

LET IT GROW! LET IT GROW!



The monarch butterfly population has decreased significantly over the past 20 years. Oakdale Electric is doing its part to help support the survival of the monarch population by building and maintaining a butterfly habitat at the co-op. Two gardens, planted on the south side of the administrative building, will feature a variety of 96 native plants. Milkweed, the only food source for monarch caterpillars, will be an abundant host plant in the garden. In addition, a variety of preferred nectar-bearing flowers will bloom, and provide necessary food, throughout the spring, summer, and fall for adult butterflies. This is of great importance, as monarchs are dependent on this food supply to provide them with fuel for their long migration south for winter. Nectar is also food for other beneficial pollinators, such as birds, bats, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, small mammals, and bees.

Tomah High School Roots and Shoots Club members volunteered with garden site preparations. From sod removal, to timber construction, and even ground tillage, this group had their hands in it all. And their work isn't done yet. The youth have committed to annual gardening days to help maintain the ground's beauty.

The garden will take final shape when the native plants—plants that occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, or habitat without human introduction—are transplanted. The choice to plant natives in our garden was simple. Native plants are strong because they have adapted to local environmental conditions. Once established, native plants do not require pesticides, fertilizers, or watering beyond normal rainfall. Not only is this good for the environment, it saves time and money, making it the perfect garden for the co-op.

Stay tuned for next month's issue to view the co-op's completed monarch garden!

Feeling inspired?
You can plant a garden anywhere—
your yard, school, church, business,
or even in a flower pot. Visit
monarchwatch.org/waystations/ for
more complete details!

MY CO-OP



CONGRATULATIONS

2019 Scholarship Recipients



Madeline Boehm
Mauston
Kurt & Tonya Boehm
UW-Madison, Neurobiology



Lizzie Patton, Mauston
Karen & Dan Patton
St. Catherine's University in
Minneapolis, Nursing or Education



Abigail Voss
Mauston
Alan & Lisa Voss
UW-Superior, Art Therapy



Lauren Franek
Mauston
Jason & Shannon Franek
UW-Eau Claire, Biology



Julieanna Bermeo, Mauston
Kathleen Bermeo
UW-Platteville, Forensic
Investigation



Nickolas Manville, Necedah
Tim & Lori Manville
Western Technical College, Law Enforcement



Adrian Rodriguez, Nekoosa
Juan & San Juanita Rodriguez
Mid-State Technical College, Business



Haley Kniprath, Nekoosa
Dan & Patti Kniprath
UW-Eau Claire, Undecided



Jenna Bistodeau
Necedah
Scott & Trudy Bartels
UW-Fox Valley, Undecided



Cole Parrish, Necedah
Andrea and Theron Parrish
UW-Eau Claire,
Sports Medicine



Selina Walters, Necedah
Mark Walters & Laurie Dykstra
UW-Stevens Point,
Wildlife Ecology



Clay Lancour, Nekoosa
Bill & Lisa Lancour
Marquette University
Mechanical Engineering



Gema Ontiveros, Nekoosa
Jorge and Macelina
Ontiveros, UW-River Falls,
Veterinary Tech



Rachael Woodward, New Lisbon
Jamie Woodward & Shelly Popp
Western Technical College, Marketing Management



Paeton Scholzen, Pittsville
Jenifer and Jason Stainbrook
UW-Platteville, Criminal Justice



Jacob Dregney, Reedsburg
Joe and Pam Dregney
UW-La Crosse, Biology

Each of these students received either a \$1,500, \$1,250 or \$1,000 scholarship from Oakdale Electric Cooperative. Winners were selected based on their essays on the topic of "Cooperative Principles in Action" following their attendance at the 2018 Youth Leadership Congress at UW-River Falls.



Catrina Johnson, New Lisbon
Jeff & Patti Johnson
UW-Stevens Point, Wildlife
Ecology and Management



Alexis Simmons, New Lisbon
Travis & Tammy Simmons
UW-Stevens Point, Wildlife
Ecology and Management



Tyler Gardner, Pittsville
Tom & Janeen Gardner
Mid-State Technical College
Business Management



Emma-Rae Martin
Reedsburg
Jodine and David Martin
Madison College, Nursing



Fletcher Green
Royall
Nate & Jody Green
UW-Superior, Medical Field



Miranda Sobojinski, Reedsburg
John and Tammy Sobojinski
Aveda Institute Madison, Cosmetology



Claire Herek, Royall
Lee & Melissa Herek,
UW-Eau Claire, Nursing



Daniel Retzlaff, Royall
Dave & Lorie Retzlaff
Western Technical College, Accounting



Emma Franks, Tomah
Kevin & Amy Franks,
Viterbo University, Nursing



Taylor Geitz, Wonewoc
Jennifer Geitz
UW-Oshkosh, Nursing



Hunter Eirschele, Tomah
Gergory & Donna Eirschele
UW-Madison, Biomedical
Engineering



Clara Krause, Tomah
Nicole & Brian Krause,
UW-Eau Claire, secondary
mathematics education



Alexis Karls, Oregon
At-large Scholarship
Randy & Nanette Karls
UW-Madison, Biomedical Engineering



Karter Hoag, Tomah
Lineworker Scholarship
Kristi Arzt and Kevin Hoag
Chippewa Valley Technical College,
Electrical Power Distribution

Oakdale Electric's scholarship program does not affect electric rates; it is funded with unclaimed capital credits.





TAKE A HIKE
from writing checks




Our free, checkless payment plan offers both convenience and savings. Sign up for Auto Pay and have your payment automatically deduct from your bank account or credit card on the due date shown on your bill.

To enroll in Auto Pay, login to your SmartHub account by visiting oakdalerec.com. Once logged in click on the Billing & Payments tab and choose Auto Pay Program. Questions? Visit us at oakdalerec.com or call us at 608-372-4131.



Oakdale Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

With the time you save, get outdoors and take a hike.

HERE'S A WAY TO CONTROL YOUR COSTS!

Apply for the Central Air Unit Credit

The central air conditioner at your home may be shut off during peak periods of electrical demand via a radio signal emitted from Dairyland Power Cooperative in La Crosse. During those peak periods, your air conditioner may be cycled, 15 minutes on – 15 minutes off, in an effort to lower electrical demand.

The load management equipment installed is not a time clock and control does not occur on a daily basis—only during peak demand periods.

- There is no charge for the load management hardware.
- A \$8 credit will be applied during the months of June, July, and August.
- The credit begins after the load management equipment is installed.

Availability

Available under established rules and regulations for service to central air conditioners of cooperative members subject to the following:

- The air conditioner must be a central system and not a window unit, wall unit, or mini-split system.
- Usage pattern must be such that the load can be cycled, 15 minutes on – 15 minutes off, during peak demand periods.
- Cooperative personnel will be given access to the load management equipment for maintenance and inspection purposes.
- A monthly credit will be paid during the billing months of June, July, and August, when energy usage is 400 kWhs or higher.
- Necessary load management equipment will be installed and maintained by a representative of the cooperative.

Bruce Ardel, General Manager
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Deana Protz, Editor



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

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