Clark Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 😣



Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

## CLARK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASKS YOUR HELP IN EASING SUMMER DEMAND

#### Help limit rising energy costs this summer

Summer 2015 sure was hot, and I'm sure summer 2016 will bring plenty of sunny warm days. Our gardens, lawns, and flower beds will grow, children will celebrate being out of school for the summer, and we will want to keep our homes comfortable with air conditioning.

Each year the total amount of electricity we use as a cooperative family has been increasing (as it is across the nation). With the electricity demand and the market's power prices in our region highest on weekdays between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. during the summer months of June, July, and August, we all have an opportunity to curb our use during those hours to prevent our cooperative from being charged expensive wholesale time-of-use charges and demand charges that we must pass on to our members. We call our summer campaign to shift the time of our energy use outside of the 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. hours "Do The Summer Shift."

As we have since 2013, Clark Electric Cooperative is requesting your participation in Doing the Summer Shift. We request your help to delay summer peak period energy use as much as possible on those hot summer days to help us hold the line on our wholesale rates. We will need to use less electricity during the summer peak demand, especially on weekdays, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. to accomplish this. We are asking for your help in shifting electricity use outside of this window as much as is reasonable and possible for your household.

#### It's about community

Together we can shift the time of our use of any nonessential electricity to avoid these peak hours, which can limit additional charges assessed back to the cooperative. Please plan to move optional power use outside of the summer peak demand window, using it before 11 a.m., after 7 p.m., or on weekends. Our goal is to lower our entire cooperative's demand for power during these more costly summer peak demand hours to prevent higher energy charges from being passed along to you, our members. It is our goal to provide reliable access to all the power your family needs and to help you use it most wisely to help manage our costs today and in the future.

### What can you do?

Shifting your family's electricity use to before 11 a.m. and after 7 p.m., especially on weekdays, is the key. Do you have any electricity needs that can be done earlier in the day or later in the evening? Can you wait until after 7 p.m. to recharge portable electronics and cell phones? Can you delay laundry until after 7 p.m., or move some of it to the weekend? Start your dishwasher before you go to bed. Perhaps closing your

drapes and windows during the day so your air conditioner runs less is a possibility for you. You may decide it is time to try either raising the temperature a couple of degrees on your air conditioning or switching to cycled air conditioning.

More specific suggestions for how you can continue to shift flexible electricity use outside of these more costly hours is available on our website at www.cecoop.com or via this link for energy efficiency suggestions from the U.S. Department of Energy, http://energy. gov/articles/resolve-save-energy-year, or

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**SHIFT** from togetherwesave.com. While changing the time of day you use electricity in the summer doesn't appear as a

line item credit or obvious reduction in price on your utility bill, it actually limits exposure to price increases for the cooperative and our members. Consumers in our regional energy pool use more electricity summer weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; it is more costly to provide electricity during those hours. Adequately providing as much electricity as consumers need causes power generation of every sort to be maximized and transmission routes to reach capacity, and costs can become extremely high, reaching many multiples of our typical wholesale rates.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us keep your cost down.

On another topic, I was looking through a trade journal and saw the following article that I thought you might be interested in. This was taken from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA):

### Natural gas-fired power to top coal in 2016

The latest short-term outlook from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) pegs natural gas to produce (Continued on page 18)

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# CLARK ELECTRIC AWARDS \$9,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

## ongratulations to these 12 area students who have each been awarded a \$750 scholarship through Clark Electric Cooperative's Federated Youth Scholarship Program.

Each year we offer scholarships to high school students whose homes are served by Clark Electric and who attend schools within our service area. These scholarships are financed through the Federated Youth Foundation Scholarship Program, which is funded from unclaimed capital credits. Federated Youth Foundation is a non-profit charitable foundation serving cooperatives in Wisconsin.

Concern for Community is one of the co-op principles; helping our youth further their education is one way we demonstrate that principle. Clark Electric is proud to help these fine young people meet their educational goals.



Paige M. Kocian Abbotsford High School Daughter of Robert and Jenny Kocian UW–Stevens Point Secondary Education



Hannah L. Gurtner Colby High School Daughter of Alan and Connie Gurtner UW–Eau Claire Nursing



Michael J. Zelenyj Meddaugh Granton High School Son of the late Jay Meddaugh and Anna Zelenyj CVTC–Eau Claire Diesel & Heavy Equipment



Natalie E.M. Hackel Greenwood High School Daughter of Michael and Louise Hackel UW–Stout Hospitality and Tourism Management



Mikaela L. Krahn Loyal High School Daughter of Fred Jr. and Connie Krahn UW–River Falls Pre-veterinary



Cameron N. Reil Neillsville High School Daughter of Richard and Bridget Reil UW–Milwaukee Education



Kathryn A. Lampi Owen-Withee High School Daughter of Bryan and Marla Lampi UW–River Falls Agriculture Education

#### Photo unavailable:

Rachael M. Burzynski Thorp High School Daughter of John Burzynski and Gina Raether CVTC-Eau Claire Social Work





Andrew M. Seefeldt Spencer High School Son of Mark and Vicky Seefeldt UW–River Falls Animal Science & Biotechnology



Alexis E. Schuebel Stanley-Boyd High School Daughter of Melissa Schuebel Viterbo University Biology/Pre-med



Catherine R. Pinter Columbus High School Daughter of Gregory and Barbara Pinter UW–Eau Claire or UW–Madison Biology



Racheal M. Krug Gilman High School Daughter of Kurt and Della Krug UW–River Falls Agricultural Education

## LET ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES AND INCENTIVES PUT MONEY BACK IN YOUR POCKET

Clark Electric Cooperative offers energy efficiency programs that can help put money back in your pocket. We offer rebates/incentives directly through Clark Electric Cooperative, and as a partner with Focus on Energy, we provide you with access to many additional incentives that Focus offers.

Rebates that members can apply for directly through Clark Electric Cooperative include, but are not limited to: lighting; water heaters; appliances; ag, commercial & industrial; and HVAC. For more information or to print rebate forms, check our website at www.cecoop.com. Click on the Billing and Rate Information Tab, then go to Rebates/Incentives or call our office at 715-267-6188 or 800-272-6188. For more information on Focus on Energy rebates, go to www.focusonenergy.com or call 1-800-762-7077. There is also a link to the Focus website on the rebate page of our website. Don't forget to check out the federal tax credits that may be available on HVAC and more.





**Free activation and basic installation! LIBERTY PASS now available with Soft Cap unlimited access!** 50 GB Exede packages are discounted 50% of cost. *What are you waiting for?* 

CLARK ELECTRIC APPLIANCE & SATELLITE INC. 1209 West Dall-Berg Road, Greenwood From Greenwood, west on CTH G, south on River Road, and West on Dall-Berg Road 866-279-6544 or 715-267-6544 • Hours: M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

## CALL DIGGERS HOTLINE BEFORE YOU DIG

Clark Electric Cooperative reminds you to call Digger's Hotline, 811, before you begin any digging. Not only is it



for your safety, but it is also the law.

A call to Digger's Hotline three days before you begin your project is free. If you damage a buried line without a call to Diggers Hotline, you will be financially responsible for the damage, as well as a fine of up to \$2,000. When you call Digger's Hotline, have the following information available:

- Your name, telephone number, and address.
- Specify if you are doing the work for yourself or for someone else.
- City, township, village, or unincorporated area you are planning to work in.
- Street address of your work site.
- Nearest intersecting road and the distance to that road.
- The kind of work you are doing, such as planting a tree or putting up a fence.
- Whether explosives, boring equipment, or equipment reaching 14 feet or more into the air will be used.
- Date you plan to begin your project.
- Area you would like marked for underground facilities.

Keep the ticket number you receive from Diggers Hotline as legal proof that you have called. After the utility markings have been placed and your start date and time have passed, you may begin your project. You can't excavate with power tools within 18 inches of the markings, but you can use hand tools with caution. **Private facilities, such as buried wires to a detached outbuilding or well, will not be marked.** 

## SUPPORT RENEWABLE ENERGY BY PARTICIPATING IN EVERGREEN

Evergreen is a voluntary renewable energy (green power) program available to



your home, farm, or business through Clark Electric Cooperative. The Evergreen program is for those who want to support renewable energy and are willing to help pay for the extra costs associated with its production.

When you agree to participate in Evergreen, you volunteer to pay a small, additional charge in addition to your normal monthly electric bill to offset the additional cost of generating renewable energy.

By investing in Evergreen, you are investing in the environment. The purchase of one 100-kilowatt hour (kwh) block of Evergreen renewable energy, for an additional \$1.50 per month, is equal to avoiding 2,449 pounds of  $CO_2$ . That's about 2,400 miles not driven, or 1/3 acre of trees planted.

To learn more about the Evergreen program, please contact Clark Electric Cooperative.

YES! I want to participate in the Evergreen renewable energy program.	
Please sign me up at the following level:	
Number of blocks* of energy:	Amount added to my monthly energy bill:
<ul> <li>1 block (100 kwh)\$1.50</li> <li>2 blocks (200 kwh)\$3.00</li> <li>3 blocks (300 kwh)\$4.50</li> <li>4 blocks (400 kwh)\$6.00</li> <li>5 blocks (500 kwh)\$7.50</li> <li> blocks. (If more than 5 blocks at \$1.50 per block are desired, specify the number of blocks in the space provided.)</li> <li>Please provide me with more information.</li> <li>* One block of 100 kwh represents about 10% of the average residential monthly electric usage (1,000 kwh).</li> </ul>	
Name:	
Address:	
City:Sta	ate:Zip:
Home Phone:	
E-mail Address:	
Account No.:	
Signature:	Date:
I understand that this amount is in addition to my monthly energy bill.	

#### Summer demand

(Continued from page 15)

33.4 percent of the country's electricity generation this year, compared with 32 percent for coal. "This marks the first time that natural gas would provide more electricity than coal on an annual average basis," EIA said. In a separate report, EIA noted that 80 percent of U.S. power plants retired last year were coal-burning units. Shuttered facilities, totaling 18,000 MW—"a relatively high amount compared with recent years"—were mainly built between 1950 and 1970, and "unable to compete economically with natural gas and too expensive to upgrade to comply with new air pollution rules." Generation retired last year also tended to be smaller than the rest of the nation's coal fleet. Nearly half of the 2015 coal capacity shut down was located in three states—Ohio, Georgia, and Kentucky.—*Source CFC Solutions March 21, 2016* 



Forget wall-mounted thermostats that can be difficult to program or operate. Daikin systems feature built-in intelligence that allows individual control with the ability to automatically maintain preferences. These systems make subtle and continuous adjustments to ensure your home stays at a constant and comfortable temperature at the touch of a button.



Contact Greg for all of your heating and cooling needs.

## CLARK ELECTRIC APPLIANCE & SATELLITE

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## Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

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