

# The Outlet

Riverland Energy Cooperative

MARCH 2024

## Scholarship Applications Due March 15, 2024

Riverland Energy will award thirty-two \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors whose parent or guardian resides in the Riverland Energy service territory.

### Luck of the Draw \$5,000 Scholarship

New this year, we will be drawing one recipient from all applicant's present at the Annual Meeting for a \$5,000 scholarship.

**Applications with details and qualifications can be found on our website. Deadline is March 15, 2024.**



## Rate Adjustment Coming May 1, 2024

Enclosed in this billing statement is a letter notifying you of a 2.5% rate increase across all rate classes. This adjustment is in accordance with the revenue requirements outlined in the cost-of-service study conducted in 2023. An overview of residential rate changes, effective May 1, 2024 include:

### Residential (GS1)

- Increase to the monthly service charge from \$1.26/day to \$1.38/day.
- Lower energy charge (kWh) charge from \$.1288/kWh to \$.12177/kWh
- The addition of a \$1.00/kW demand charge.

### Dual Fuel/Off-Peak (DF/OP)

- No change to service charge or energy charge for Oct. 1- May 31.
- Lower energy charge (kWh), June 1- Sept. 30, from \$.1288/kWh to \$.12177/kWh
- The addition of a \$1.00/kW demand charge, June 1- Sept. 30.
- Monthly credit for a controlled water heater will increase from \$2.00/month to \$.4.00/month, June- September.
- Monthly credit for a controlled AC unit will increase from \$4.00/month to \$5.00/month, June- September.

### Time-of-Use (TOU):

- On-peak times are limited to June, July, and August from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays only. All other times are considered off-peak.
- An increase in the monthly service charge consistent with all residential rates.
- Lower kWh charges with the addition of a \$1.00/kW demand charge.

Details on these rates and all other rate classes can be found in future publications and on our website. Feel free to call our office with any questions.



## Pancake Breakfast & Annual Meeting

### Saturday, March 23, 2024

Arcadia High School, 756 Raider Dr., Arcadia, WI

**8:00 A.M. - Registration & Pancake Breakfast**

**10:00 A.M. - Business Meeting**

**Prizes:** Door prize drawings include (25) \$50 electric bill credits, (2) \$100 credits (1) \$250 and (1) \$500 along with prizes for kids. Must be present to win.

**Scholarships:** Thirty-two \$1,000 scholarships and one \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded to eligible area high school seniors in a random drawing. The student or student's parent or guardian must be present to win.

### Watch the Annual Meeting from your home:

Go to our website at [www.riverlandenergy.com](http://www.riverlandenergy.com).

Click on the orange Annual Meeting button in the upper right. Click on the YouTube Livestream link.

## Third Graders: Enter the Safety Poster Contest

Submit an original poster supporting electrical safety to us by **April 30, 2024**, 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 prizes:

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

Visit [riverlandenergy.com](http://riverlandenergy.com) for more details and an entry form.

## Community Cares Grants Awarded

The Riverland Community Foundation Board of Directors selected the following recipients for the Community Cares grant awards Spring cycle:

- Adult & Teen Challenge of Western Wisconsin: \$3,500
- Blair Recreation: : \$200
- C-FC Food Shelf: \$500
- G-E-T Food Pantry: \$500
- Hope Restores: \$500
- La Crosse Community Theatre: \$200
- The Nook and Cranny: \$300
- Wings over Alma: \$500

More details on these donations can be found in the *WECN* magazine.

Community Cares is a charitable fund-raising program for Riverland Energy Cooperative members to have their electric bill rounded up to the next whole dollar in order to benefit and support charitable community organizations within the bounds of our service territory.

Sign up through our website or through SmartHub.

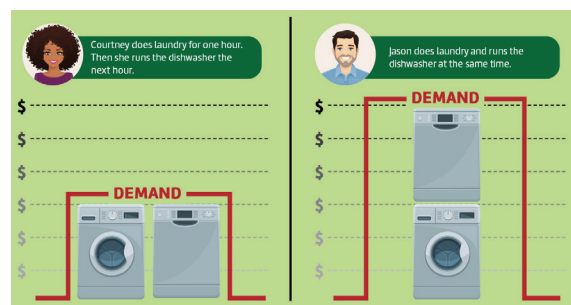


## What is the Demand Charge?

The demand charge is a fee based on the amount of electricity a member uses at a specific point in time. It is the maximum rate at which your household consumes electricity. Unlike energy charges, which are based on the total amount of electricity consumed (measured in kilowatt-hours), demand charges are related to the highest level of power usage within a specified time frame, often measured in kilowatts (kW.)

Riverland Energy measures demand in kilowatts (kW) in 15-min intervals. This means the 15-minutes your equipment is consuming (or “demanding”) the most electricity in a given month establishes your demand reading. The monthly demand charge is \$1.00 multiplied by your highest amount of usage (in kilowatts) that occurred within one 15-minute period during the on-peak hours of 6 a.m and 9 p.m throughout the billing period.

The demand charge collects costs more accurately and fairly from members. This adjustment reflects the cooperative’s need to size our electrical system based on the individual demand requirements of each member. This rate structure can provide members more control over their bills since it is possible to reduce demand by shifting use to off-peak hours (9 p.m.- 6 a.m.), or shifting the use of major appliances during peak hours (9 a.m.- 6 p.m.) rather than running them at the same time, as shown in the illustration at the right.



## Manage your energy use with SmartHub

SmartHub’s account management tool will give you access to detailed, easy-to-read information about your electric use that can help you make informed decisions and save money. Get a detailed look at your past and current power use, view your usage and weather trends by the month, day, or hour.

SmartHub’s data will help answer questions such as:

- How much more electricity do I use when it’s 90 degrees?
- What day of the week do I use the most electricity?
- What hour of the day do I tend to use the most electricity?

Using this information and changing habits can have a positive impact on lowering your electric bill.

