



NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES: A LOOK INTO RIVERLAND'S PLAN FOR 2025

By Tim Holtan, CEO



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

As we enter 2025, Riverland Energy remains steadfast in our commitment to providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to our members. With the rising demand for electricity, it is imperative that we continue to update and enhance our current system.

We encourage our members to help manage this increased demand by monitoring their usage. If we can lower the demand on the system, we can all benefit by helping to hold down rates. For instance, avoid running your washing machine and dishwasher simultaneously, or shift the use of these larger appliances to off-peak hours between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. You can also track your usage through SmartHub, which provides daily and monthly insights into your highest usage periods. This not only helps manage overall demand but can also reduce your demand charge. (4C32A0003)

In 2025, we will advance our efforts to fortify our system by continuing projects outlined in our four-year work plan. Key projects include:

- Construction and completion of the Simonson Substation east of Ettrick. This substation is a 2.5 MVA substation and will be constructed by our crews. This substation will enhance voltage support for the Hegg and New Amsterdam substations.
- Construction of three new tie-lines: Simonson Substation to Frenchville Substation is a 3 ½ mile long project that is going to be an underbuild on the current Dairyland Power Cooperative transmission lines. The Simonson Substation to Hegg Substation is a one-mile

project to tie into an existing line, and the Simonson Substation to Frenchville Substation is also a one-mile project to tie into an existing line.

- Four-mile reconstruction of a line off the Elk Creek Substation to provide additional voltage support. This line runs from Highway 121 through some existing right of ways to County Road X.
- Addition of new voltage regulators between the Glencoe Substation and Cochrane Substation.

In addition to these construction projects, we anticipate continued growth in new services, having added approximately 350 in 2024. In 2025, we will also perform right-of-way clearing maintenance on the Centerville, Krause, Sand Lake/Cedar Creek, Pleasantville, Gilmanton, and Tamarack substations. Karcz Utility Services will inspect our underground system again in 2025.

Karcz will inspect all transformers and boxes on four substations, including painting, as necessary. The substations scheduled are Arcadia, Fly Creek, Krause, and Lookout. Our linemen will be completing pole change-outs throughout the system to further strengthen our infrastructure. Karcz Utility Services will also inspect and treat our poles in 2025. The substations we will be testing are Centerville and Glencoe.

If you have any questions about any of the projects listed or wonder if they are going to be in your area, please call the office. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we work together to meet the growing energy needs of our communities.

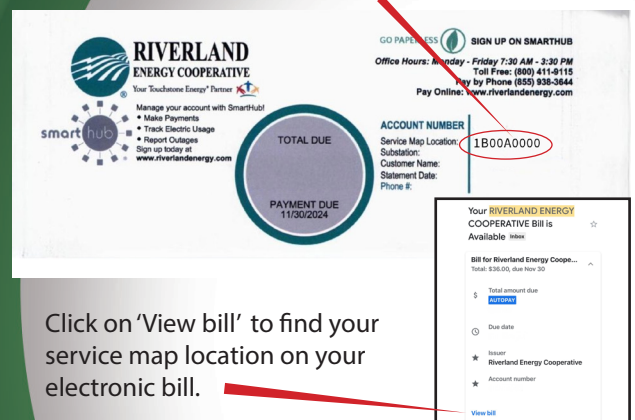
SPOT YOUR SERVICE LOCATION NUMBER

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A \$25 BILL CREDIT!

To reward our *Wisconsin Electric 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:





LEADING THE WAY: YOUTH AMBASSADORS BEGIN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

L-R: Herold Choncoa, Kaden Garson, Harlow Foss, Addison Herman, Noelle Walters, Kiara Plaza Collado, Tori Creighton, Trenton Krzoska, and Reese Soderberg.

Riverland Energy’s Youth Ambassador Program began on October 30, 2024, at the Riverland Energy office in Arcadia. There are sixteen students participating from eight different schools within our service territory. These high school juniors learned about the cooperative business model, formed their own co-op, and learned about electrical safety by playing a game of co-op Jeopardy. At their November meeting, we took a shopping trip to purchase clothing and gifts for the Salvation Army of the La Crosse Area’s Angel Giving Tree. Living out one of the seven cooperative principles they learned about in the first meeting: Concern for Community.

Looking ahead to the rest of the year, the students will experience a tour of Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations and the JPM Power Plant in Alma, lineman safety demonstrations, and much more! These students also have the chance to attend the Youth Leadership Conference, joining others to learn about co-ops and continuing to build on their leadership skills.

The 2024-2025 Youth Ambassadors are: Addison Herman, Ariel Hanson, Braidy Killian, Carson Hass, Harlow Foss, Harold Choncoa, Jayla Johnston, Kaden Garson, Kiara Plaza Collado, Kylynn Kennedy, Madysen Turner, Reece Soderberg, Rylee Cooke, Tori Creighton, and Trenton Krzoska.





ROUNDING UP FOR COMMUNITY CARES

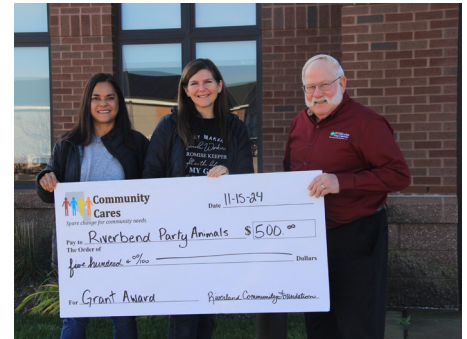
SEEKING GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Riverland Energy Community Cares Foundation is seeking applications for the next round of our grant recipients. Riverland Community Cares enables REC members to unite and make a positive impact in our communities. By rounding up the extra change from the monthly bills of participating members, we channel these funds to local charitable organizations. Though the contributions are small (ranging from \$0.01 to \$0.99), they collectively make a significant difference for those organizations in need within our communities. Applications for the grant should be used for local projects or programs that our members and local communities utilize. (6C02A0004)

Eligibility:

1. Non-profit groups and organizations that serve communities located within the Riverland Energy service area.
2. Projects should fit in one or more of these categories: Community Service, Economic Development, Education and Youth Development, Environment, and/or Disaster Relief.
3. Community Cares funds may not be used for political purposes or to pay electric bills.

To apply, fill out the application form found on our website at riverlandenergy.com. Applications are due **Thursday, February 13, 2025**.



Riverbend Party Animals, a day camp for youth located in North Bend received a grant award in Fall of 2024.



Community Cares

Spare change for community needs.

2025 REBATE PROGRAM

Riverland Energy annually publishes a list of energy-efficient items eligible for a rebate. Eligibility criteria for each category are listed on the forms.

To receive a rebate, members must:

1. Purchase a qualifying item.
2. Fill out the rebate form.
3. Return the form and documentation to the cooperative within three months of purchase or installation (as clarified on the form).

Equipment must be installed within the cooperative's service territory and, in most cases, must be ENERGY STAR® rated. Rebate forms are available at our offices or online at riverlandenergy.com.

ENERGY STAR Appliances & Recycling Rebates

All-in-One Washer/Dryer Combo (Must be ENERGY STAR).....	\$50
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
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
Commercial Water Heater 75-99 gallons.....	\$150
Commercial Water Heater 100+ gallons.....	\$300

Lighting Rebates

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

HVAC

Heat Pump – Air Source & Mini Split.....	\$200/ton
Heat Pump – Geothermal.....	\$400/ton
Heat Pump – Commercial Air Source & PTHPs.....	\$200/ton
New Furnace w/Efficient ECM Blower Motor.....	\$35/each

Electric Vehicle

Electric Vehicle Charging Station.....	\$400
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For qualifications, forms, and a complete list of our rebates, please visit our website at riverlandenergy.com.

HOW TO REPORT AN OUTAGE AND RECEIVE NOTIFICATIONS BY TEXT MESSAGE

Riverland Energy Cooperative (REC) offers two distinct texting services: one for reporting outages and another for receiving notifications about outages and restorations. Here is how they differ:

Reporting an Outage by Text Message

1. **Purpose:** This service allows you to actively report a power outage at your location to REC.
2. **Texting an Outage:**
 - Open a new text message, type "Outage," and send it to 55050.
 - For multiple accounts, use keywords like "Outage Cabin" or "Outage All."
3. **Confirmation:** You will receive a text confirming your outage report and another once the outage is restored.

New Outage Notification Text Messages

1. **Purpose:** This service notifies you automatically about outages and restorations affecting your service location.
2. **Notification:** Once enrolled, you will receive a welcome message and subsequent notifications about outages and restorations.

Key Differences:

- **Interaction:** Reporting an outage requires you to send a text message to REC, while the notification service sends you automated updates.
- **Purpose:** The outage reporting service is for informing REC about a power outage, whereas the notification service keeps you updated about the status of your power.
- **Process:** Reporting involves sending a specific text to 55050, while enrolling in notifications involves opting in through your account settings.

By understanding these differences, you can effectively use both services to manage and stay informed about your power outages. To learn more about how to enroll in these services, visit our outage center on our website www.riverlandenergy.com.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Each year, Riverland Energy Cooperative awards thirty-two \$1,000 scholarships and one \$5,000 scholarship to area high school seniors. The students, or their parent or guardian, must attend the cooperative's annual meeting on Saturday, March 22, 2025, at Arcadia High School.

- Applicants must be graduating seniors whose parents or legal guardians are members of Riverland Energy Cooperative.
- Students attending public, private, parochial, or home school are eligible to apply.
- Scholarships are selected in a random drawing at our annual meeting on March 22.
- The student or their parent/guardian must be present at the annual meeting to qualify.
- The 2025 deadline to apply is Friday, March 14, 2025.

Applications can be found on our website or through your guidance counselor.




Tim Holtan, CEO

608-323-3381 • 1-800-411-9115 • 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:

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Dan Filla, Arcadia, Vice-President
Dennis Frame, Osseo,
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