

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Only \$20/month to go solar!

Pay as You Go

for local, clean renewable energy

No upfront costs • Sign up by December 31, 2017

Now you can support local, clean renewable energy and receive monthly credits on your electric bill with MemberSolar's *Pay as You Go* option. There are NO upfront costs. The new program allows you to participate in our local community solar project by paying \$20 per month per block (equivalent to 5 solar panels). In return, you will receive monthly credits for the production of MemberSolar for as long as you stay enrolled in the program.



MEMBERSOLAR
Pay as You Go

Call us at 715-832-1603 to sign up. It's that simple!

HURRY! Supplies are limited!

MY CO-OP



Happy to celebrate Leifer Award!

ECEC board and staff members were on hand to celebrate the acceptance of the N. F. Leifer Journalism Award in Stevens Point at the WECA annual meeting November 8. (from left to right in back) Board Members Tom Schwartz, David Myren, Bob Gadwill, Joe Becker, Mike Schummer, Secretary-Treasurer Judi Anibas, Jeff Frieburg, and Chief Administrative Officer Monica Obrycki. (Seated) Manager, Communications & Public Relations Mary Kay Brevig and her husband, Doug Brevig.



RENEWED energy!

YOUTH AMBASSADOR MEETING

Learn about careers, interviewing and scholarships!

December 13, 2017

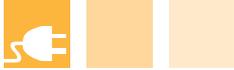
12–1:30 p.m.

At Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Lunch provided

January 17, 2018

12–1:30 p.m.

At Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Lunch provided



SCHOLARSHIPS INCREASED TO \$750 EACH!

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative is excited to announce an increase from \$500 to \$750 for each of 18 scholarships to be awarded to member students for the year 2018–2019. Sixteen different \$750 scholarships will be awarded to students attending area high schools—one for each of the following:

Altoona	Eau Claire Regis
Augusta	Eleva-Strum
Cadott	Elk Mound
Chippewa Falls	Fall Creek
Chippewa Fall McDonell	Mondovi
Eau Claire Immanuel	Osseo-Fairchild
Eau Claire Memorial	Stanley-Boyd
Eau Claire North	Home School/Charter School

And, one \$750 scholarship will be awarded to a current student at each of the following schools:

- Chippewa Valley Technical College
- University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

To qualify, the applying student must fit the following criteria:

- The student’s family must be a member of Eau Claire Energy Cooperative and currently receive electric service from ECEC at the primary resident.

- The student must display average or above-average academic records.
- The student must display potential to achieve success in a post-secondary public or private college, university, junior college, or vocational school program.
- The scholarships should be awarded to qualifying students who would not otherwise receive scholarships from other sources.
- Apply on or before January 10, 2018.



Selection of student winners Each school’s Scholarship Committee will select one first-choice recommendation and an alternate recommendation. Therefore, all applications should be turned into the local school by the January 10, 2018 deadline. (Do not return the application to ECEC.)

Scholarship applications available at area schools

Scholarship applications are available at any of the schools listed or can be obtained online at www.ecec.com (click on the COMMUNITY tab). All applications must be completed and returned to the high school, technical college, or university student office on or before January 10, 2018.

Questions? Please contact Eau Claire Energy Cooperative at 715-832-1603.

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Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

Looking to lower your bills this winter? Use the 10 tips below to conserve energy.

- 1 Seal air leaks and insulate well to prevent heat from escaping and cold air from entering your home.
- 2 Reduce waste heat by installing a programmable thermostat.
- 3 Turn off lights when not in use.
- 4 Lower your water heater temperature. The Dept. of Energy recommends using the warm setting (120 degrees) during fall and winter months.
- 5 Unplug electronics like kitchen appliances and TVs when you're away.
- 6 Open blinds and curtains during the day to allow sunlight in to warm your home.
- 7 Close blinds and curtains at night to keep cold, drafty air out.
- 8 Use power strips for multiple appliances, and turn off the main switch when you're away from home.
- 9 Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.
- 10 Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

STAY SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Gathering with family and friends during the holidays often means making great memories, reliving traditions, and sharing the spirit of the season. However, amid all the festivities, don't forget about safety. Safe Electricity shares tips to help ensure that your holiday season remains a safe one.

Keep safety in mind when decorating the home. Ensure that your tree is placed at least 3 feet away from heat sources such as fireplaces or radiators and on a stable platform. Before hanging holiday lights, check for worn spots, fraying, and excessive kinking. Damaged stands of lights should not be used.



Don't get burned in the kitchen. Clean your stovetop and oven often as you bake and cook. Doing so will help prevent fires in the kitchen. Do not leave combustible items, such as towels or pot holders, near the stove top. Keep all appliance cords away from heat. Never use appliances near the kitchen sink. Plug appliances into ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets. Unplug appliances when they are not in use.

Turn off all lights when they are not in use. Putting them on an automatic timer will remove the extra worry of an electrical accident while also reducing energy costs.

For more home electrical safety tips, visit SafeElectricity.org.



Recycle your holiday
string lights here –

FREE!

**January 5, 2018
deadline**

As you get ready for the
upcoming holiday season,
now's the time to recycle
those old holiday string
lights and become more
efficient. Bring them to
us at 8214 Hwy. 12, Fall
Creek, and we'll get them
recycled for you.

***Eau Claire Energy
Cooperative***

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

PO Box 368 Fall Creek, WI 54742-0368
715-832-1603
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PHONE NUMBERS VITAL TO RELIABLE ELECTRIC SERVICE

As people utilize their cell phones more and eliminate their land lines, we find that we no longer have valid phone numbers on record. Therefore, we are not able to contact our members in order to give you important information about your electric service or about scheduled

maintenance outages.

We urge you to contact us with updated phone numbers so we may serve you better. You can submit your telephone number through our website or via email at info@ecec.com, through SmartHub, or call our office at 715-832-1603.

We only use this information to contact our members with information related to electric service. We value your privacy, and do not use or sell this information for any other purposes.

Our goal is to continue to provide you with safe, reliable electric service.

MEMBER ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

January 15, 2018

Monday 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Let your voice be heard and discuss energy issues that are important to your community. If you would like to join in the conversation, sign up at www.ecec.com. Click on the COMMUNITY tab.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT Deadline March 13, 2018

Do you know an Eau Claire Energy Cooperative member who has gone above and beyond



to help others? Do you know a member who has made a difference in the community through local service projects or non-profit organizations and local events? Now is the time to nominate your friends or neighbors for the fifth annual Concern for Community Awards.

Nominate an ECEC member at www.ecec.com. This year's recipient will be honored at our 81st Annual Meeting at the Florian Gardens on March 13, 2018.



SMARTHUB An easy way to manage your energy bill

SmartHub means you have options when it comes to managing your energy bill at Eau Claire Energy Cooperative. Have you ever wondered when your highest electric usage takes place? Have you wondered why your energy bill is what it is? SmartHub helps you determine those answers. If you have not signed up, you're missing out on a lot of smart benefits including:

- Pay your energy bill online
- Set up your energy bill for automatic payments
- View your billing history
- View and manage your electric usage
- Identify ways to lower your energy bill

Sign up for SmartHub online. It's ECEC's FREE and mobile online payment system that allows you to monitor your daily energy usage. Click on the signup link and follow the prompts to create your user name and password. Questions? Call, click or visit us at 715-832-1603 or www.ecec.com.

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Lynn E. Thompson, President/CEO

Mary Kay Brevig, Editor, Manager of Communications & Public Relations

8214 Hwy 12, P.O. Box 368, Fall Creek, WI 54742-0368
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Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Mon–Fri

Non-emergencies: 715-832-1603

Emergencies & outages: Toll FREE 800-927-5090
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Diggers Hotline: 811 or 1-800-242-8511
Call 3 working days before you dig.