



Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

WE HAVE FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES.



Let's shower them with thanks!

Now's the perfect time to thank those linemen who work through rain, sleet, and snow to keep the electricity flowing!

In recognition of National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 11, we are hosting a card shower for our own linemen. Express your appreciation to the men who keep the lights on by sending cards or notes of thanks to the co-op's office (Att. Card Shower, P.O. Box 128, Oakdale, WI 54649) by April 11!

What are capital credits?

Capital credits reflect each member's ownership in the cooperative. Whereas investor-owned utilities earn profits for their investors, in a cooperative, any margins left over after all expenses have been paid are returned to members in proportion to their electrical usage. A capital credit allocation was listed on the February bills of members who had patronage in 2015.

1 Co-op member flips the lights on and uses electricity provided by Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC).

2 OEC member pays electric bills January through December.

3 OEC computer tracks energy use and the patronage revenue (money) received for each account.

9 Capital credits are applied to qualifying co-op members' bills. Each year, the board of directors evaluates the financial condition of the cooperative and determines the amount issued to members.



4 Calendar year ends in December.

5 OEC staff members complete final year-end bookwork, co-op books are audited, and final financial obligations are met.

8 Capital credits allocation notices are printed on bill statements for members.

7 Board of directors approves excess revenue (profits) to be allocated to members as capital credits.

6 Income received over and above expenses (profit) is determined.



Join fellow co-op members at the

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

It's that time of year again; Oakdale Electric Cooperative is gearing up for the 2016 annual meeting, which will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2016, at Tomah High School.

The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership and, perhaps most importantly, vote to elect your board members.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative employees work hard to host this fun event, and we encourage you to attend and exercise some of the many rights you have as a member of an electric cooperative. We know the food, camaraderie, and prizes are enjoyed by all, but there is so much more to the event.

Did you know the annual meeting is an occasion to discuss and learn more about the issues affecting your cooperative? The annual meeting is an opportunity to learn more about the topics that impact you and talk about what we as a community can do to address our most pressing challenges and take advantage of available opportunities.

Your annual meeting is also the occasion to exercise one of the greatest benefits of being an electric co-op member: voting for the upcoming year's board of directors. Your electric cooperative is not owned by far-away investors, and it is not run by an appointed board of directors. Your electric cooperative is run by a democratically elected board that is given the privilege to serve because of your vote.

So, at this year's annual meeting, not only will you enjoy yourself (and maybe win a prize!), but you will feel good knowing that you had a voice in a very important decision that impacts one of our most vital resources, electricity. From all of your friends at Oakdale Electric Cooperative, we hope to see you on April 2nd at the annual meeting.

Source: 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.

OAKDALE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

2016 ANNUAL MEETING



Saturday, April 2
Tomah High School

Registration: 9 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10 a.m.



- Director elections for Districts 3 and 6
- Annual reports
 - Chance to win prizes
 - Door prizes
 - Kentucky Fried Chicken lunch served following the business meeting

Watch for your annual report booklet in March!

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.



Scholarship Update

If you're planning to continue your education at a college or university next fall, we may be able to help you! Check out our website, www.oakdalerec.com, for updated information about our scholarship program.

Youth Leadership Congress

Calling all high school juniors! Check with your high school guidance counselor for information about this summer's Youth Leadership Congress, to be held July 13–15 on the UW–River Falls campus. You won't want to miss out on this rewarding opportunity!



Oakdale Electric Cooperative hired B&M Utility Locating to perform all locating services for our cooperative. Pictured here are Dan Urbanek and Jason Short of B&M Utility Locating.

Bruce Ardel, General Manager

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info@oakdalerec.com

Deana Protz, Editor



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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.