



# PRIORITIZING ELECTRICAL SAFETY EVERY DAY

By Tim Holtan, CEO



**Riverland Energy Cooperative**  
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

At Riverland Energy Cooperative (REC), we proudly observe Electrical Safety Month each May. However, we recognize that practicing electrical safety is a responsibility we all share, not just once a year, but every single day. From our dedicated co-op crews to the valued members we serve, everyone plays a role in maintaining safety around electricity.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International reports that thousands of individuals in the U.S. suffer critical injuries or fatalities each year due to electrical fires and accidents in their homes. Many of these incidents are entirely preventable. Electricity is an essential part of modern life, powering our homes and devices. Yet, as an organization that works with electricity 365 days a year, we know how dangerous it can be when not handled with care.

Safety is more than a buzzword—it is a core value and responsibility I take seriously as CEO. At Riverland Energy Cooperative, this commitment begins with our employees. We conduct monthly safety training sessions that incorporate guest speakers, hands-on field exercises, and classroom-style instruction, ensuring a comprehensive approach to safety education.

Equally important is our dedication to the safety of our members and community. We actively provide electrical safety education through demonstrations at community events and schools, teaching students about the dangers of pad-mounted transformers and the risks of overloading



circuits. Additionally, our monthly publications, *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* and *Outlets*, feature written articles that emphasize electrical safety practices and offer guidance on handling emergency scenarios—such as accidents involving utility poles and downed power lines.

We encourage parents to educate children about the importance of playing safely near electrical equipment, such as overhead power lines, and to be mindful of their surroundings when outdoors.

At REC, our mission is to provide safe, reliable, innovative, and affordable energy and related services. We do this by ensuring the safety of our community by fostering awareness and encouraging safe practices when it comes to electricity. Together, let us prioritize electrical safety—for today and every day.

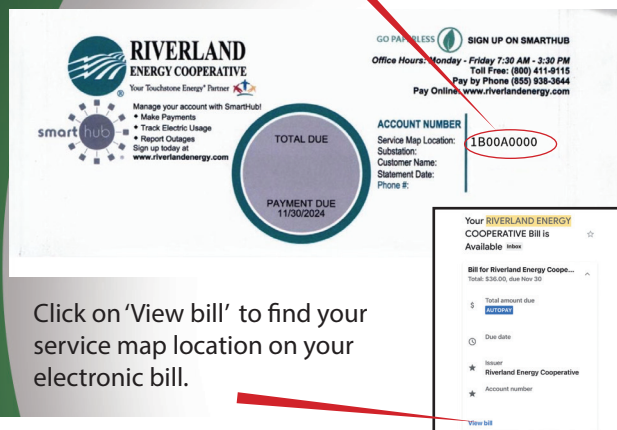
## SPOT YOUR SERVICE LOCATION NUMBER

### WIN A \$25 BILL CREDIT!

To reward our *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* Magazine readers, we are going to randomly select two service map location numbers to be hidden within the newsletter. The hidden service map location numbers are displayed in this format (Ex. 1B00A0000).

If you spot your service map location number, contact the cooperative by the 20th of the current month to claim your \$25 bill credit.

Your service map location number can be found here on your paper bill:



# Riverland Energy Cooperative Appliance and Electronics Recycle Drive



## Tuesday, June 10

Arcadia REC  
N28988 State Rd 93  
7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, June 11

Alma REC  
1225 S. Main St  
7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## Thursday, June 12

Holmen REC  
1800 Granary St.  
7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### ACCEPTED ITEMS - FREE

Cable Boxes (FREE)  
Cables & Cords (FREE)  
Cameras & Camcorders (FREE)  
Cassette Tapes (FREE)  
Cell Phones/PDAs & Chargers (FREE)  
Clocks (FREE)  
Coffee Makers (FREE)  
Copiers & Printers (FREE)  
Desktop Computer Towers (FREE)  
Docking Stations (FREE)  
DVD/VHS/Blu-Ray Players (FREE)  
DVD Disks & VHS Tapes (FREE)  
External Drives (All types) (FREE)  
Fans (FREE)  
Fax Machines (FREE)  
Hair Dryers (FREE)  
Holiday Lights (FREE)  
Laptops (FREE)  
Landline Phones (FREE)  
MP3 & iPod Players (FREE)  
Projectors (FREE)  
Radios (FREE)  
Satellite Dishes & Receivers (FREE)  
Scanners (FREE)  
Servers (FREE)  
Stereos & Speakers (FREE)  
Toasters (FREE)  
UPS & Jump Starters (FREE)  
Vacuum Cleaners (FREE)  
Video Game Consoles & Controllers (FREE)

### ACCEPTED ITEMS - FOR A FEE

Refrigerators(limit 2 per member).....\*FREE (Non-member pays \$20)  
Freezers (limit 2 per member).....\*FREE (Non-member pays\$20)  
AirConditioners(limit 2 per member)..\*FREE (Non-member pays\$20)  
*\* Bring a copy of your electric bill to qualify.*

TVs (All types) (limit 3 per member).....\$15  
Monitors.....\$5  
Microwaves.....\$5  
Humidifiers.....\$5  
Washers.....\$5  
Dryers.....\$5  
Dishwashers.....\$5  
Stoves.....\$5  
Furnaces.....\$5  
Dehumidifiers.....\$10

### ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

Batteries  
Ballasts  
Bulbs/Lamps  
Capacitors  
Gas Cylinders  
Ink & Toner Cartridges  
Liquids  
Medical & Radioactive Waste  
Medical & Lab Equipment  
Vape Pens  
Smoke Detectors  
Treadmills/Exercise Equipment



Recycling by:



Onalaska, WI  
[www.thinkdynamic.com](http://www.thinkdynamic.com)



# RIVERLAND ENERGY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

More than 320 members and guests attended Riverland Energy's Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 22, at Arcadia High School. Registration was open and a free pancake breakfast was served from 8 to 10 a.m.

During the business meeting, Dairyland Power Cooperative EVP & Chief Operating Officer Ben Porath gave a presentation on sustainability, reliability, and their generation mix of resources including coal, natural gas, wind, solar, and other renewables. He also talked about the grants DPC received in 2024 including the New Empowering Rural America (New ERA) Grant, Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Grant, and the US Dept of Energy (DOE) Grant. Some additional "hot topics" Porath discussed were decarbonization and power plant retirements, data centers, electrical usage growth, and MISO transmission projects coming including the Wilmarth – North Rochester -Tremval project that will bring power across the Mississippi River.

CEO Tim Holtan provided the operations and financial report, as well as an overview of the cooperative's member services and community programs in 2024. This included recognizing two linemen, Royce Kosik & Brian Glass, who traveled to South Carolina to help restore power following Hurricane Helene. He also recognized two additional linemen, Nick Koval & Hayden Gran,



who participated in the Light Up Navajo! Project, bringing power to those in the US who have never had power. CEO Holtan also informed the members of the new Alma outpost, discussed the storms we experienced in 2024, and as part of his financial overview, reported that no rate increase is projected in 2025.

Board President Bea Zingsheim recognized David Paudler for 16 years of service on the board. (6G08A0003)

Voting members sent one new director to the board. Term limits required David Paudler to step down after serving four consecutive terms. Incumbent Cletus Foegen won the contested election in District 3 over Patrick Duffy of Fountain City, and David Ernst of Fountain City. Incumbent Director Dennis Frame of Osseo won a new term, running unopposed, and Susan Paudler of Onalaska, also running unopposed, was elected to fill the seat vacated by Paudler.

Reorganization immediately after the annual meeting saw Bea Zingsheim re-elected as president, Dan Filla re-elected as vice president, and Dennis Frame re-elected as the secretary/treasurer and the Riverland Energy representative on the Dairyland Power board of directors.

Thirty high school seniors whose families are served by Riverland Energy Cooperative were awarded scholarships of \$1,000 each and one \$5,000 scholarship in a random drawing during the meeting. The funds for these scholarships come from the Federated Youth Foundation which is funded from unclaimed capital credits.

The meeting concluded with door prize drawings for those present including electric bill credits, a TV, and kids door prizes including scooters with a gift card for helmets, a hover board and gift cards.



# YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**UW–Stout | July 15-17 2025**

The annual Youth Leadership Conference is a dynamic three-day event for high school students across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses. This year's conference will take place July 15–17 at UW–Stout!



## Who Should Apply?

- High school sophomores going into their junior year, whose parent/guardian is a member of Riverland Energy.
- Plans to apply to be a part of Riverland's Youth Ambassador Program in 2025-2026.
- Students who are active in their school and community.
- Students who are interested in learning more about the cooperative business model.

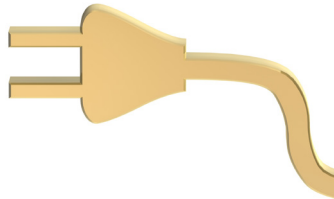
## What does it cost?

- All registration costs are covered by the generous support from Riverland Energy Cooperative.

If students are interested in attending, please reach out to Jordan at [jlien@riverlandenergy.com](mailto:jlien@riverlandenergy.com) or 608-323-3381 by **Friday, June 20!**

## MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Electricity powers homes and businesses, but safety is crucial. During Electrical Safety Month, Riverland Energy Cooperative shares tips to avoid hazards.



**On the Road:** Stay in your car if you see a downed power line, and call 9-1-1 to report it. Never drive over power lines, and exit only if your vehicle is on fire—jump clear and hop away with both feet together. (9H32C0266)

**Outdoors:** Keep at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines, and call 8-1-1 before digging to avoid buried lines. Ensure outdoor outlets are ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected. During storms, seek shelter indoors and avoid water or metal items that conduct electricity.

**Indoors:** Watch for electrical hazards like dimming lights or warm switch plates, and have a qualified electrician inspect issues. Avoid frayed cords, and unplug electronics during storms to prevent damage from power surges.

## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

**Our summer office schedule will begin on May 1.**

The office doors will be open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday—Thursday and Friday 7 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

## LOAD MANAGEMENT CONTROLLER MAINTENANCE

Our meter technicians will be throughout the service territory performing upgrades to load management controllers. The project began in April and will continue throughout the summer.


**Tim Holtan, CEO**

608-323-3381 • 1-800-411-9115 • [www.riverlandenergy.com](http://www.riverlandenergy.com)

**Jordan Lien, Editor**



**Riverland Energy Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

### Arcadia Office

N28988 State Road 93,  
P.O. Box 277,  
Arcadia, WI 54612

### Holmen Office

1800 Granary St.  
Holmen, WI 54636

### Outages & Emergencies

Call 1-800-927-6206  
24 hours a day

### Office Hours

Arcadia: 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
Holmen: 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

### Officers of the Board of Directors:

Bea Zingsheim, Onalaska, President  
Dan Filla, Arcadia, Vice-President  
Dennis Frame, Osseo,  
Secretary/Treasurer