

SAFETY MESSAGE

You're on icy roads and just slid into the ditch, knocking one of our green transformer boxes off of its platform. You see big wires sticking up from under the ground and the green metal transformer box about 15 yards away. Everything seems fine right? WRONG.

In this situation, stay in your vehicle, call 911, and wait for help to arrive. Be sure to tell bystanders to stay away as the ground may be energized. Watch the License to Live video for information on staying safe around energized utility equipment: safeelectricity.org/license-to-live.

Briefing of the Board Meeting

September 24, 2024

Board Action Items:

- Approved August board vouchers
- Approved August GM expenses
- Approved rates and updated rate book
- Approved 2024 general patronage capital retirement

View the full meeting summary on our website: www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins

Receive UP TO \$700 OFF new efficient heating & cooling equipment!

Focus on Energy offers rebates and instant discounts on a variety of energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment including furnaces, boilers, smart thermostats, and water heaters.

Ask your Focus on Energy Trade Ally contractor if they work with a participating distributor and if the equipment you are choosing qualifies for a rebate or instant discount!

Learn more online: focusonenergy.com/residential/heating-and-cooling.



MARASCHINO CHERRY CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES DELIGHT

INGREDIENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| • 1 c unsalted butter, softened | • 2 large eggs | • 1/2 tsp salt |
| • 1 c granulated sugar | • 2 tsp vanilla extract | • 1 c maraschino cherries, drained and chopped |
| • 1 c packed brown sugar | • 3 c all-purpose flour | • 1 c semisweet chocolate chips |
| | • 1 tsp baking soda | |

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, cream together the butter, granulated sugar, and brown sugar until light and fluffy.
3. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then stir in the vanilla extract.
4. In another bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, and salt. Gradually blend into the butter mixture. Fold in cherries and chocolate chips.
5. Drop rounded spoonfuls of dough onto the prepared baking sheets.
6. Bake in the preheated oven for 10-12 minutes, or until edges are golden. Allow the cookies to cool on the baking sheets for a few minutes before transferring them to wire racks to cool completely.

Enjoy these delightful cookies packed with sweet maraschino cherries and rich chocolate chips!

Recipe from Helen Rawson of Portage, WI

THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • December 2024

Annual Meeting Details

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Friendship office (401 E Lake St)

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

All members are invited to join us at our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at our Friendship office. This will be a business-only meeting. Registration will begin at 4:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Run for a board seat

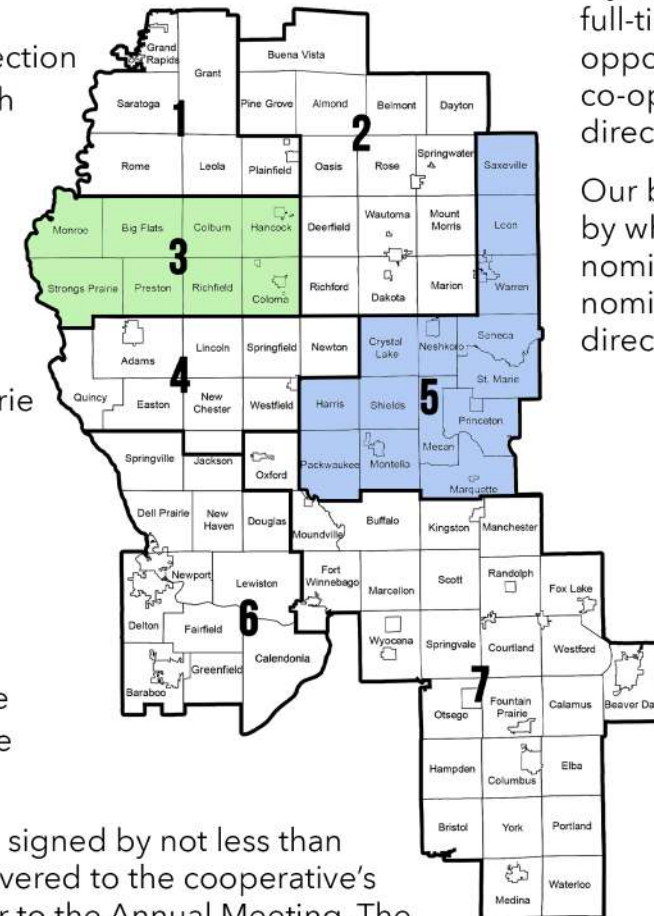
Districts 3 and 5 are up for election in 2025. The townships in each district are shown below.

District 3

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| ■ Big Flats | ■ Monroe |
| ■ Preston | ■ Colburn |
| ■ Hancock | ■ Richfield |
| ■ Coloma | ■ Strong's Prairie |

District 5

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| ■ Saxeville | ■ St. Marie |
| ■ Leon | ■ Princeton |
| ■ Warren | ■ Marquette |
| ■ Seneca | ■ Mecan |
| ■ Neshkoro | ■ Crystal Lake |
| ■ Montello | ■ Packwaukee |
| ■ Shields | ■ Harris |



If you live in one of these districts full-time, you may have the opportunity to represent fellow co-op members on our board of directors.

Our bylaws outline the procedure by which director candidates are nominated and state that the nomination of candidates for director shall be by petition.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 24 & 25

Our office will be closed for Christmas.

JANUARY 1

Our office will be closed for New Year's Day.

JANUARY 15

Encourage individuals and organizations you know to apply for an Operation Round-Up grant.

To be valid, a petition shall be signed by not less than 25 members and shall be delivered to the cooperative's Friendship office 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The deadline to submit nomination papers for the 2025 Annual Meeting is February 4. Visit our website at www.acecwi.com/nomination-by-petition to review the director qualifications and for more details on the nomination by petition process. If you live in one of the townships above and are interested in running for a board seat, contact Stacey McManus at (800) 831-8629.

To submit an advisory resolution, learn about the process on our website at www.acecwi.com/about-advisory-resolutions.

OPERATION ROUND-UP AWARDS \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS

Awarding 579 grants totaling \$1,000,210.02 is a milestone worthy of celebration. Our Operation Round-Up program surpassed this impressive milestone at the board meeting in October. The program began in 1998 to support the cooperative's seventh principle (Concern for Community) and is funded by participating members.

Pictured are the volunteer Operation Round-Up board of directors. In the back row are Gale Neef, Vicki Deltgen, Evan Henthorne, and Bill Taylor. In the front row are Ellen Kirschbaum, Kristen Skolarz, Deb Gerzmehle, and Nancy Akkerman. Not pictured is John Jarvis. This group truly puts in the time and energy to review applications and award grants to make an impact in our local communities.



Approximately 18% of ACEC members are enrolled in Operation Round-Up, rounding their electric bill up to the next dollar amount and donating their spare change to this program. The support from ACEC members allows our program to continue awarding grant requests throughout the ACEC service area, and we need your help! Members of ACEC are encouraged to enroll in Operation Round-Up to support those in need. The maximum a member could contribute in one year is \$11.88.

HOW TO ENROLL:

If you're a member of ACEC, you can enroll your electric account in a few different ways:

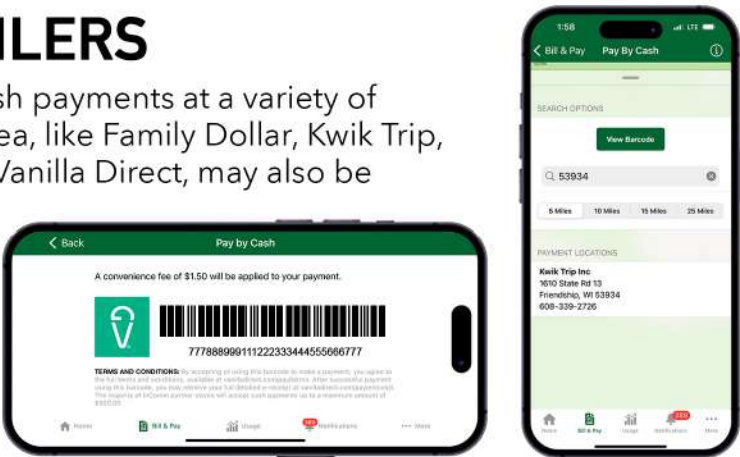
- Visit our Friendship office at 401 E Lake St
- Call customer service at (800) 831-8629
- Check the box on the back of the payment stub if mailing in payments
- Log in to SmartHub to enroll

Organizations that need funding or individuals who need financial support for a specific project or cost are encouraged to apply for an Operation Round-Up grant. Applications are accepted year-round with quarterly deadlines (January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15). More details about this program and the applications can be found online at www.acecwi.com/operation-round-up. Questions about Operation Round-Up can be directed to Haley Melby at (800) 831-8629 or hmelby@acecwi.com.

PAY BY CASH AT LOCAL RETAILERS

Available through SmartHub! Members can make cash payments at a variety of participating local retailers throughout our service area, like Family Dollar, Kwik Trip, and other retailers. This new payment option, called Vanilla Direct, may also be referred to as a "cash app payment".

You can access Pay By Cash on the desktop version of SmartHub as well to print off your account barcode. If you have questions or need assistance with this payment option, contact our customer service representatives at (800) 831-8629.



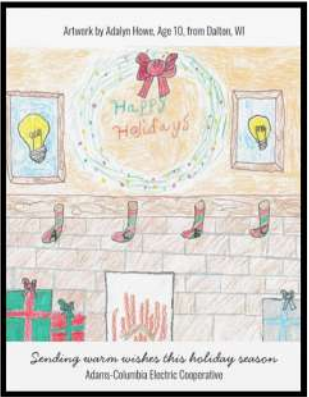
RATE REMINDER

Rate changes that were published in October and November's issue of *The Wire* will go into effect January 1, 2025. Visit our website to review the rate changes at www.acecwi.com/billing/rate-info.

CHRISTMAS CARD WINNER

Our young members always put a smile on our faces when we receive Christmas coloring sheets each year. We're proud to announce that Adalyn Howe of Dalton, WI is the winner of our Christmas card coloring contest. Her artwork is featured on the cover of our holiday card this year.

Thank you to everyone for the submissions! Below are a few submissions we wanted to feature as honorable mentions.



Adalyn



Ellie



Meegan



Emma



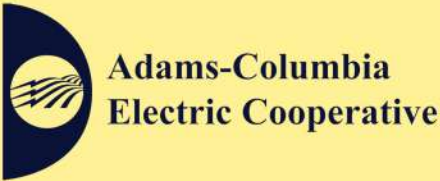
Billy

WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS

We're seeking photos of countryside landscapes in our service area that showcase each season through the year. Photos submitted will be reviewed to be used in our 2026 calendar. Photos can be in color or black and white and should be horizontally-oriented.

All photos submitted may be used in future newsletters, cooperative publications, or other marketing materials. The deadline to submit photos for our 2026 calendar is July 31, 2025.

Visit our website to submit your photo(s): www.acecwi.com/submit-your-photos.



CONTACT US

Customer Service & Billing
(800) 831-8629

Outages & Payments
(855) 957-3881

Diggers Hotline
(800) 242-8511 or 811

Email
acec@acecwi.com

Website
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

Enroll in text and email
notifications through SmartHub to
receive important updates about
your account and electric service.

