



# Electric Line Newsletter

## ELECTRICITY BRINGS EVERY DAY VALUE

Even though I work in the energy industry, like most people, I still don't think much about the electricity I use. I expect the lights to turn on when I flip the switch and the coffeemaker to work each morning. Because electricity is so abundant, we don't think much about it. Since many of us have been spending more time at home over the past few months, we have likely been using more energy. And yet, we still expect an endless supply of power with uninterrupted service 24/7. The only time we really think about electricity is when the power goes out or perhaps when the monthly bill arrives.

Given how electricity powers our modern lifestyle every day, it's a great value, especially when compared to other common services and expenses. For example, think back to the cost of a gallon of gasoline 20 years ago. Consider the cost of groceries or a cup of your favorite specialty coffee from a few years back. In comparison, the cost of electricity has remained largely flat, unlike most other consumer goods.

Like many of you, I have a cell phone to stay connected, and I subscribe to cable channels so I can enjoy more viewing options. Many of us consider these necessities for modern day life. We can see what we're getting for our money, and we pay the price for those services. In contrast, when we use electricity, we don't necessarily "see" all that we're getting for our money.

But considering what electricity does for us, it's a tremendous value for our quality of life as well as our budgets. For comparison, consider that the average rent increase was nearly 4% (from 2014-2019) according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index (CPI). The cost of medical care increased 3% during this time, and education was not too far behind at 2.6%. So, where did electricity rank? According to the CPI, electricity increased by less than half a percentage point, 0.4%.

The bottom line: electricity brings everyday value. We are striving to increase our service reliability, reduce brief interruptions and reduce costs. We are continually working to improve our operations to ensure a smarter grid and exploring more renewable energy options where possible.

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative provides the reliable service you expect and deserve as valued members of the co-op. And as your trusted energy advisor, we want to help you save energy and money.

CWEC is *your* electric co-op and our sole purpose is to serve you and the needs of our community.

### Contact Us:

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Office Hours: Monday thru  
Friday; 7:30 a.m.—4 p.m.

### Important Dates:

August: Wellness Month

August: Family Fun Month

August 4: Electric Bill Due

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## VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AUGUST 13

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will be hosting a virtual annual meeting on Thursday, Aug. 13, 2020, at 6 p.m.

When the original annual meeting that was scheduled for April 21 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was hoped that it could be rescheduled for a future date and still be held in-person. Due to the continued impact of COVID-19, the CWEC Board of Directors opted to pursue hosting a virtual meeting for the safety of our members and employees.

You should have received a piece of mail from CWEC, which contained information about the virtual annual meeting, including how to register for the meeting and how to log in. That information is also listed below.

The annual meeting is open to CWEC members only. Members can now register online at [www.cwecoop.com/annual-meeting-2020](http://www.cwecoop.com/annual-meeting-2020) to receive their invitation to the meeting. Your billing account number is required when you register.

Once you register, the following will happen:

You will receive an email with a link to the meeting on August 13, 2020.

You will use the link emailed to you to log into the meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 13. We recommend logging in a few minutes before 6 p.m. so that you don't miss the opening remarks.

Find all the meeting reports in the August 2020 Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News or on our website at [www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com).

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Three CWEC Board of Directors elections were scheduled to take place when the original annual meeting was scheduled in April. Because we were unable to host that meeting, the current directors have continued to fill those roles until the annual meeting could be rescheduled and held. The results for the three elections will take place at the virtual annual meeting on August 13.

Election ballots were mailed with the same mailing that contained the information card about the virtual annual meeting. All ballots must be delivered to CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in Marshfield by the close of business on Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

### DOOR PRIZES

As in years past, members who attend the annual meeting will receive a bill credit toward their electric bill. To receive a \$10 bill credit, members must attend the virtual annual meeting by logging into the meeting via a computer, iPad, or iPhone.

Even though the annual meeting will be a virtual meeting, members who attend virtually will have an opportunity to win door prizes. One \$100 bill credit will be given away, as well as three \$50 bill credits, and 10 \$25 bill credits. To be eligible to win a door prize, members must be logged into the virtual meeting for the entire meeting. Members who win door prizes will be notified by CWEC. A list of door prize winners will be published in the next available issue of Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News after the meeting.