

Sponsored by Eau Claire Energy Cooperative,
Flying Eagles Ski Club Presents
**Flying Eagles Ski Jump Invitational,
U.S. Cup Nordic Combined
Cross Country Ski Race and
Silver Mine Ski Jump Invitational**

February 19–21, 2021

Due to COVID-19, there will be no bonfires or tents this year. For events at Silver Mine hill, spectators will be able to watch the jumping from their vehicles and there will be an entry fee per car. Details on the website: www.silvermineski.com



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Cash in on both ECEC and FOCUS Incentives!

Members have earned thousands of dollars in energy efficiency incentives through Eau Claire Energy Cooperative and Focus on Energy. The year 2021 should be no different. We want to help you control your energy costs by helping you make your home as energy efficient as possible...and help you cash in on the incentives.

Check out these incentives available in 2021. Further information is available at www.ecec.com or by calling us at 715-832-1603.

Incentives available directly through Eau Claire Energy Cooperative include:

- Electric Vehicle Charging
- Energy Star Appliances
- Geothermal Heat Pumps
- Air-Source Heat Pumps
- Lighting
- Home Performance Evaluations & Improvements (Existing Homes)
- Touchstone Energy Home Program (New Homes)
- Electric Water Heaters
- Commercial & Industrial Equipment
- Agricultural Equipment
- And, more!



Through our partnership with Focus on Energy, you also have access to many of the incentives they offer!

- Home Energy Assessments (Existing Homes)
- New Home Certification
- Heating & Cooling
- Renewable Energy
 - Solar Electric (PV)
 - Geothermal Heat Pumps
- Smart Thermostats
- Free Products for the asking!
 - Lighting
 - Showerheads
 - Faucet Aerators
 - And, more!
- Local Retail Discounts
- Commercial & Industrial Equipment
- Agricultural Equipment



Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

MY CO-OP





VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MARCH 16, 2021

The next annual meeting of Eau Claire Energy Cooperative will be held virtually on March 16, 2021 at 6 p.m. Registration is required and is available on our website at www.ecec.com. Once registered a link will be emailed to you the day before the annual meeting. A detailed agenda along with the annual report and board election information will be in the March publication of this magazine.

***Register to attend the virtual
annual meeting at www.ecec.com***

BYLAW CHANGES

The unexpected need to revise the Bylaws to accommodate a 'Virtual Annual Meeting' resulted in a comprehensive review of the entire set of bylaws. The precise changes made by the board are listed below. The full Bylaws, as amended, are available on the cooperative's website www.ecec.com.

ARTICLE I, Section 2

The following sentence was added: "Each member shall pay all amounts owed by the member to the Cooperative when the same becomes due and payable."

ARTICLE I, Section 4. Paragraph A. "husband or wife" was removed and replaced by: "married persons"

ARTICLE I, Section 4. Paragraph B. "in husband and wife" was removed and replaced by: "of those married persons"

ARTICLE I, Section 7. The following sentence was removed: "Each member shall pay all amounts owed by the member to the Cooperative when the same shall become due and payable."

ARTICLE I, Section 8. The following sentence was removed: "Each member shall also pay all amounts owed by the member to the Cooperative when the same shall become due and payable."

ARTICLE I, Section 13. A. (2) Remove the word "lines" and replace it with "equipment and facilities"

ARTICLE I, Section 13. B. Remove the word "is" and replace it with "includes"

ARTICLE I, Section 16. Remove from the last sentence "or to controversies over the acquisition of right-of-way or the right of the Cooperative to construct, operate, inspect, repair, maintain, relocate, improve, reconstruct, and replace its facilities within any of its rights-of-way"

ARTICLE II, Section 1. Remove the first word, "The" and replace it with "With respect to electric service, the"

ARTICLE II, Section 3. After the word "Board," insert "for electric service"

ARTICLE II, Section 4. In the first sentence, remove “be invited.” In the second sentence, remove the words “Should any such consumer refuse to become a member of the Cooperative, the” and replace them with “The.”

ARTICLE III, Section 1. Insert this sentence before the last sentence of the paragraph: “In the event of inclement weather, emergency, major disaster, or pandemic, which impairs the ability of the Cooperative to hold any member meeting as described in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may adopt alternative electronic or virtual means of member communication and input to best substitute for such meeting, and may declare such action a regular, special, or annual meeting.”

ARTICLE III, Section 1. In the last sentence, remove “at the designated time” and replace them with “as described herein.”

ARTICLE III, Section 3. After the second sentence, insert: “Any member may notify the Cooperative that the member desires to receive such notices electronically to the internet address the member furnishes to the Cooperative rather than in written or published form; any such notice sent to the member electronically shall be deemed to have been delivered when transmitted.”

ARTICLE III, Section 4. Remove the first word, “The” and replace it with: “a. If a member meeting is held at a physical location, the”

ARTICLE III, Section 4. Beneath the above section, add the following: “b. If a member meeting is held by electronic or virtual means, the quorum shall be met if fifty or more members have the ability to receive communications from the Cooperative and the ability to communicate to the Cooperative in real time.”

ARTICLE III, Section 5. Remove the following sentence: “Voting by absentee ballot shall be only as specifically authorized by the Board of Directors.”

ARTICLE III, Section 6. A. After the words “. . . present in person” add “or by other acceptable means.”

ARTICLE III, Section 7. B. In the last sentence, remove: “the mail” and replace it with: “such.”

ARTICLE IV, Section 2. B. (11). Replace the word “two” with the word “five.”

ARTICLE IV, Section 5. After the word “. . . ballot” in the second sentence, insert: “delivered by the Cooperative to a member who chooses to vote by mail or in person at the annual meeting. A member who chooses to vote by electronic means shall request and receive an official electronic ballot. Procedures for using mail or electronic ballots shall comply with Article III, Section 7 of these bylaws.”

Also add the following two paragraphs:

“However, in any annual meeting when there is only one candidate for a director position, after no more nominations can be made pursuant to ARTICLE IV, Section 5, of these bylaws election can occur at the annual meeting for that year by acclamation, or, if the annual meeting was held by electronic means, at the meeting of the Directors next following the annual meeting by majority vote of the Directors.

“Notwithstanding anything in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect, in any manner whatsoever, the validity of any election of directors.”

ARTICLE V, Section 1. After the words “. . . shall be held” delete the following: without notice, immediately after, and at the same place as, the annual meeting of the members, or at such time and after the words “within 30 days of the” delete the following: “annual meeting and such other place as the Chair shall announce at the annual meeting.”

ARTICLE VII, Section 4. B., delete “\$25.00” and insert in its place: “\$50.00”

If any member attending the next annual meeting wishes to move that any part of the above amendments be repealed or amended, the motion and any supporting statement must be delivered in writing to Monica Obrycki, corporate secretary, at least five days prior to the virtual annual meeting. The motion will be read at the meeting. If a second is made, the supporting statement will be read at the meeting. Cooperative officials and members will be given an opportunity to make arguments or discussion according to the information in the meeting notice. If necessary, a vote may be taken after this item of business is concluded.

At Eau Claire Energy Cooperative, we utilize a variety of wire and cable that comes to us on large wooden reels—sometimes called spools or cable drums. We’ve seen people recycle these into all kinds of cool things like tables, planters, benches, and bars. When cooperative members Jason and Megan Reetz saw our Facebook post announcing our giveaway of these empty reels, they jumped at the chance to create some entertainment for their two goats.

A REEL GREAT IDEA

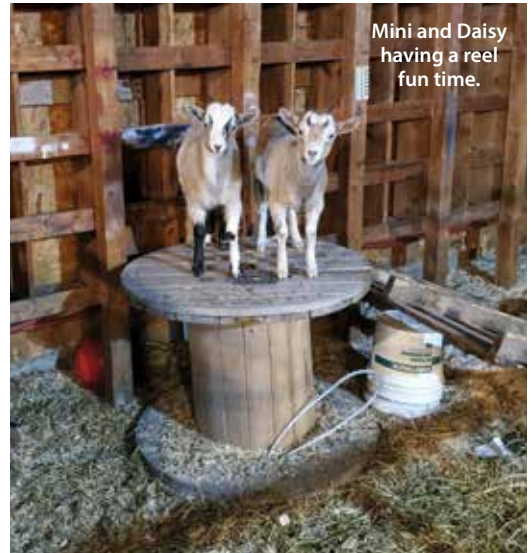
In December, ECEC posted on Facebook a photo of dozens of empty wooden reels that were free for the taking. The response was almost immediate! People started calling the co-op and showing up with trailers to haul them away. Our Warehouse and Facilities Coordinator Scott Gerike was surprised at how quickly they disappeared. “It seemed like every 10 minutes someone new was stopping by to pick up the reels and in less than 24 hours they were gone!” said Gerike.



When the Reetz family saw the post, they had an idea to use the reel to make somewhat of a jungle gym for their two goats, Mini and Daisy. Jason explained, “We picked up two of the reels. We thought we could use them to allow the goats to stay busy and have something sturdy to climb on.” His wife, Megan, has more ideas too. She and Jason are exploring making a toy car track out of one in the future for their son, Beckett, to enjoy. They explained that a quick Pinterest search on “wooden reel ideas” gives a lot of creative suggestions.

For now, Mini and Daisy have already started climbing on the reels in their indoor pen. When the weather improves, the reels will be moved outside for the goats to play on. And at ECEC, we love to see the creative ways that the reels are recycled and utilized. We’ll keep posting when we have empty wooden reels available for pickup, so watch our Facebook page for that.

Have you repurposed a wooden reel into something new? We would love to see it! Contact us through Facebook or email us a photo at info@ecec.com.



Mini and Daisy having a reel fun time.



Beckett with Mini and Daisy.

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Lynn E. Thompson, President/CEO

Monica Obrycki, Chief Administrative Officer

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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.