

## SAFETY MESSAGE

Whether planting trees to provide a wind break, shade, reduce carbon in the environment, or beautify your landscape, ACEC reminds everyone of the importance of planting tall-growing trees safely away from power lines.

- Tall-growing trees with a mature height greater than 45 feet should be planted at least 45 feet away from lines to avoid future pruning.
- Do not plant near underground utility equipment. Tree roots can grow to interfere with underground pipes, cables, and wires.
- Keep areas around electric meters, transformers, or other electrical equipment free of any vegetation that could limit utility service access.

## Briefing of the Board Meeting

February 22, 2024

### Board Action Items:

- Approved January meeting minutes
- Approved Rules and Regulations
- Approved January board vouchers
- Approved certificate retirements
- Approved policies

View the full meeting summary on our website: [www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins](http://www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins)

## 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 temp, 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.
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.

## FRUIT SALSA

PREP TIME - 10 MINS

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 apples, diced
- 2 nectarines, diced
- 1 pint strawberries, diced
- 1 pint blueberries
- 1/2 pint raspberries
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp brown sugar

### INSTRUCTIONS

Dice the fruit and mix everything together. Serve with cinnamon pita chips and enjoy!

Recipe from Sarah Wundrock of Nekoosa, WI



## SUBMIT YOUR RECIPES

We want your recipes! You can submit recipes on our website year-round for a chance to have your recipe featured in our newsletter.

To submit a recipe, visit [www.acecwi.com/submit-a-recipe](http://www.acecwi.com/submit-a-recipe), or scan the QR code.



# THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • May 2024

## YOUR GUIDE TO POWER OUTAGES

### CONFIRM YOUR OUTAGE

If you overload a circuit, you may trip a breaker in your home or business, which can be mistaken for a power outage. Check your breakers and fuses to ensure the problem is not within your electric system. ACEC facilities end at the meter, so if you have a power issue within your home, contact a licensed electrician to make the necessary repairs. We also recommend checking with your neighbors to see if they're experiencing an outage too. If they are also without power and you believe the problem is on our distribution system, your next step is to report the outage.

### REPORT THE POWER OUTAGE

There are two ways you can report power outages:

1. Give us a call on our 24/7 power outage line at (888) 928-2232.
2. Log in to your SmartHub account and click "Report an Issue/Inquiry". SmartHub will walk you through the steps of reporting an outage and tie the outage directly to your location, so our linemen know where to get started.

### MONITOR THE POWER OUTAGE

View our outage map viewer on our website at [www.acecwi.com](http://www.acecwi.com) to see where power outages are located, how many members are without power, and any comments our operations department can include about restoring the outage.

It can be difficult for our crews to give an estimated restoral time as they need to first assess the problem/damage, determine the equipment needed for the repair, call in additional crews if the work requires more helping hands, and get to work restoring power.

Examples of power outage causes may include trees on power lines, car accidents, weather, animals, and equipment failure.

## SAFETY IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

It may seem easy to restore power, however, our crews are held to high safety standards to ensure they are getting the job done in a safe and efficient manner. Crews must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work they do and have procedures in place for restoring power outages.

If you see trees on power lines, downed power lines, or damaged utility equipment, **stay away and never go near them** as they may still be energized. Give us a call at (800) 831-8629 and we'll get a crew dispatched as soon as we can.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY 27

Our office will be closed on Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day.

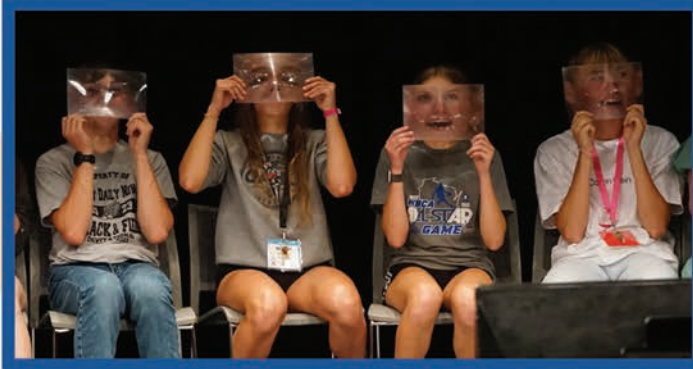
### JUNE 14

Deadline to register for Youth Leadership Conference (YLC). Learn more about YLC on the next page.



# YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE JULY 16 - 18, 2024 @ UW-STOUT

**DO YOU KNOW A HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE OR JUNIOR IN OUR SERVICE AREA? IF SO, ENCOURAGE THEM TO REGISTER FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (YLC)!**



This is an amazing leadership opportunity for youth to meet students from electric co-ops across the state, learn about the co-op business model, experience life on a college campus, and much more.

Students participate in fun and educational sessions, attend an etiquette dinner, watch or participate in a hypnotist show, and leave YLC asking, "Can I come back next year?"

We're proud to sponsor students to attend YLC for free, including roundtrip transportation. Students also have the opportunity to run for the youth board, which is made up of six students who plan and coordinate YLC for the following year. Students on the youth board get to attend Youth Tour in Washington D.C. for free the following summer too! For students not on the youth board, there is still an opportunity to attend Youth Tour by completing an essay contest after YLC.



**REGISTER NOW**



High school sophomores and juniors interested in attending YLC can complete the registration form on our website. Registration closes on Friday, June 14.

Visit [www.acecwi.com/ylc](http://www.acecwi.com/ylc), or scan the QR code to learn more about YLC, get details about running for the youth board, watch a video from a previous YLC event, and submit your registration. For questions, contact Haley Melby at [hmelby@acecwi.com](mailto:hmelby@acecwi.com) or call (800) 831-8629.

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS  
FREE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!**

## PATRONAGE CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS

Check your May bill statement for your patronage capital allocation. Each year, after paying our operating expenses, remaining margins are allocated to members based on the amount of their electric bills. The allocation printed on May's bill statement represents your ownership in the cooperative.

To learn more about patronage capital and watch our short explainer video, visit [www.acecwi.com/patronage-cap](http://www.acecwi.com/patronage-cap), or scan the QR code.

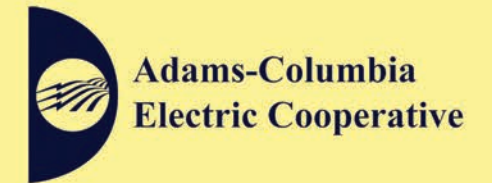


## EASTER BASKET DONATIONS

Our employees generously donated money and supplies to put together Easter baskets for nursing homes and assisted living facilities in our service territory. We delivered 20 Easter baskets to seven facilities with the help from staff at all three offices.



**CO-OP PRINCIPLE #7**  
*concern for community*



## CONTACT US

Customer Service & Billing  
(800) 831-8629

IVR Payment  
1(844) 219-1223

Power Outages  
(888) 928-2232

Diggers Hotline  
(800) 242-8511 or 811

Email  
[acec@acecwi.com](mailto:acec@acecwi.com)

Website  
[www.acecwi.com](http://www.acecwi.com)

Follow us on social media  
@ACECWI

Business Hours  
Monday - Friday,  
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friendship Lobby Hours  
Monday - Friday,  
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friendship Office  
P.O. Box 70  
401 East Lake Street  
Friendship, WI 53934

Pardeeville Office (Drop Box Only)  
W6290 State Road 33  
Pardeeville, WI 53954

Wautoma Office (Drop Box Only)  
N1519 State Road 22  
Wautoma, WI 54982

Report power outages through  
your SmartHub account by clicking  
"Report an Issue/Inquiry".

