



Oakdale Electric
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

We are prepared for **SUMMER STORMS**

MY CO-OP

By Meghaan Evans

Summer is here, school is out, and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Oakdale Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year round—through right-of-way clearing—to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches, or other types of vegetation. Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations, and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first—like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there

could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, line crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Line crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a

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tap line outside of your home or business. Make sure you notify Oakdale Electric Cooperative so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Be sure to check our website, www.oakdalerec.com,

on your smartphone for the latest updates during a power outage.

Meghaan Evans writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.



Congratulations

TO OUR 2016 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Each of these students received a \$1,000 scholarship from Oakdale Electric Cooperative. Winners were selected based on their essays on the topic of “Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World” following their attendance at the Youth Leadership Congress in UW–River Falls in 2015. Scholarships are funded directly through the Federated Youth Foundation by unclaimed capital credits.



Peter Cauley

Mauston High School
Jim and Carol Cauley
UW–Platteville
Ag Business



Craig Dallman

Mauston High School
Bob and Linda Dallman
UW–Stout
Mechanical Engineering



Kyle Voss

Mauston High School
Alan and Lisa Voss
UW–Stevens Point
Sports Science / Exercise Science



Jennifer Moore

Necedah High School
Patrick and Violet Moore
UW–La Crosse
Education



Stephanie Rattunde

Necedah High School
Daryl and Annette Rattunde
Winona State University
Exercise Science/Nutrition



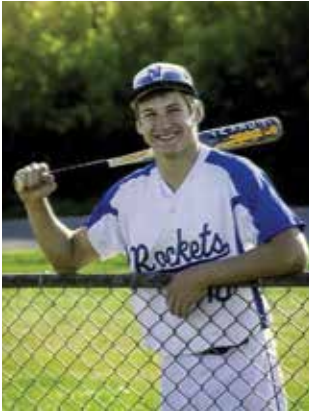
Cheyenne Sterbenz

Necedah High School
Joe and Raquel Sterbenz
UW–Stevens Point
Early Childhood Education



Gabrielle Smith

Nekoosa High School
Les and Lisa Smith
UW–Stevens Point
Education



Stephan Burbach

New Lisbon High School
 Roger Burbach and Donna Davidson
 UW–Madison
 Mechanical Engineering



Savanna Morris

New Lisbon High School
 Gene and Mary Morris
 Fox Valley Technical College
 Therapeutic Massage



Kassie Woggon

New Lisbon High School
 Donald and June Woggon
 UW–River Falls
 Agricultural Engineering



Jack Zdun

Pittsville High School
 Thomas and JoAnn Zdun
 UW–Milwaukee
 Letters and Science



Mariah Burdick

Reedsburg Area High School
 Jason and Tammy Burdick
 St. Cloud State or UW–Oshkosh
 Anthropology and Forensic Science



Amber Grundahl

Reedsburg Area High School
 Jeff and Rebecca Grundahl
 UW–Baraboo/Sauk County
 Nursing



Austin Nauman

Sparta High School
 Danielle Nauman
 UW–Madison Farm & Industry
 Short Course
 Dairy Herd Management



Emma Granger

Tomah High School
 Gary and Deb Granger
 UW–Whitewater
 Accounting



Ben Venner

Tomah High School
 John and Annette Venner
 UW–Eau Claire
 Chemistry



Katelyn Pearson

Tomah High School
 Keith and Debra Pearson
 UW–River Falls
 Biology/ Pre-Physical Therapy



Lane Wohrab

Wonewoc High School
 Cory and Kim Wohrab
 UW–Oshkosh
 Nursing



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



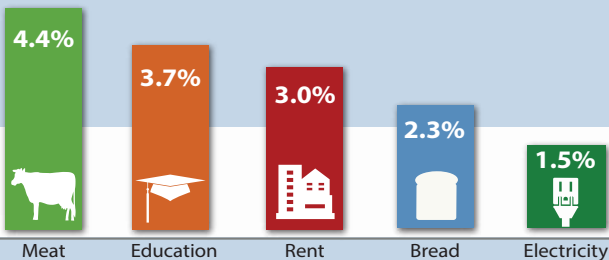
Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

Electricity Remains a Good Value

The cost of powering your home rises at a slower pace than many of your typical expenses. Compare the average price increase of these expenses each year over the last five years, and the value of electricity shines.

 **Average Annual Price Increase**
2010-2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

2016 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

"Life in Rural Wisconsin"

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is holding its annual photo contest for members' photos to be featured in our 2017 calendar. Winning photos may be used in future newsletters or cooperative publications.

- Photos must be taken within the Oakdale Electric Cooperative service area.
- Photos should capture life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.).
- Photos must have a horizontal (landscape) orientation.
- Photos can be in color or black and white.
- Only high resolution photos can be used. Photos must be at least 300 dpi.

Contest will run from February 1, 2016, until August 26, 2016; however, submitted photos can be taken outside of this date range.

Photo Contest Entry Options:

Email: Deana Protz – dprotz@oakdalerec.com.

Mail: P.O. Box 128, Oakdale, WI, 54649. (photo(s) must be 8"x10" in size)

Drop Off: Oakdale Electric Cooperative Office - 489 N. Oakwood St., Oakdale. (photo(s) must be 8"x10" in size)

For a complete set of rules as well as entry forms and photo release forms, visit our website, www.oakdalerec.com.


Bruce Ardel, General Manager

P.O. Box 128, Oakdale, WI 54649
608-372-4131 • 800-241-2468
info@oakdalerec.com

Deana Protz, Editor



**Oakdale Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
24-Hour Emergency Power Restoration: 800-927-6151
Toll-free Online Bill Payment 866-392-4307
FAX Number: 608-372-5173

Diggers Hotline: For underground cable locates and power line clearance information, call 800-242-8511.