

The Outlet

February 2022

A monthly publication for members of Riverland Energy Cooperative

2022 Annual Meeting

The 2022 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 26 at the Arcadia High School. A pancake breakfast will be served from 8:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m., and the business meeting will start at 10:15 a.m. This is subject to change due to the current health situation.

Director Positions

Riverland Energy Board of Director Districts 2, 5, and 9 are up for election this year. If you reside in one of these districts and are interested in running for a director position, you can let one of the District Committee members know. The list of the District Committee representatives can be found on our website, or call our office and we can email it to you.

Food Drive to be held at Annual Meeting

Our annual food drive will take place again this year at our Annual Meeting on March 26. Please bring a nonperishable food item or items to our annual meeting. The donations will be distributed to local food pantries.

View outages on our live outage map

You can access our outage map to view current outages we are working to restore. You can view this by clicking on "Outage Map" at the top of our home page at riverlandenergy.com.

Community Cares grant applications due Feb. 20

Riverland Energy provides financial support to community programs through our Community Cares program.



Community Cares is a grant program made possible by the generosity of the members of Riverland Energy Cooperative. Participating members voluntarily contribute by allowing their monthly electric bill to be rounded up so that their change can help make an impact through the efforts of local nonprofit groups working to make our communities a better place to live and work.

Grants are awarded by a board of directors. A list of qualifications and guidelines can be found at www.riverlandenergy.com or at one of our offices.

Applications for the Community Cares grant are due on Feb. 20, 2022.

2022 Scholarships

If you're a senior in high school and you reside on Riverland Energy's lines, you may be eligible for our \$1,000 scholarship drawing.

Two individuals from each school in our service area will be selected in a random drawing at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 26. The breakfast will be served from 8:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. and the business meeting will start at 10:15 a.m.



Scholarships available include at-large scholarships, nontraditional scholarships, and line worker scholarships. For guidelines and applications, visit our website at riverlandenergy.com or contact your guidance counselor.

Deadline is March 15, 2022.

2022 Work Plan

Our goals for 2022 are driven by your feedback on member surveys, the strategic plan, and focus on improving our value to you and our community. Our number one priority continues to be the delivery of reliable electricity.

In 2022, we will upgrade and maintain a reliable electric system for you. Our 2022 work plan includes:

- Clearing trees and brush from the right-of-ways on the Nelson, Strum, Osseo and Maxville substations.
- Line inspections at Buffalo City, Lookout, Frenchville, and Mondovi substations.
- Underground cabinet inspections of 2,015 cabinets in Buffalo City, Elk Creek, Gilmanton, Nelson, Osseo, Strum and Mondovi.
- Testing and treating 4,000 poles in the Cream and Lookout substation areas.

General Manager's Message



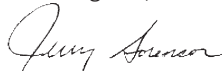
It's almost annual meeting time again, and we're planning for a traditional meeting, complete with a pancake breakfast, door prizes, scholarship drawings and director elections. We will also be streaming it through YouTube, but you must be present to win the prizes and scholarships. Watch for details in the Annual Report.

Prior to the annual meeting, the District Committee meets to elect candidates to run for director. The committee will review the operations of the cooperative and express their thoughts and ideas regarding the future of our organization. The list of those attending can be found on our website. I would encourage you to take the time to express any thoughts or concerns that you may have regarding the electric cooperative to one of those persons so that they may bring them forward to the committee.

The director election will be a hybrid election again this year. This means that members will still get a paper ballot, as well as the new online option and the ability to vote in person at the Annual Meeting. The first vote received will be the one that counts. Online and mail-in ballots will be accepted from March 10 – March 24, 2022.

I encourage everyone to take the time to review the candidate information in the annual report implemented in the March *Wisconsin Energy News* magazine. After that, please vote. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 26.

Best regards,


Jerry Sorenson

BE PREPARED FOR WINTER STORMS AND POWER OUTAGES

Report outages on SmartHub or call 800-927-6206

VIEW OUR LIVE OUTAGE MAP on our website at
www.riverlandenergy.com

Voting Information

Elections to be held for three board districts

As a member of Riverland Energy Cooperative, you have the opportunity to elect a director for your district to represent your interest on the board of directors. This year, members in districts 2, 5 and 9 will be able to vote.

You have the option of voting by mail, voting online, or voting in person at the annual meeting.

VOTE BY MAIL

Each member in Director Districts 2, 5 and 9 will receive a mail ballot for the director(s) up for election in that district. The ballot will contain the name of the candidates nominated at the District Committee meeting or by petition and well as candidate biographies. Simply complete the ballot using the instructions listed and return as directed in the postage-paid envelope provided with your ballot. **Please do not bring ballots to the office or return with your bill payment.** Ballots must be received by our voting firm by March 24, 2022.

ONLINE VOTING

If you have an e-mail on file with Riverland, you will receive an email with a link that directs you to the login page of the official 2022 Riverland Energy Cooperative Ballot. You can also login to your SmartHub account and click "VOTE NOW" to vote. Internet votes will be accepted until March 24, 2022. Details will be on the ballot.

Elections can also be done in person at the meeting. **You can not vote more than once. The first vote received will be the one that counts.**



Director Districts:

District 2: Buffalo City, Towns of Alma, Belvidere and Nelson, and a portion of the City of Alma.

District 5: Towns of Arcadia, Preston, and Ettrick in Trempealeau County; and the Towns of Springfield, Franklin, and portions of Town of North Bend in Jackson County.

District 9: Onalaska area including portions Town of Holland, Hamilton and Campbell.

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS



Members can help family, friends, neighbors, or even strangers stay current on their electric bill. If you would like to help a member by paying \$50, \$100, \$200 or any amount desired towards their electric bill, please send a check with the member's name, address and phone number.

Contact our billing department at 800-411-9115 for more details.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Need help with heating costs?
Contact your local agency:

Trempealeau County:

Trempealeau Co. Social Services:
715-538-2311

Western Wisconsin E.O.C.:
715-985-2391

Buffalo County:

Buffalo County Human Services:
608-685-4412

La Crosse County:

La Crosse Co. Human Services:
608-784-4357

Salvation Army: 608-782-6126

CouleeCap: 608-782-4877

Enter our photo contest for a chance to win a \$25 electric bill credit



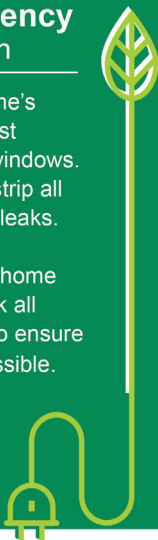
Submit a photo of **“Best of Winter”** for this month's photo contest before February 25. The photo that has the most votes will win a \$25 electric bill credit! Each member who submits a photo will be put into a drawing at the end of the contest for a chance to win a \$250 electric bill credit. Go to our Facebook page or website to submit a photo and vote.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

About 30% of a home's heating energy is lost through inefficient windows. Caulk and weatherstrip all windows to seal air leaks.

When running your home heating system, lock all operable windows to ensure the tightest seal possible.

Source: Dept. of Energy



2022 RESIDENTIAL REBATES

For qualifications, forms, and a complete list of our rebates please visit our web site at www.riverlandenergy.com.



ENERGY STAR Appliances & Recycling Rebates

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|--------------------------------------|------|
| Clothes Washer (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Clothes Dryer (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Dishwasher (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Dehumidifier (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Refrigerator (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Freezer (Must be ENERGY STAR) | \$25 |
| Inductive Range | \$25 |
| Heat pump clothes dryer | \$50 |
| Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling | \$25 |
| Room A/C Unit Recycling | \$25 |

Electric Water Heater Rebates

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|---|-------|
| 75-99 gallons (Uniform Energy Factor .90 or greater) | \$150 |
| Over 100 gallons (Uniform Energy Factor .85 or greater) | \$300 |
| Heat pump water heater (integrated) | \$300 |
| Solar storage w/electric auxiliary tank 75-99 gal. | \$150 |
| Solar storage w/electric auxiliary tank 100+ gal. | \$300 |

Lighting Rebates

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| Light Emitting Diode (LED) lamp | \$.50/lamp |
| Occupancy Sensor | \$5 each |
| LED Fixture | \$.50/800 lumens |

HVAC Rebates

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| Heat Pump- Air Source & MiniSplit | \$300/ton |
| Heat Pump- Geothermal | \$500/ton |
| New furnace w/efficient ECM Blower Motor | \$35/each |

Energy Audits

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|-------------------|-------------|
| Home energy audit | \$150 |
| Implementation | up to \$500 |

EV Charger Rebates

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| Electric Vehicle Charging Station | \$400 |
| Smart Electric Vehicle Charging Station with Integrated Metering | \$800 |



RIVERLAND
Energy Cooperative

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Headquarters:
N28988 State Rd 93
P.O. Box 277
Arcadia, WI 54612

Branch Office:
1800 Granary St.
Holmen, WI 54636

Office Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone:
800-411-9115
608-323-3381

Outages & Emergencies
Call 800-927-6206,
24 hours a day

www.riverlandenergy.com