



Spare change for community needs.

COMMUNITY CARES GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 20

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

A Riverland Community Cares Board will review applications and distribute funds in March. The application deadline is February 20, 2021, and must be received by 4 p.m. on the due date.

Eligibility:

1. Non-profit groups and organizations that serve communities located within the Riverland Energy Cooperative service area.
2. Projects that fit into one or more of these categories: Community Service, Economic Development, and Education and Youth.


Restrictions:

1. Contributions will generally be made to only non-profit organizations with have been granted tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).
2. Contributions will generally not be made for lobbying, political, and religious organizations; Veteran, fraternal and labor organizations; fundraising dinners, and raffles.

Refer to the guidelines found on our website for more information on eligibility requirements. Grant applications can also be found on our website at riverlandenergy.com.



**Riverland Energy
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



**Jerry Sorenson,
General Manager**

ONLINE VOTING WILL BE AVAILABLE

For decades, Riverland Energy Cooperative members had to show up at the annual meeting to cast a vote in a board election. About one decade ago, members began to receive their annual ballot by mail and this year, online voting will be available to everyone.

We will be using Diamond Communications Solutions for the election management services. They employ third-party audits, use best in-class security practices, and have industry-leading encryption and authentication measures.

The 2021 election will be a “hybrid” election. 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 10–26, 2021.

Diamond will tabulate all the ballots, both paper and online. Members will be able to access the online voting portal through SmartHub. More detailed information will be found in the annual report and March publications. You can also watch our social media sites and website, riverlandenergy.com, for information.

We are hopeful that this will increase voter turnout, appeal to younger voters, and eliminate complaints from busy members who have long desired another voting option.

In the long run, we hope to lower costs in a few years if we feel like paper ballots can be eliminated or at least reduced to individual “as needed” requests.

This year, members will be voting to fill four seats opening on the Riverland Energy Board of Directors. District 2 will be for one year; districts 3, 4, and 8 will be elected for four-year terms. District 2 was vacant due to a resignation in 2020 and a new director was appointed by the board.

I encourage everyone to take the time to review the candidate information in the annual report implemented in the March *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* magazine. After that, please vote. In the 84-year history of this cooperative, it has never been easier to cast your vote and make your voice heard.

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ELECTIONS TO BE HELD FOR FOUR BOARD DISTRICTS



The District Committee of the Cooperative will meet this month to nominate candidates for the Riverland Energy Cooperative Board of Directors election at the Annual Meeting on March 27. One director will be elected from District 3, District 4, and District 8 for four-year terms, and District 2 for one-year term. District 2 was vacant due to a resignation in 2020 and a new director was appointed by the board.

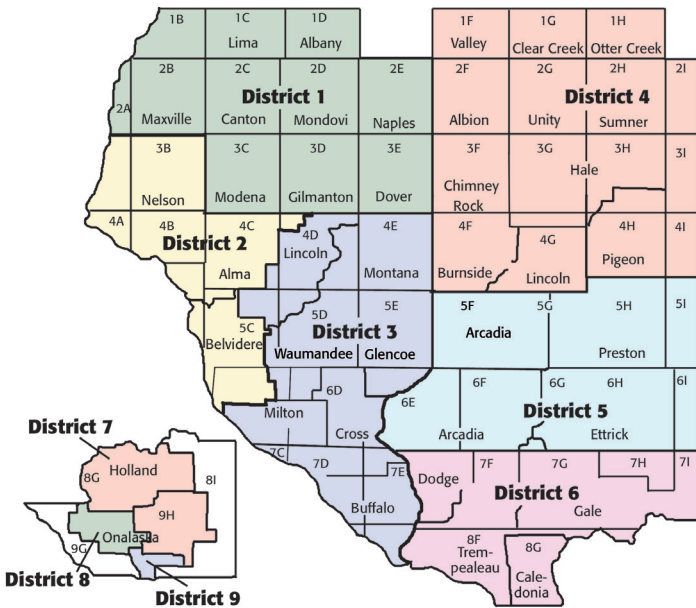
District 2 represents Buffalo City, Towns of Alma, Belvidere and Nelson, and a portion of the City of Alma. District 3 represents Towns of Cross, Buffalo, Milton, Waumandee, Lincoln, Montana and Glencoe, and a portion of Fountain City. District 4 represents Towns of Albion, Union, Sumner, Chimney Rock, Hale, Burnside, Lincoln and Pigeon in Trempealeau County; Towns of Pleasant Valley, Clear Creek, Otter Creek in Eau Claire County; and the Towns of Garfield, Northfield, Franklin, and Curran in Jackson County. District 8 represents the Town of Onalaska, and portions of Towns of Holland and Hamilton.

Director qualifications and expectations outlined in the cooperative's policy are summarized here:

- Must be a bona-fide resident of the director district and eligible to vote at the membership meeting.
- Must be willing to abide by and uphold all Articles, By-laws, and Policies of the cooperative to the best of your ability.
- Must be bondable.
- Cannot be employed or have financial interest in a competing enterprise.
- Must agree to disclose any potential conflicts of interest and abstain from voting on any issue, which may be construed as a conflict of interest.
- Cannot gain substantial revenue from the sale of goods or services to the cooperative.
- Must disclose if closely related to an employee of the cooperative.
- Must sign an application for serving on the board of directors.

In order to direct and discharge his/her performance of duties and obligations of the Board of Directors, candidates for the board of directors must understand and make every effort to comply with the following:

- Must agree to cooperate with other directors and support majority decisions.
- Must hold all information gained in the performance of duties in strict confidence.
- Must be willing to make a reasonable effort to attend director training and educational sessions.
- Must agree to prepare for, attend, and participate in regular and special board meetings.
- Must agree to be responsible for helping to set policy, but not be involved with day-to-day operations of the cooperative.
- Must be dedicated to the well-being of the Cooperative, and the "Seven Cooperative Principles".
- Must have high moral standards and a clear concept of director's responsibilities and ethics.



2021 ANNUAL MEETING

Riverland Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 27, at the Arcadia High School Pancake Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. Business Meeting – 10:15 a.m.**

There will be door prize drawings and director elections. There will be no scholarship drawings this year.

****Please note that this meeting is subject to change due to the current health situation.****

feeling chilled?

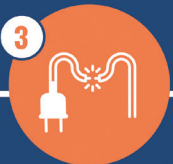
HEAT YOUR SPACE SAFELY



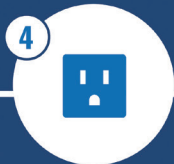
Place on a flat, level surface



Keep flammable items at least 3 feet away



Make sure the cord is not frayed or cracked



Plug it directly into an outlet



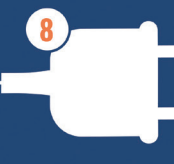
Do not use an extension cord or power strip, which can overheat



Follow all instructions and use models endorsed by a reputable testing lab



Do not use around small children or pets



Do not use one with a damaged plug or prongs



2021 Efficiency Rebates

ENERGY STAR Appliances & Recycling Rebates

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| 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

| | |
|---|-------|
| 75-99 gallons (Uniform Energy Factor .88 or greater) | \$150 |
| Over 100 gallons (Uniform Energy Factor .88 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 |
| Commercial Water Heater 75-99 gallons | \$150 |
| Commercial Water Heater 100+ gallons | \$300 |

Lighting Rebates

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

HVAC

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Heat Pump - Air Source & MiniSplit | \$250/ton |
| Heat Pump - Geothermal | \$500/ton |
| Heat Pump - Commercial Air Source & PTHPs | \$250/ton |
| New furnace w/efficient ECM Blower Motor | \$35/unit |

Miscellaneous

| | |
|--|-------|
| Flow restrictor – faucet (1.5 GPM or less) | \$1 |
| Flow restrictor – shower (2.5 GPM or less) | \$5 |
| Electric vehicle charging station | \$400 |
| Smart Power Strip/Bar | \$5 |

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



2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE



Applications Due March 1

Traditional and At-Large Scholarships

Riverland Energy will award 30 \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors whose parent or guardian resides in Riverland Energy service territory. Two eligible graduating seniors from each of the following schools will be selected: Alma, C-FC, G-E-T, Independence, Osseo-Fairchild, Arcadia, Durand, Gilmanton, Mondovi, Whitehall, Blair-Taylor, Eleva-Strum, Holmen and Onalaska. In addition, two at-large scholarships will be awarded to an eligible senior who lives in our service territory, but doesn't attend any of the schools listed above.

Line Worker Scholarships

Two \$1,000 Line Worker Scholarships will be awarded to individuals pursuing a post-secondary education in an electrical line worker program. The applicant must be a senior in high school. The recipient will be chosen in a random drawing at the cooperative's annual meeting in conjunction with the general scholarships. The applicant can apply for both the general scholarship and the line worker scholarship, but will only be eligible to receive one.

The recipients will be chosen in a random drawing LIVE on Facebook on Friday, March 5, 2021 at 12 p.m. You do not need to be viewing to win.

Non-traditional Scholarships

Riverland Energy will award up to three \$750 scholarships to an adult student who is either headed to college for the first time, returning to complete an interrupted education, or looking to return to college to improve his or her career opportunities. The recipients will be chosen in a random drawing at the Riverland Energy Board of Director's Meeting from all completed and verified applications.

Deadline for all scholarship applications is March 1, 2021. Applications can be found on our website at riverlandenergy.com or through your high school guidance counselor.


Jerry Sorenson, General Manager

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Beth Alesch, Editor



**Riverland Energy
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

District 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.–4:00 p.m.
Holmen: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Officers of the Board of Directors:

David Paudler, Onalaska, President
Dan Filla, Arcadia, Vice-President
Dennis Frame, Osseo, Secretary/Treasurer