

Taylor Report

December 2016



N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451 • 715-678-2411 • www.taylorelectric.org

Dairyland solar project nearly complete



Dairyland's solar installation, located in Taylor Electric's service territory on Center Ave in the township of Medford, is near complete as project developer, SoCore Energy, Chicago, IL, finishes with installation and testing of the system.

Dairyland has announced a total of 15 utility-scale solar energy installations and together they will yield over 20 MW of renewable energy. The largest facility at 2.5 MW of generation is located on Taylor Electric's lines. The system will have the capability to track the sun's path to increase energy production. As a bonus, So-Core will use native seed

mixes to create a certified pollinator garden for bees and butterflies around the facility.

In the site's first year, it will generate 3,711,700 kWh of energy. That's equivalent to avoiding the CO2 emissions from:

- 293,598 gallons of gas consumed
- 551 cars driven for one year
- 2,783,511 pounds of coal burned
- 828 tons of waste sent to the landfill

Over its lifetime, the system will generate 87,432,624 kWh of energy. This would be equivalent to avoiding the CO2 emissions from:

- 9,073 homes yearly electricity use
- 2,511,876 propane tanks used for barbequing
- 327 railcars worth of coal burned
- 142,259 barrels of oil consumed

Source: <http://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalences-calculator>
Short Circuits—November 17, 2016



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Electric bills increase during the winter for a variety of reasons – holiday gatherings, houseguests, and shorter days and longer nights. Small measures, like turning down your thermostat, replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help control energy costs.

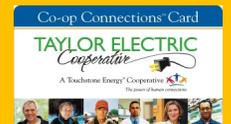
Source: TogetherWeSave.com

Light up someone's Christmas this year with the purchase of a solar unit from Taylor Electric. For just \$930.00 the recipient will enjoy monthly credits on their electric bill based on the amount of electricity generated by Taylor Electric's Bright Horizons solar field. Call us today for more information at 715-678-2411.



4 calling birds, 3 french hens,
2 turtle doves,
and the wrapping paper.

Find all the ways to save this holiday season at Connections.coop



Tips for a safe and happy holiday season



The holidays are upon us. For many, that means more celebrations with friends and family, travel, decorations, cooking and shopping. Taylor Electric wants you to stay safe during the holidays, so here are a few tips to consider as you gear up for the season. We can't guarantee that the hustle and bustle of the season won't leave you with a few frayed nerves, but we can certainly help you avoid frayed wires.

Inspect your seasonal items

Many of us have treasured holiday mementos that we bring out of storage and proudly display every year. The holidays are also a time when we dust off specialized cooking gadgets that allow us to prepare our favorite seasonal treats. These items are often handed down through generations and might lack modern safety features.

Take a few moments to carefully inspect all your holiday items to ensure everything is in safe, working order. A few things to look out for include:

- Brittle insulation on wires
- Rodent damage to wires
- Chafed or frayed wires, especially at stress points
- Worn switches with the potential to short circuit
- Corroded metal parts
- Broken legs, unstable bases and other tip-over hazards
- Extension cords are temporary

When you asked your teacher for an extension on your term paper, it was a one-time thing, right? The same holds true for extension cords. They are designed for temporary use and should never be used as a permanent or long-term solution.

Never defeat safety devices

There are reasons why some devices have fuses, some plugs have three prongs instead of two and one prong is wider than the other on two-prong outlets. When those safety features get in the way of your grand holiday décor plans, you might be tempted to tamper with or defeat those features. Don't do it! If your plugs won't fit together, that means they're not designed to work together. Rather than

tampering with a safety feature, find a safe solution.

Look up and live

When working outside with a ladder, be mindful of the location of overhead power lines. Always carry your ladder so that it is parallel to the ground. Before placing your ladder in an upright position, look around to ensure you are a safe distance from any power lines.

Beware of power lines through trees

Over time, tree branches can grow around power lines running along the street and to your home. If those branches come in contact with power lines, they can become energized, too. If your holiday plans call for stringing lights through trees, this can create a safety hazard. If you notice tree limbs that are too close to electric lines, contact Taylor Electric Cooperative at 715-678-2411.

Stay away from your service connection

The overhead wire bringing power from the utility pole to your house is dangerous. You should treat this line the same way you'd treat any other power line on our system. Maintain a safe distance – even if that means a small gap in the perfect gingerbread house outline of lights. If you must perform work close to your service entrance, contact [insert co-op/PPD/PUD name], and we can send out a crew to temporarily wrap the wires in a protective shroud.

Read the fine print

If you take a few minutes to read and understand the specifications and limitations of your lights and other electrified holiday decorations, you can save yourself a great deal of work and frustration in the long run. For example, the tag at the end of an extension cord will tell you if it's rated for outdoor use, whether it will remain flexible in cold temperatures and how much energy it can safely handle. Similarly, holiday lights will tell you how many strings can be safely linked together.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

The office will be closed on Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd. From the Board of Directors and staff of Taylor Electric we wish a very Merry Christmas and all the best to you and your family in the new year.