

SAFETY MESSAGE

More people are doing their own remodeling, repairs, maintenance, landscaping, and construction projects inside and outside the home. We urge all do-it-yourselfers to take precautions, especially when working around electrical equipment and overhead power lines.

Make sure outdoor outlets have a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). It's also a good idea to have GFCIs professionally installed in wet areas of the home, such as the kitchen, bath, and laundry.

THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • May 2025

Empowering Our Communities



Briefing of the Board Meeting

February 25, 2025

Board Action Items:

- Approved Operation Round-Up reappointment
- Approved NRECA Annual Meeting voting delegate
- Approved certificate retirements
- Approved Rules and Regulations updates
- Approved January board vouchers

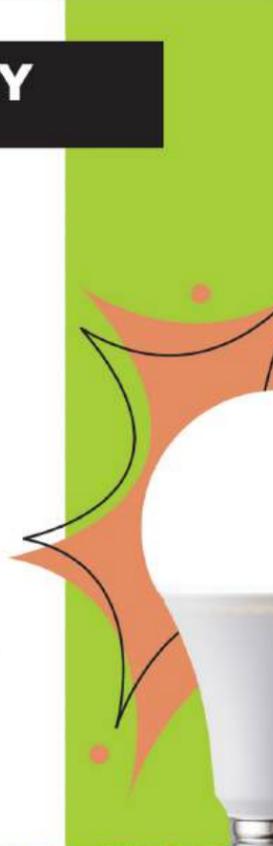
View the full meeting summary on our website: www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year, and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: energy.gov



BILL CREDIT GIVEAWAY! GO PAPERLESS!

For a limited time, members who sign up for paperless billing have a chance to win a \$50 bill credit!

All members who enroll in paperless billing from May 1 - June 15 will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 bill credit. The more members that are enrolled in paperless billing, the more money we can save on increasing postage costs. Visit acecwi.smarthub.coop to log in to SmartHub or use your mobile app. Members currently enrolled are automatically entered into the drawing.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

WHEN: JULY 15-17
WHERE: UW-STOUT

This three-day, two-night event sparks creativity and pushes students to their leadership potential. Attendees learn about electric cooperatives and meet students from other electric cooperatives throughout the state.

We're proud to sponsor students to attend YLC **for free**. This includes roundtrip transportation, meals, staying in the college dorms, and the program itself.

Attendees are exposed to additional opportunities while at YLC, like scholarships and to attend the Youth Tour in Washington D.C. next summer **for free**.

Students currently in their sophomore or junior year of high school are encouraged to register by June 6. To learn more and register, visit www.acecwi.com/ylc.

EDUCATION AND LOBBY DAYS



Last month employees and directors attended Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's Education and Lobby Days event in Madison.

They learned about legislative topics impacting electric cooperatives throughout the state and met with elected officials at the capitol.

To get involved with electric cooperative grassroots efforts, visit voicesforcooperativepower.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 26
Our office will be closed for Memorial Day.

JUNE 5
Our office will be closed for employee training.

JUNE 6
Deadline for students to register for Youth Leadership Conference.

JUNE 20
Our general manager, Jon, will be at our Wautoma office from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. and our Pardeeville office from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. for Discussion Day.

BLT PASTA SALAD

PREP TIME - 20 MINS | COOK TIME - 10 MINS

INGREDIENTS

JALAPENO RANCH

- 1/2 c plain greek yogurt or sour cream
- 1/3 c mayo
- 2 Tbsp buttermilk
- 1 c fresh basil
- 1/2 c fresh cilantro
- 1/4 c fresh chopped chives
- 1 jalapeño, seeded if desired
- 1 tsp Worcestershire
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- salt and pepper to taste

SALAD

- 1 lb shortcut pasta
- 1 head romaine lettuce, shredded
- 2 c cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 c cubed cheese
- 2 c grilled corn
- 8 slices of cooked bacon, crumbled
- 1 avocado, diced



INSTRUCTIONS

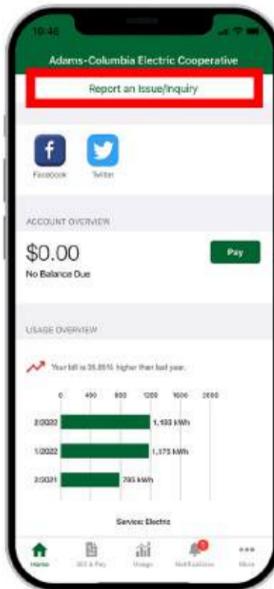
1. Combine all of the dressing ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Season with salt and pepper.
2. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Boil the pasta to al dente, according to package directions. Drain.
3. In a large bowl, toss together the hot pasta with dressing and cubes of cheese. Mix in the lettuce, tomatoes, corn, bacon, and avocado, gently tossing to combine.
4. Serve warm or cold. The salad will develop more flavor as it sits. If serving later, add the bacon and avocado just before serving.

Recipe from www.halfbakedharvest.com/blt-pasta-salad



www.acecwi.com/power-outages

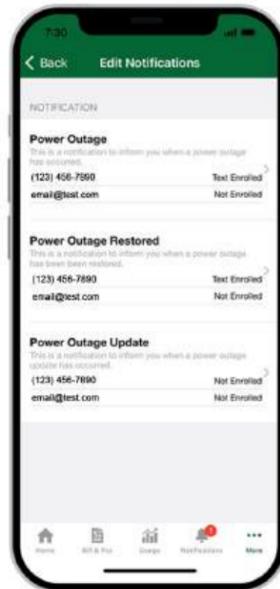
YOUR GUIDE TO POWER OUTAGES



HOW TO REPORT A POWER OUTAGE

There are two ways for members to report power outages:

1. Log in to your SmartHub account and click "Report an Issue/Inquiry". SmartHub will walk you through the process of reporting the outage.
2. Call our 24/7 automated power outage line at (855) 957-3881.



SIGN UP FOR NOTIFICATIONS

Enroll in text and email notifications through your SmartHub account!

Every member can create a SmartHub account and download the SmartHub app.



Choose which types of notifications you'd like to receive about your service, including power outage notifications.

POWER OUTAGE RESTORATION PROCESS



Watch our short video on our website for details on how we restore the power grid after major widespread outages.

This video outlines our plan of action to get as many members restored as possible in the quickest time frame.

www.acecwi.com/power-outages

KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT



Be sure to keep us updated with any changes to your contact information, including your phone number, email address, and mailing address.

PREPARE AN EMERGENCY KIT

Have an emergency kit ready. Our crews work as quickly and safely as they can to restore power, but it may take time to assess the full extent of the damage to our system and make the necessary repairs to restore power to your home.

Here are some items to include in your emergency kit:

- Flashlights
- Water
- Non-perishable foods
- Emergency phone numbers
- First-aid kit & medication
- Blankets
- Common tools
- Hygiene products
- Clothes
- Items for your pets

EASTER BASKET DONATIONS



Cooperative principle #7 (Concern for Community) is our commitment to supporting individuals and organizations where we live.

Our employees donated money and supplies to put together 28 Easter baskets for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities throughout our service area.



PATRONAGE CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS

Your patronage allocation, a.k.a., your ownership in the cooperative, will reflect on May bill statements. Instead of taking excess margins and giving them to stakeholders like other businesses do, we allocate excess margins to our member-owners. In other words, you can think of allocations as your piece of the cooperative pie (and who doesn't love pie?)

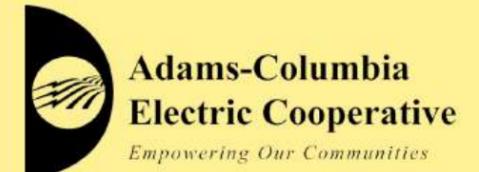


There are two parts to patronage capital; allocations and retirements. Allocations represent your ownership in the cooperative based on how much you pay for electricity. For example, a big factory will have more patronage capital allocations compared to a single-family home since the factory will use more energy. Retirements (or refunds) are typically processed later in the year when our board of directors approves how much money we can refund to our members while still keeping enough money on hand for the cooperative to operate.



Take a minute to watch our short video to give you a better understanding of what patronage capital is all about.

www.acecwi.com/patronage-cap



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

Log in to your SmartHub account to explore your energy usage with a variety of graphs.

