

Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative*

May 2024

## NEWS

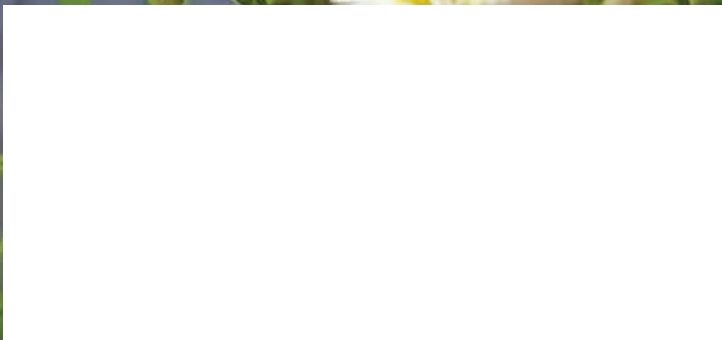
TAYLOR ELECTRIC  
*Cooperative*  
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

## PARK IT HERE, PART 2 ENJOY THE GREAT OUTDOORS AT THESE COUNTY-PARK GEMS

INVESTING IN ENERGY

WHY SOLAR IS NOT FREE

BEEF RECIPES



## Cooperative Principle #6: Cooperation Among Cooperatives

# TEC LINEMEN LEND A HAND TO MICHIGAN CO-OP AFTER SPRING STORM



Leadman Justin Fuchs and Lineman Tim Habermeyer were sent to Alger Delta Electric Cooperative in Gladstone, Michigan, April 3 through the ROPE program (Restoration of Power in an Emergency), an electric cooperative mutual aid agreement. Approximately 6,000 members were without power following a spring snowstorm that damaged much of Alger Delta's service territory. Justin and Tim spent most of their time near Marquette, Michigan, between Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. The weight of the snow and the strong winds that accompanied the storm brought down power lines and trees. Multiple cooperatives from around the state also sent crews to aid in the restoration. Justin and Tim returned home from Michigan on April 7.



Above: Leadman Justin Fuchs (right) and Lineman Tim Habermeyer in Marquette, Michigan, getting ready for a long day of restoring power. Left: A downed wire in a right-of-way with no truck access means climbing poles to repair the lines.

Right: This wire was on the ground and still energized along a right-of-way that fed the Town of Grand Marais on Lake Superior. Inset above: Wire on the ground that is still energized generates enough heat to create fulgurite. This is the blue glass (fulgurite) that the linemen brought back.

## Cooperative Principle #7: Commitment to Community



Recently, Taylor Electric Cooperative CEO Kenny Ceaglske and Billing Clerk Sheena Fuchs volunteered through the Junior Achievement program at Medford Area Elementary School to speak to the kindergarten and third-grade students. They addressed topics including the importance of saving and managing money as well as how money moves around throughout the local community.

# 2024 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Taylor Electric Cooperative members will be voting on the bylaw amendments below at the co-op's annual meeting on Tuesday, June 25. Members can also vote by absentee ballot on request.

## TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 2024 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

New language is shown by underlining – “add these words.” Language to be deleted is shown by strike through – “~~delete these words.~~” And longer passages with no changes are indicated by “...”

### Amend Article IV (“Directors”), Section 2.b (“Qualifications”) of the Bylaws as follows:

#### Section 2. Tenure and Qualifications.

- (a) Tenure. ...
- (b) Qualifications. ~~No person shall~~To be eligible to become or remain a director or hold any position of trust in the Cooperative a person whom must:
  - ~~(1) is not an active member receiving electric service from the Cooperative at his or her place of permanent residence, or~~
  - ~~(2) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling energy, services or supplies to the Cooperative, or~~
  - ~~(3) has been employed by the Cooperative at anytime in the prior seven (7) years, or~~
  - ~~(4) has pursued any claim or litigation against the Cooperative or any of its employees or directors at anytime in the prior seven (7) years, or who in the prior year has been delinquent on any obligation owed the Cooperative for more than 60 days, or~~
  - ~~(5) has been convicted of a felony, or other offense involving dishonesty, for which completion of the sentence, including any period of probation or parole, occurred within 10 years of election or appointment to the board.~~
  - (1) have an active membership receiving service at their principal place of residence.
    - a. or in the case of a member that is a partnership, corporation, limited liability entity, or other form of organization, all the requirements set forth in the paragraph that follows (7), below, are met; and
  - (2) not be in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling energy, services or supplies to the Cooperative; and
  - (3) not have been an employee (or spouse/partner of an employee) of the Cooperative at any time in the prior seven (7) years; and
  - (4) not have pursued any claim or litigation against the Cooperative or any of its employees or directors at

- any time in the prior seven (7) years; and
- (5) not have been delinquent for more than 60 days in the prior year on any obligation owed the Cooperative; and
- (6) not have been convicted of a felony, unless the sentence or penalty, including any period of probation or parole or the time required to make restitution or pay any fine, was completed more than 10 years prior to the election or appointment to the board; and
- (7) meet the then current directors standard of conduct policy, in the judgment of a majority of the disinterested members of the board.

In the case of memberships involving joint tenants, a partnership, limited liability entity, or corporation, only one representative from that membership can be elected to be a director. When a membership is held jointly, one of the joint tenants, but not more than one, may be elected a director, provided, however, that such person's shall not be eligible to become or remain a director or hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless principal residence is served by the Cooperative and all joint tenants, partners, LLC members or corporate officers both joint tenants or all shall meet the qualifications hereinabove set forth in (2) – (7) above. When a membership is held by a partnership or limited liability entity, one, but not more than one, of the partners or members designated in writing by the partnership or limited liability entity may be elected a director, provided, however, that none of the partners or members shall be eligible to become or remain a director or hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless the candidate shall meet the qualifications set forth in (b) (1) – (5), above, and unless all partners and members shall meet the qualifications set forth in (b) (2) – (5), above. When a membership is held by a corporation, one, but not more than one, of the officers thereof designated in writing by the corporation may be elected a director, provided, however, that none of the officers shall be eligible to become or remain a director or hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless the candidate shall meet the qualifications set forth in (b) (1) – (5), above, and unless all of the officers shall meet the qualifications set forth in (b) (2) – (5), above.

**EXPLANATION: The amendment clarifies and improves the readability of this detailed section of the Bylaws.**



# GROW YOUR SUMMER ENERGY SAVINGS

**Y**ou don't need to be a farmer or botanist to know that plants need water—just like you don't have to be a lineworker or engineer to know that adjusting the thermostat or turning off lights can reduce your monthly electric bill. In fact, if you read Taylor Electric's publications regularly and follow us on Facebook, you know there are a lot of things you can do at home to save electricity and money.

Summer months bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. But why? Cooling your home accounts for a large portion of your monthly energy use, and the hotter it gets, the harder (and longer) your air conditioner works to keep you cool.

There are several ways you can manage energy use at home, and we're providing a few tips here that can help grow your summer energy savings.

But we'd also like to share a few ways we're here to help you save—not

only during the dog days of summer but throughout the year.

One of the great things about being part of Taylor Electric is that we're locally owned by you, our members. So instead of making profits, we can focus on helping our community. That's why we've developed incentives and programs to help you keep your money in your wallet.

Save money with these easy incentives:

- **Rebates** – We offer rebates as a way to give you money back for efficient equipment you purchase, like heat pumps and water heaters. Many of our rebates can be claimed by simply filling out a form. Find a list of all our rebates at [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org) or stop by the office for the list.
- **Recycle** – If you have an old refrigerator or freezer that's

running but is not used much, it's costing you. Get it recycled, complete a recycling form, and receive \$25.

- **Take Control of Your Use** – Use Smarthub to track your energy use. You can even get alerts when your usage spikes so you can make changes in real time.
- **Rates** – Take advantage of time-of-day rates and adjust your usage to the off-peak rate.

Most people don't know everything about electricity, and that's why we're here to help you. There are no investors making profits here. Just knowledgeable people with local jobs, working for our neighbors to ensure there is electricity available when you need it. Contact us, and we can work with you to find more ways to save energy—and money.

## 5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

1. **Raise your thermostat.** The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperature, the more you'll save.
2. **Install window coverings** like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

3. **Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping** around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.
4. **Run ceiling fans** for additional cooling, but turn them off when you leave the room.
5. **Lower your water heater thermostat** to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.

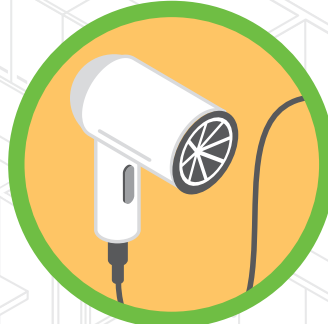


Source: Dept. of Energy

## Four Steps to a Safe, Happy House

### DON'T

place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.



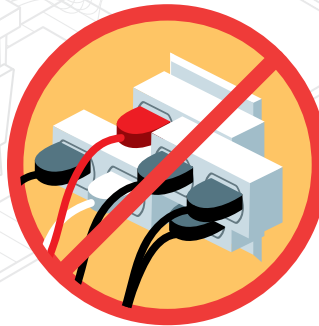
### DO

keep electrical devices away from water to prevent electric shock.



### DO

ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.



### DON'T

overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH



## TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 25

**NEW LOCATION**

**Simek Center, Medford**

1037 W Broadway Ave., Medford, WI 54451

Registration begins at 4:30 p.m.

Dinner served starting at 4:30 p.m.

Business meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.

## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS BEGIN MAY 24

Taylor Electric Cooperative's office will close at 11:30 a.m. on Fridays from May 24–August 30.

Office hours will be 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Monday–Thursday, and 7:30–11:30 a.m. on Friday during this time period.



Taylor Electric Cooperative's office will be closed Monday, May 27.

### Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO

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Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor

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