

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* June 2019 NEWS

PROUD TO BE
America's
DAIRYLAND



TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



ADOPT THE SUMMER SHIFT

Make today's new habit part of tomorrow's lifestyle

Are there products you purchase or tasks you perform on certain days of the week because that was part of the routine when you were growing up? When was the last time you thought about how your habits today can affect the next generation?

This summer, consider a new habit—one for all ages; one that can be started without spending a dime, yet can help your local electric cooperative keep your electricity rates stable and affordable. It's called the Summer Shift.

The Summer Shift means shifting flexible electricity use to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. during the months of June, July, and August.

The Summer Shift is not a new dance move. It means shifting flexible electricity use to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. during the months of June, July, and August. This helps Taylor Electric keep rates affordable by purchasing less power when electricity is in high demand and most expensive, thus "shifting" the demand

for electricity to times of the day when electricity costs less to purchase. One of the best parts of the Summer Shift is that everyone can participate. How?

1. Set the thermostat to 78 degrees during the summer and raise it a few degrees when no one is home. Utilizing a programmable thermostat means one less thing to remember!
2. By starting a load of laundry after 7 p.m. (use cold water, if possible), a member could get a load (or two) of clothes washed and hung up to dry overnight before going to bed. Or, wash clothes first thing in the morning and use solar energy to dry your clothes outside on a clothes line during the day.

3. Start the dishwasher after 7 p.m., then open the door when the "dry" cycle begins to let dishes air dry overnight.
4. Shut off lights. Longer days have arrived, so utilize the extra daylight to delay turning on lights around the house.
5. Balance closing curtains to keep the home cool with using LED lights in lamps. Be sure to turn off lights when exiting a room.
6. Enjoy a picnic lunch and/or dinner at least once a week with sandwiches and other foods that do not require a microwave or stove to prepare.
7. Get out of the house! Check local community schedules to see if there are softball/baseball games, or concerts in the park. Is there a local library that offers fun summer activities during the week? Most of these events will be free and are great ways to connect with local community members.

Enroll in a Load Management Program

In addition to the tips above, residential members can participate in Taylor Electric's load management program, which is a strategy utilized by our wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, to automatically shift electricity use and reduce demand.

As part of the program, a load management receiver is installed on water heaters, air conditioners, or (in the winter) electric heat units. During times of high electricity demand or when the price to purchase electricity is high, Dairyland will initiate a load control event, and the receiver will automatically respond by curtailing electricity to the connected appliance for a period of time. In exchange for load

Set your thermostat to 78 degrees between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Do The
SUMMER SHIFT





control participation, members may be eligible for a reduced, off-peak electricity rate or bill credit.

Load control events are designed to achieve the benefits of demand reduction and energy shifting, while balancing the impact to household comfort and convenience. Event duration and frequency vary according to the capabilities of each enrolled appliance. Many households do not notice when a load control event is taking place, especially those members who are already taking a conservation-minded approach to energy use. More information is available by contacting your trusted energy advisors at Taylor Electric.

PEAK Alert Participation Options for C&I Members

Commercial, industrial, or agricultural members can also contribute to demand reduction, along with their residential counterparts, through the PEAK Alert load management program. PEAK Alert events are issued during the winter and summer seasons during critical time periods where the demand for electricity is expected to be at its peak for the season.

A limited number of times throughout summer (June through August) and winter (December through February), Dairyland Power Cooperative, Taylor Electric's wholesale power provider, will call for a full load control—or PEAK Alert—event.



During a PEAK Alert, participating commercial and industrial members will either shut down or switch their electricity needs to a generator. Agricultural members can participate further through curtailment of irrigation pumps or grain-drying systems during this time. Participation can be manual or automated. Contact Taylor Electric to learn more about available programs.

Together, local electric cooperative members can take control to help ensure their electricity remains safe, reliable, and affordable.

3-Step HVAC Test

As summer temperatures rise, so do electric bills. Follow these steps to test the efficiency of your HVAC unit.

The outdoor temperature should be above 80 degrees, and you should set your thermostat well below the room temperature to ensure the system runs long enough for this test.

1. Using a digital probe thermometer (about \$12), measure the temperature of the air being pulled into your HVAC filter.
2. Measure the temperature of the air blowing out of your A/C vent.
3. Subtract the A/C vent temperature from the HVAC filter temperature. You should see a difference of about 17 to 20 degrees. If the difference is less than 17 degrees, you may need a licensed technician to check the coolant. If the difference is greater than 20 degrees, your ductwork may need to be inspected for airflow restrictions.



Celebrate
JUNE DAIRY MONTH

**35th Annual
 Town and Country
 Dairy Breakfast**

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



Free bus tours
 to Gary & Lisa,
 Scott & Katy
 Kohn Dairy
 Farm
7:30 a.m.–12 noon

Bus leaving every 30 minutes from fairgrounds—returns in one hour. Must ride bus from fairgrounds to farm.

MENU: choice of omelet (plain, ham and cheese, or the works), sausage, fresh buttermilk biscuits and honey, milk, cheese sticks and curds, juices and ice cream.

Activities include: Scott Bixby 6:30 a.m.–9 a.m. Red Higgin & Freedom Train 9 a.m.–noon Activities and fun for the whole family!

\$5 **5 and under**
 per person **FREE**

Sunday, June 9, 2019
6:30 a.m. to noon

Event sponsored by: Town & Country Dairy Breakfast Committee

ABBOTSFORD



31st Annual

31st Annual

DAIRY BREAKFAST

Sunday, June 2, 2019

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

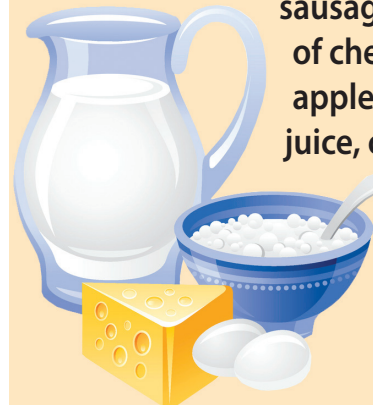
at **BENDER FARMS**

Dean & Sue– Devin – Brentin, Taylor,
 Bayden & Braison Bender

There will be bussing to/from the Abbotsford School District's south parking lot and the farm.

5769 Reynolds Ave., Dorchester
 3 miles east of Dorchester on Hwy. A, north 1/2 mile on Reynolds Ave.

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

Register to win a variety of door prizes, including Chamber Gift Certificates!

PRICES

Adults.....\$6
 Kids (ages 6–10)\$4
 Kids (0–5) FREE

Live polka music with Mr. Concertina!
Live on-site radio broadcasts all morning!

Breakfast Sponsored by
Abbotsford FFA Alumni

MY CO-OP



UNPLUG to be more CONNECTED

“Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.” Author Anne Lamott cleverly captures the benefits of unplugging in today’s device-driven, multitasking world. Keeping up with work, family, and school activities or the latest trends on social media makes most of us feel compelled to constantly check our devices.

Summer is a great time to take a family vacation, but it’s also a good opportunity to unplug from our devices and enjoy the great outdoors with family and friends. Research has shown that we all need downtime after a busy day to recharge—even though we may resist it. Take a moment to slow down and enjoy some peaceful hours away from technology.

While you’re unplugging from your devices, take a look around your home to identify electronics that consume energy even when they are not in use (this is known as “vampire” energy loss). TVs, gaming consoles, phone chargers, and computers are some of the biggest culprits.

If your summer plans include a staycation, take time to recharge your relationships and be more present with those

you love. Enjoy our beautiful state and area surroundings with your family and friends.

Speaking of spending time outdoors, you can also enjoy energy savings by incorporating LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway, step and porch lights. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar-powered lighting for outdoor spaces.

Save energy by keeping warm summer air outside where it belongs. Add caulk or weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows. You can also employ a programmable thermostat to adjust the settings a few degrees higher when no one is home.

In our connected world, we have forgotten how to slow down. We multitask and text. We check email, then voicemail, then Facebook. Do yourself and your family a favor. Put down the device and smell the fresh air.

While Taylor Electric can’t help you recharge your relationships, we can help you save money and energy by connecting you with our energy-saving programs and services. When you do plug back in, we’re just a call or click away.

Michael Schaefer, President/CEO

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

