

SAFETY MESSAGE

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Keep these tips in mind to reduce your cyber risk:

- 1. Use long, complex passwords. This is the first line of defense between a criminal and your sensitive information.
- 2. Enable multifactor authentication. This adds an extra layer of security for your accounts.
- 3. Keep software updated. In addition to new features, updates often fix security flaws.
- 4. Look out for phishing and scams. Don't fall for fake emails, texts, or social media messages.



THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • October 2025
Empowering Our Communities



Briefing of the Board Meeting

July 29, 2025

Board Action Items:

- Approved June board vouchers
- Approved June GM expenses
- Approved board policies
- Approved voting for RESCO director

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

ENERGY VAMPIRES



DON'T LET THEM DRAIN YOUR WALLET

Many household appliances are using energy even when not in use. Depending on how many appliances are used, costs can quickly add up to \$100-\$200 a year.

TOP 10 OFFENDERS

- TVs
- Home computers
- Video game consoles
- Surround sound systems
- Cell phone & tablet chargers
- Satellite/cable boxes
- DVD players
- Printers
- Microwave
- Coffee maker

October is Co-op Month

Co-ops are unique and operate using a different business model than other companies.

We are guided by seven cooperative principles, which are at the core of what we do and how we serve our members and communities.



Our Cooperative Principles in Action:

1. **Voluntary & Open Membership:** Our services are available to any person willing and able, regardless of race, gender, social, political, or religious discrimination.
2. **Democratic Member Control:** Members elect their board of directors, who make important decisions to guide the co-op.
3. **Members' Economic Participation:** When the co-op does well financially, that success is shared with members through patronage capital.
4. **Autonomy & Independence:** There are many electric co-ops in the country, but we operate as an independent entity.
5. **Education, Training, and Information:** We invest in education for our members and employees to continue to empower our communities.
6. **Cooperation Among Cooperatives:** Co-ops have an extensive network to connect with other co-ops. When a storm hits our service area, linemen from other co-ops gear up to assist in restoration efforts.
7. **Concern for Community:** We love to support our communities far and wide through a variety of programs. Every year, we give back through Stuff the Bus, Toys for Tots, grants, community donations, and more.



Flip the page to learn how YOU could win a prize this month!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1
Quarterly deadline for our STEM Grant.

NOVEMBER 7
Visit Jon, our general manager, at our Wautoma office from 8:30 - 11 a.m., or our Pardeeville office from 1 - 3:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 27 & 28
Our office will be closed for Thanksgiving.

PUMPKIN BARS WITH CREAMY ICING

PREP TIME - 45 MINS | COOK TIME - 20-25 MINS

PUMPKIN BARS

- 2 c sugar
- 2 c flour
- 1 c oil
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 16 oz pumpkin
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp cinnamon

CREAMY ICING

- 8 oz cream cheese
- 4 c powdered sugar
- 6 Tbsp butter or margarine
- 1 tsp vanilla

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUMPKIN BARS

1. Combine all ingredients and mix well. Pour into an ungreased 15x10 jelly roll pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out clean. Let cool before applying icing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREAMY ICING

1. Cream softened cream cheese and butter, then gradually add all the powdered sugar. Beat together until everything is well blended, then stir in the vanilla.
2. Frost pumpkin bars after they have cooled, and enjoy!

Recipe from Jeff Presley of Adams, WI





This month, we're celebrating YOU, our member-owners!

Take part in our co-op month giveaways by participating in our programs and services. On November 3, we'll choose winners for each program. If you have questions or need assistance in participating in any of these programs, give us a call at (800) 831-8629 or email us at acec@acecwi.com.

| PROGRAM | PRIZE | # OF WINNERS |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Thanks for being a member! *** No action needed | \$25 Bill Credit | 4 members |
| Sign up for paperless billing | \$20 Bill Credit | 5 members |
| Submit a photo for our photo contest | Electric Weed Trimmer | 1 member |
| Enroll in Operation Round-Up | Mini Electric Chainsaw | 1 newly enrolled member 1 member already enrolled |
| Enroll in Auto Pay | Electric Leaf Blower | 1 member |

SAVE A STAMP & ENROLL IN AUTO PAY

Auto Pay is a worry-free payment option. You can enroll with a checking or savings account, or a credit card. Log in to your SmartHub account to enroll today.

Benefits of Auto Pay:

- Save money on stamps
- No late payments from mail delays
- Your bill is automatically withdrawn on your due date
- No need to worry about late fees when your bill is automatically paid



Say goodbye to slow mail, & hello to Auto Pay!

WE OFFER STEM GRANTS



STEM Grants are available up to \$1,000 for projects academically focused in the areas of science, technology, engineering, or math! Our goal is to award grants to as many classrooms as possible in our service area.

Help us spread the word about this grant opportunity to schools and organizations that may qualify. Learn more at www.acecwi.com/stem-grant.

Examples of grant projects awarded in the past include:

- DNA Models
- Super Solar Learning
- Aquaponics
- Graphing Calculators

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Have you ever wondered what the WI Non-Taxable Program line item is on your bill? All members have this on their bill and pay into this program required by the state of Wisconsin. Half of the funds collected go towards energy conservation programs (in our case, Focus on Energy), and the other half goes towards low-income energy programs.

As we enter heating season, you may qualify for assistance with your energy bill. To learn more, contact the agency in your area:

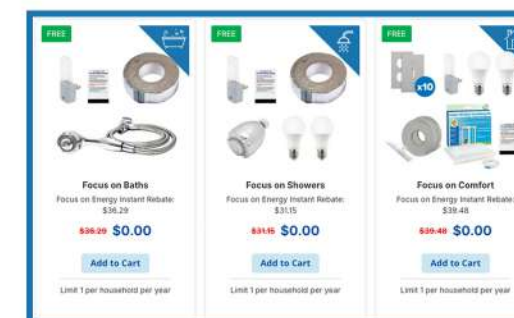
| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Adams County (608) 339-6767 | Green Lake County (920) 294-4070 | Sauk County (608) 356-8887 |
| Columbia County (608) 742-4088 | Jefferson County (920) 568-0604 | Waupaca County (715) 258-6820 |
| Dane County (608) 267-8601 | Marquette County (608) 297-3124 | Waushara County (920) 787-1830 |
| Dodge County (920) 887-7990 | Portage County (715) 344-5999 | Wood County (715) 421-8659 |

For more information about the low-income home energy assistance program and other agencies, visit our website: www.acecwi.com/billing/energy-assistance.

FREE ENERGY-SAVING KITS

Get your free energy-saving kit this month from Focus on Energy. Choose between a bath, shower, or comfort kit.

Visit focusonenergy.com/free or call (800) 762-7077 to order your free kit. One kit per member per year.



Residential Rebate Finder

Enter your WI ZIP Code to see a list of rebates & resources customized for you.

Looking for business rebates? [Learn more here.](#)

RENT OR OWN

Select an Option

ZIP CODE

12345

HOUSEHOLD SIZE

1

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$65,000

GAS UTILITY

Select an Option

☐ I have my fuel delivered.

ELECTRIC UTILITY

Select an Option

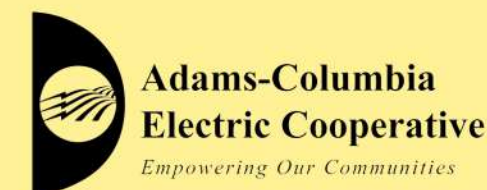
Reset form

Search

REBATE FINDER

Not sure what rebates you qualify for? Check out Focus on Energy's residential rebate finder! Enter your information to search for qualifying rebates.

Explore rebates available at focusonenergy.com/get-started.



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

Take advantage of our
pay-by-cash payment option to
pay your bill at local retailers.

