



The Outlet

April 2026

Community Cares Report:

More than \$3,000 in grants will fund non-profit and local organizations and projects in our service area that benefit the community. Congratulations to the following recipients from the February Community Cares Grant Applications:

- Arcadia Ambulance Service
- Christ Lutheran Church Buddy Bag Program
- Feed My People Food Bank
- Friends of Independence Library
- Mondovi Ambulance Service
- ORA Trails
- Pigeon Falls Lutheran Church Gift of Warm Program
- Whitehall Area Youth Association
- Whitehall Lady Norse Volleyball Program

Community Cares is funded by participating REC members who round up their electric bills to the nearest dollar each month. The program awards charitable funds to non-profits that deliver programs and projects that improve quality of life across the cooperative's service area.

Underground & Pole Inspections

To help maintain reliable electric service, Riverland Energy Cooperative performs scheduled inspections on underground transformers and cabinets, along with pole testing in select areas. Underground inspections involve checking cabinet and transformer components for condition, corrosion, wear, and signs of damage, and verifying equipment is secure and operating as intended.

This spring—continuing through the summer—our contractor, Karcz Utility Services, will complete underground inspections in the Pleasantville, Glencoe, Centerville, Hegg, Cream, and Cochrane substation areas. Inspectors will need access to the boxes, so please remove any obstructions on or around them. Pole testing will also take place in the Strum, New Amsterdam, and Holland substation areas.

We do send out phone calls notifying you when they begin working in your area so please keep your contact information with us up to date. For additional information, contact the Operations Department at 800-411-9115.



OPERATING STATISTICS

	February 2026			
	Monthly		Year-to-date	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
KWHS PURCHASED	26,623,493	24,838,541	57,493,892	56,293,313
KWHS SOLD	25,661,571	23,977,856	55,357,118	54,183,551
REVENUE	\$3,856,150	\$3,783,658	\$8,210,693	\$8,507,867
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	\$2,153,406	\$2,374,289	\$4,550,358	\$4,826,015
OTHER EXPENSES	\$1,441,462	\$1,406,876	\$2,955,015	\$2,834,138
OPERATING MARGINS	\$261,283	\$2,492	\$705,320	\$847,713
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	\$5,136	\$8,541	\$14,792	\$9,092
CAPITAL CREDITS-ASSOC. ORGANIZATIONS	\$96,953	\$155,213	\$205,476	\$316,721
TOTAL MARGINS	\$363,372	\$166,246	\$925,588	\$1,173,526

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

As we prepare for the seasonal shift, remember to set your ceiling fan rotation accordingly. In winter months (or whenever heating system is running), fan blades should rotate clockwise, which produces an updraft that pushes warm air down. In summer months (or whenever your home cooling system is running), blades should rotate counterclockwise, which produces a downdraft or windchill effect that makes you feel cooler. When used correctly, ceiling fans can boost comfort and allow you to adjust the thermostat a few degrees for energy savings. Source: energy.gov

CALLING ALL THIRD-GRADERS:

You're invited to participate in the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's

ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

Submit an original poster supporting electrical safety to your local electric cooperative by **April 30, 2026**, for a chance to win a **\$25 gift card!** The top three posters will be entered into the statewide poster contest for a chance to win one of three great prizes:

- 1st place – Chromebook
- 2nd place – \$100 Gift Card
- 3rd place – \$75 Gift Card

Visit www.weca.coop for details and an entry form.



Month of April

Billing Date:
April 1, 2026
(March usage)

Current amount due:
April 30, 2026

Past due balance must be paid **BEFORE** April 28, 2026 to avoid disconnection.

No Foolin': April is Safe Digging Month - Call 811

Spring showers bring May flowers, but digging on your own this spring could bring big trouble! Even if you think you could get lucky or that digging one small hole (or two) won't matter, don't take for granted what lines might lurk beneath the soil in your yard or easement.

Before you use that post hole digger or other unearthing tools, STOP and call 811 to request that buried electric, gas, cable and other live lines in or near your yard be marked. The service is free but digging in an unmarked yard may not be.

You may think you don't have time, but ask yourself, what's the worst that could happen? The worst could be the potential for death or serious injury. It doesn't make that yard project quite as pressing, does it? Other consequences of blindly digging could be:

- You could cause a power outage.
- You could hit a gas line and get burned or cause an evacuation in your neighborhood.
- You could be fined. If you hit a telephone line or fiber optic line, you might lose your telephone, cable TV, or internet service.
- Worse yet, it could interfere with your neighborhood's emergency assistance technology.

All utilities have the right-of-way to the live lines lurking under the ground in places where you might dig. In fact, an underground utility line is damaged once every few minutes across the nation because someone decided to dig without getting their yard properly marked. You may think one or two "small holes" won't matter, but that's what the person thought who hit a line a few minutes ago.

Take a moment, look over your landscaping or fence plans, and call 811 before you dig. Each state has its own call center to help you get digging safely. You might know the service in your state by a different name — Iowa One Call, Okie 811 (Oklahoma), or Sunshine 811 (Florida), for example — but 811 is the one-call-fits-all in the U.S. By calling 811 or your state's digging call center directly, utilities or a contracted company will come to your home and mark your yard before you dig.

So tiptoe through the tulips this spring and summer, both literally and figuratively. Know what's underneath that flower bed and everywhere else in your yard. As Diggershotline.com says, "Know what's below." Then dig safely.



Get a **\$5 electric bill credit** when you sign up for SmartHub and switch to paperless billing!

Already enjoying the convenience of AutoPay Billing? Why not enjoy the convenience of SmartHub and paperless billing too!

Access your electric account with Riverland's SmartHub anywhere, anytime!

- Update AutoPay and account info
- Track daily energy usage
- View monthly bills
- View and report outages



Download the app for free from your app store or riverlandenergy.com
800-411-9115

