

May 2025

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

May is Electrical Safety Month



Electricity lights homes and businesses, provides warmth and keeps appliances and equipment running smoothly. During Electrical Safety Month, Taylor Electric and Safe Electricity provide

these electrical safety tips to avoid hazards both inside and outdoors.

Staying safe on the road

Downed power lines can happen because of wind, storms, animals or an auto accident/collision.

- 1. If you see a downed power line, call 9-1-1 to report it and stay in your car. You cannot tell by looking or listening if the power line is deenergized. Wait in your vehicle until an electric utility crew member says it is safe to get out.
- 2. Do not drive over a downed power line. Doing so could cause a domino effect and bring down other lines, poles and equipment.
- 3. The only time you should exit is if your vehicle or cab is on fire. If this is the case, make a solid jump from the car or cab without touching it, landing with both feet together. Then, hop away with your feet together as far as you can.

Staying safe outside

When working outside, be aware of overhead and underground power lines.

- 1. Keep at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. Keep any items you are carrying or using, such as long poles or other extended equipment, 10 feet away from power lines at all times. Carry an extension ladder or other far-reaching tools or equipment horizontally.
- 2. Make sure that all outside outlets are ground-fault circuit SafeElectricity.org.

interrupter (GFCI) protected.

- 3. Before digging, call 8-1-1 or your state's underground locating service. Buried lines such as electric, gas, water, sewer and other lines bring services indoors. Besides the dangers of coming in contact with a gas or electric line, fines due to damage are the responsibility of the homeowner or landowner. Privately owned lines and systems will not be marked by the free service.
- 4. When you see lightning, take shelter inside the house, shop or a hard-topped vehicle for protection. Stay away from high places, and do not take shelter under an isolated tree. Stay away from items that conduct electricity, such as metal fences. If you are swimming or in a hot tub, get out. Water is an electrical conductor that is dangerous during a storm.

Staying safe inside

With so many people working from home, the workplace and where you live can be one and the same. This means more devices are plugged into outlets or circuits that may not be able to handle the load.

- 1. Have a qualified electrician/licensed contractor check for hazards if you notice the following: dimming lights, a sizzling or buzzing sound, the smell of warm plastic, a switch plate that feels warm or looks scorched, sparks when plugging in or unplugging items or circuits that trip often.
- 2. When working with electrical equipment inside the house or shop, be aware that electrical equipment can spark when flammable vapors, gases or dust are present.
- 3. During storms, lightning can enter homes through corded phones, televisions, radios or computers. Lightning can also travel through plumbing, so do not take a bath, shower or wash dishes when you see lightning strikes. If possible, unplug appliances and electronics before the storm, including cell phones that are charging via electricity. Surges caused by lightning can damage electronics and appliances. For more information on electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Please note important change to annual report

This year's annual report will not be sent as an individual booklet, instead it will be printed in the June edition of the WEC News. This is the magazine that you receive each month. It's important to note that the registration slip for the annual meeting will be in the magazine so please be sure to be on the lookout and cut it out to bring to the annual meeting.

The annual meeting is Tuesday, June 24 at the Centennial Community Center, Stetsonville, WI with registration beginning at 4:30 PM as well as dinner. The meeting is set to start at 5:30 PM.

PREPARE YOUR HOME NOW

Don't Let Summer Heat Up Your Utility Bill



Seal cracks around the house with weather stripping or caulk to keep warm air out.



Change the air filter on your cooling unit.



Wash your outdoor AC unit and have your HVAC unit inspected.



Clear the air vents throughout your house.



Install a programmable thermostat. Leave it on a higher temperature when you are away, and set it to cool the house half an hour before you return home.



Update your insulation to keep cool air in your home and warm air out.

Learn more at:



BOARD REPORT MARCH 2025

- Approved February disbursements totaling \$534,334.
 8 new member applications, and February 2025 construction in the amount of \$131,432.
- Reviewed financial results for February with \$142,445
 Operating Margins and \$145,911 Total Margins year to date.
- Approved allocating \$1,036,541 in margins to the membership.
- There were 4 outages in February, with an average YTD outage time per meter of 0.0159 hours.
- Four applications for discounted early retirement of capital credits to estates were approved with total capital credits of \$4,611 to be paid out at the net present value of \$1,810.
- 28 delinquent accounts were processed for collection following the March 20th due date. The total amount owing on these accounts is \$16,948.
- Other topics covered included updates on the approval of the demand rate, metering issue, audit report, DPC activities, and employee updates.

Please Note the Following Office Hours:

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, Friday, May 23rd through Labor Day, Friday, August 29th, the office will be closing at 11:30 AM on Fridays throughout the summer.

Office hours will be Monday-Thursday, 7:30 AM- 4:00 PM and Friday 7:30 AM-11:30 AM.

****ABSENTEE BALLOTS BY REQUEST****

Taylor Electric's annual meeting is set for Tuesday, June 24th at the Centennial Community Center, Stetsonville, WI. Registration starts at 4:30 PM with dinner served during this time. The meeting will start at 5:30 PM. In the event you can't attend the annual meeting, we have the option of Absentee Ballots. Call to have your ballot mailed or stop by the office to pick one up. Account verification will be necessary with both methods. Simply submit the completed ballot back to the office by Monday, June 23rd. As always, in-person voting will still be available at the annual meeting! Absentee Ballots will be available after May 8, 2025. The ballot will contain three names for two open seats which includes incumbents David Makovsky, Medford and Lisa Kohn, Medford and challenger, Bruce Gumz, Dorchester. Individual biographies will be in the annual report in the June WEC News.