk & Ice Cream

PRICES

Ages 6 to adult: \$5
 Kids ages 0-5: **FREE**



A variety of raffle prizes and door prizes will be given away!

Live on-site radio broadcasts throughout the morning!

Breakfast Sponsored by
Abbotsford FFA Alumni



ENERGY-SAVING PROJECTS FOR THE WEEKEND WARRIOR

Are you a weekend warrior? If you're considering home improvement upgrades that save energy and money, we've got a few project ideas for you—all of which can be completed in a day or less!

Here are three energy-saving projects that you can easily tackle whether you're a weekend warrior pro or a DIY dabbler.

Get smart about home cooling and heating.

Cooling and heating your home typically account for a large portion of energy bills. Smart thermostats can help keep your cooling and heating costs in check, with ENERGY STAR®-certified models saving about 8% on annual energy costs.

Now that smart thermostats are more affordable (as little as \$70!), this simple upgrade makes for a fun, efficient weekend project. Smart thermostats offer a variety of bells and whistles, but the average model will allow you to set custom temperature schedules, adjust the settings from anywhere (from your phone), and over time, learn your cooling and heating preferences.

Your new smart thermostat will come with step-by-step instructions, but this project typically involves shutting off your HVAC at the breaker panel, disconnecting/removing the old thermostat, installing the new smart thermostat and connecting it to your home Wi-Fi.

Play it safe: Remember to carefully read the installation instructions before you get started.

Boost your greenery with a rain barrel.

If you've got a green thumb, you already know that rainwater is the best water for your outdoor plants. Rainwater is free of minerals, salts, and treatment chemicals found in tap water or groundwater. It also contains helpful macronutrients to foster healthy plant growth.

Installing a rain barrel is an easy way to harvest large



amounts of rainwater and reduce home water use—it's a win-win. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, one rain barrel can save a homeowner 1,300 gallons of water annually.

Most residential rain barrels range in size from 50 to 90 gallons, so the size you purchase will depend on your watering needs.

The simplest way to install a rain barrel is positioning a plastic or wooden barrel directly under your gutter downspout. Basic piping may be required, but this is an easy way to harvest rainwater, and the barrel won't take up much space. Consider a cover for the top of your rain barrel to keep insects and small debris out of your harvested water.



Create fresh savings with a DIY clothesline.

If you have enough outdoor space available, installing a clothesline is a great way to save energy. Not only will you save on dryer costs—in the summer, you can also save on cooling costs since unwanted heat from the clothes dryer won't be added to your home (which makes your air conditioner work harder). Additionally, air drying is much gentler on fabrics and will keep your clothes and linens looking fresh longer.

You can create your own clothesline with two T-posts, wire, and hook-and-eye turnbuckles. Depending on your soil, you may need a small amount of Quikrete to set the posts. Another option is installing the line between two trees. A typical load of laundry requires about 35 feet of line, so keep this in mind as you're determining the best location.

If an outdoor clothesline isn't an option, no sweat! You can easily create an indoor drying rack that folds to save space. Home improvement websites like thespruce.com and hgvtv.com offer step-by-step tutorials for a variety of indoor clothes racks.

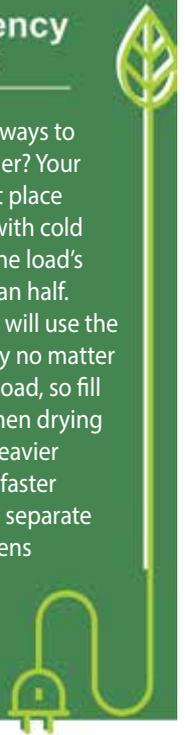
These are just a few simple ideas to help you save energy and money. So, get out there, roll up those sleeves and tackle a few projects.

Check out Taylor Electric's new and improved Smarthub!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: energy.gov



CHECK THE WEATHER BEFORE YOU GO

From 2006 through 2021, 446 people were struck and killed by lightning in the U.S. Nearly two-thirds of the deaths happened while people were enjoying outdoor leisure activities such as fishing, camping and running.

June, July and August are the peak months for lightning across the U.S. More than 72% of lightning deaths occurred in these months, with Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays having slightly more deaths than any other day of the week.

Lightning often strikes away from heavy rain; it can happen up to 10 miles away from rainfall. To prevent lightning-related tragedies, when thunder roars, go indoors.

More than 72% of lightning fatalities occur from June through August



Source: National Lightning Safety Council



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Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor

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