



ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS INSTALLED ON COOPERATIVE LINES

**Eau Claire Energy
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

If you've been keeping a keen eye around the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative territory, you may have noticed electric vehicle chargers popping up around a few area businesses. While actively working to address the present and future electric vehicle (EV) charging needs in the Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative, with support from Dairyland Power Cooperative, is providing a commercial-grade level 2 charger to five area businesses.

These chargers will be capable of charging two EVs simultaneously, delivering up to 11.5 kW charge rates to both vehicles.

The first two chargers were recently installed at the Residence Inn and Fairfield Inn, conveniently located off the North Crossing in Eau Claire. Both locations have been a popular destination for travelers to and

through the Chippewa Valley. Adding electric vehicle charging to the already stellar list of amenities available for guests will only help draw vacation and business travelers alike to the area.

“There’s such strong support in the Chippewa Valley for alternative energy sources, and it’s great that we can now offer EV chargers for our out-of-town guests as another way to help them feel at home when on the road,” said Chuck Langland, general manager of Residence Inn.

The level 2 chargers will provide approximately 30–45 miles of range per



Above: Adam Westaby (right) stopped by with ECEC’s Tesla Model 3 for a charge and to visit with Chuck Langland, general manager, Residence Inn.



Left: Hotel owner and developer Neil Haselwander posed with Langland. The chargers sit between the Fairfield Inn and the Residence Inn and can be utilized by guests of either.

hour of charge and are perfect for use in residential homes and “destination” charging—or charging at a location where your car is parked for multiple hours—such as hotels.

We’re not stopping with these two stations. Eau Claire Energy Cooperative is also supplying a charger to the Metropolis Resort in Eau Claire, Beaver Creek Reserve in Fall Creek, and Stoney Creek RV Resort in Osseo, providing guests and visitors to those locations a convenient place to charge. Watch future editions of the magazine featuring these EV chargers.

As your trusted energy advisor, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative continues to prioritize energy efficiency and responsible electric vehicle charging. Our members have access to charging equipment, special residential charging rates, and a helpful, knowledgeable staff ready to answer your questions. Whether you are interested in adding EV charging to your business or your home, be sure to give us a call at (715) 832-1603 or find more information at www.ecec.com.

*By Adam Westaby,
Member Services Associate*



SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY AWARD

Do you know an Eau Claire Energy Cooperative member who has gone above and beyond to help others? Have they made a difference in the community through local service projects, non-profit organizations, or other local events? Nominate a cooperative member for the annual Concern for Community Award by February 15, 2022. The nomination form is available on our website at www.ecec.com under the "Community" tab. The award recipient will be honored at our 85th Annual Meeting on March 15, 2022.

SAVE THE DATE

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative
Annual Meeting
March 15, 2022
at the Florian Gardens

*Wishing you a healthy,
happy New Year!*



Eau Claire Energy Cooperative
MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

At Eau Claire Energy Cooperative, we recognize and appreciate commitment to community. In fact, it's one of our seven cooperative principles. So, when we heard about a couple of young members making an impact through their Eagle Scout projects, we were excited to learn more. Quinten and Elijah Anger joined Scouts back in second grade to try something new and hang out with friends. Now juniors at Eau Claire North High School, these young men are on their way to completing the highest rank in Scouts, an Eagle Project, and have learned skills that will benefit them for a lifetime.



The Anger family have been members for over 14 years.



EAGLE PROJECTS IMPROVE TWO COMMUNITY TRAILS

Both Quinten and Elijah did projects related to improving and building trails. Quinten attended elementary school at Sherman in Eau Claire. Community events and physical education classes utilized the trails near the school. Quinten noticed that the trails were in disrepair and knew it was time to revamp them to make them safe and more usable. Though the actual repairs only took a couple of days, the planning, permitting, and coordinating took months. We asked Quinten how he feels now that the project is complete, and he stated, “Knowing that we made a community space even better is something that’s really neat.”

And, for future Eagle Scouts and project planners, he ended with this advice: “Give yourself adequate time to prepare and be sure your funding is secure before you set a date.”

Elijah started out planning a project revamping a high school auditorium, but some unexpected snags shifted his focus to building a trail switchback at Beaver Creek Reserve. The switchback connects the play area to a service trail and can be



Quinten with the fresh new trail near Sherman Elementary School.

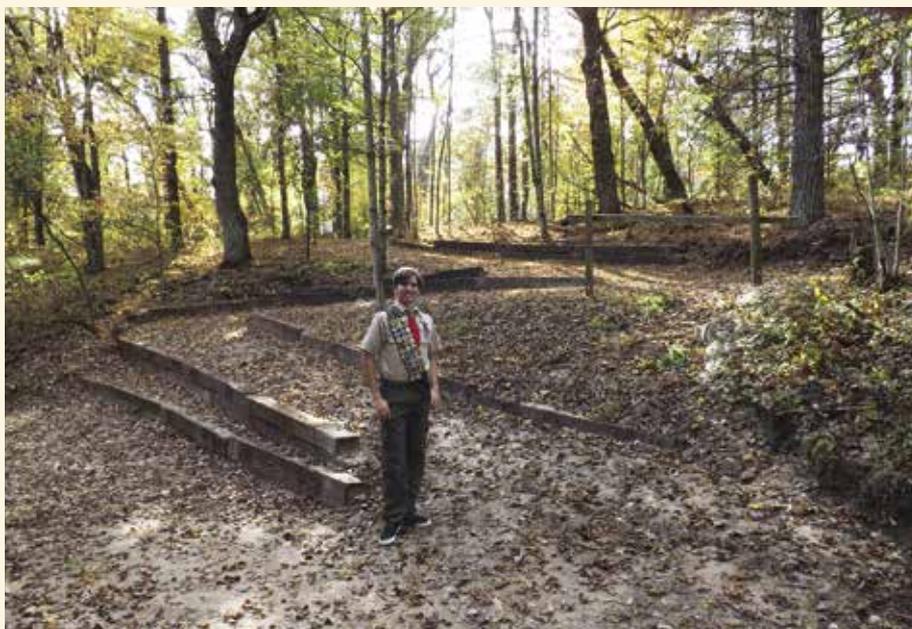
utilized by hikers and snowshoers. Elijah shared, “This hiking trail is special because it can be used by hikers and snowshoers, but now also by people who utilize an all-terrain wheelchair.”

Elijah left us with some good advice as well: “There are going to be ups and downs with any large project. Sometimes you have to figure it out on your own, but it’s also okay to ask for help.”

For both Quinten and Elijah some guidance and support came from their parents, Todd and Sara. We asked them their perspective on these projects and the lessons learned. Todd shared, “It was important to let the kids be in charge. The entire process taught them leadership, project management, and critical organizational skills.”

Sara elaborated, “It takes a whole community to make well-rounded young adults. Quinten and Elijah had to interact with many types of people and learn from other perspectives.”

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative takes pride in our commitment to community, and we enjoy celebrating members who do the same. If you happen to be out taking advantage of either of these trails, take a moment to reflect on these great young men who helped make them better.



Elijah standing near the switchback trail at Beaver Creek Reserve.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS LEARN ABOUT ELECTRICITY, SAFETY, AND THE LINEWORKER TRADE

The November meeting was full of action and plans. The Youth Ambassadors (YAs) adopted a new logo to represent this group of young co-op members. They also made plans for a Humane Association fundraiser. Watch for details in future magazines. The bulk of the meeting had these 12 youth learning about electricity safety from Safety and Loss Control Manager Ben Bella and engaging in some hands-on activities with

lineworker personal protective clothing and equipment. Lineworkers Alex K. and Alex G. demonstrated a pole climb but didn't have any takers from the YAs. It was a little cold outside!

There's still time to join the ECEC Youth Ambassadors. The group has a fun agenda of meetings over the next few months. You don't want to miss it! Applications are on our website at www.ecec.com in the Community tab.



Megan A. (left) and Hannah F. try out the heavy rubber gloves that lineworkers wear while they work.

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