

# Taylor Report

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451 • 715-678-2411 • [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org)



August 2018

## Prepare for Outages During Summer

### *Keep Your Cool While the Power's Out*

A summer storm can mean power outages during high temperatures, creating safety issues related to keeping cool. Take steps to be prepared for a prolonged outage during summer heat and know how to weather it safely. To get power restored as soon as possible, call your electric utility to report the outage.

“High winds and lightning that accompany severe storms can be the cause of many summer power outages,” said Molly Hall, Executive Director of Safe Electricity. “Tree limbs or debris may have downed a power line, and possibly hide electrical hazards due to storm damage. It’s important to stay clear of downed power lines at all times, even when cleaning up after the storm.”

In the immediate aftermath of a storm, assume that any dangling wires you encounter are electrical and treat all downed or hanging lines as if they are energized. If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away and contact emergency personnel or electric utility. Stop at all railroad crossings, and treat road intersections with non-functioning traffic signals as a four-way stop before proceeding with caution.



If power to your home is out for a prolonged period, know and understand important safety precautions and steps to cope with heat until power is restored:

- Dress in loose, lightweight clothing and stay on the coolest, lowest level of your home.
- Use natural ventilation to cool homes, and consider purchasing battery-powered fans.
- Drink plenty of water and avoid heavy meals, caffeinated and alcoholic drinks.
- Keep refrigerator or freezer doors closed. A freezer that is half full or full can keep foods frozen 24 to 48 hours. Foods should stay safe in an unopened refrigerator up to four hours. If an outage lasts longer than four hours, remove and pack meat, milk and other dairy products in a cooler with ice.
- Use safe alternative food preparation methods like a barbecue grill. But a grill should never be used indoors. Always grill outside.
- Check on friends and relatives—especially children, seniors, and those with medical conditions or disabilities. These people may need to seek emergency cooling shelters.
- Make sure you know how to open your automatic garage door by hand.
- Close all drapes and blinds on the sunny side of your residence.
- Take your family and pets to a cool basement location if you have one. Also consider going to an air-conditioned public place during warmer daytime hours.

During an outage, Safe Electricity recommends turning off electrical appliances and unplugging major equipment, including air conditioning units, computers and televisions. This will help protect equipment that could be damaged by electrical surges and prevent circuit overloads when power is restored. Leave one light on to indicate that power has been restored. Wait a few minutes then turn on other appliances and equipment one at a time.

If you use a standby generator, make sure a transfer safety switch is used, or connect the appliance(s) directly to the generator output through an extension cord or isolated circuit before you operate it. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines, what’s known as “back feed.” “Back feed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power,” said Hall.

For more tips on electrical safety, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org).

## Board Report – June 2018

- Approved May disbursements totaling \$705,962.07, accepted 10 new member applications, reviewed credit card expenses, and April construction in the amount of \$105,916.40.
- Reviewed financial results through May 31, 2018 with total YTD margins of \$185,580.
- Reviewed 41 delinquent accounts owing more than \$15,300 that were processed for collection in June.
- Early retirement of capital credits to two estates was approved for the net present value of \$412.18 for accounts with a total book value of \$1,411.27.
- Heard a report from Line Superintendent Kevin Comstock on line construction and maintenance activities, 2018 equipment purchases (including a view of the recently purchased ASV [tracked all-terrain service vehicle]), underground locating delays by the Co-op's contractor, underground construction by AJ Construction, a small claims court case brought against the Co-op and the Co-op's brushing contractor, plus a brief update in the Co-op's technology systems.
- Appointed delegates and alternates for the NRECA Region 5 and WECA District 1 meetings.
- Approved a change for listing of the unclaimed capital credits as allowed by changes to the State statutes governing cooperatives, where a notice in the local paper will advise members to see the detailed list of names and addresses on the Co-op's website.
- Discussed an error on a member's electric bill resulting in an additional amount owing of more than \$2,400.
- Dairyland Power Cooperative's May financial report was reviewed

- with \$4.5 Million loss for the month (which was \$1.6 Million under budget), 22% member equity, and kWh sales 21% more than May 2017 (Taylor EC purchased 2.3% more than in 2017), mainly due to a major addition of new member territory at a Dairyland member co-op in Illinois which began in April.
- Director Tesch reported on the June 4, 2018 safety meeting with a series of photos, which was a field visit to observe the line crew at a jobsite.
- The Board discussed the annual self-evaluation that had been provided before the meeting. Board Secretary Waldhart will summarize the comments for distribution to all board members at the next meeting.
- Forms for the CEO Appraisal were distributed to all board members

for completion/discussion at the July board meeting.

### NOTICE OF FORFEITURE OF FUNDS HELD BY TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE UNLESS CLAIMED BY OWNER

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 185.03 (10), you are hereby notified that TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, of Medford, Wisconsin, has in its possession unclaimed funds belonging to members and former members. These funds can be claimed by contacting the Cooperative and furnishing proof of your legal interest in such funds on or before August 31, 2018. You are further notified that unless you claim such funds and provide satisfactory evidence of your right to receive the same by August 31, 2018, the funds will be forfeited to the Federated Youth Foundation. Please visit Taylor Electric Cooperative's website at [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org) for a complete list of member names ("Do you Know Where These People Are" tab located on the home page) identified as having unclaimed property with the cooperative. Call 715-678-2411 or 800-862-2407 with information and current address.

**RESTORING  
Power after Storms**

*There are many steps in the assessment and restoration process:*

- Clearing downed power lines
- Ensuring public health and safety facilities are operational
- Repairing transmission lines
- Checking power stations and transformers
- Repairing distribution lines
- Getting power restored to customers within the various damaged areas

**SafeElectricity.org**

**Severe storms are unfortunate and can be devastating.**

*These storms can take down power lines—creating a dangerous situation for all of us, including the linecrew working hard to get your power turned back on.*

*How long it takes to get your power restored depends on the extent of the storm's destruction, the number of outages, and when it becomes safe for utility personnel to get to the damaged areas.*

*Learn more about staying safe during power outages and after storms at [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).*