# **Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative** Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative JÚLY 2015

## **Special** points of interest:

- CWEC Office Closed - Monday, September 7-Labor Day
- Facebook-become a friend of CWEC on Facebook - Central Wisconsin Electric

Cooperative

- Follow CWEC on Twitter http:// twitter.com/ cwecoop
- E-Billing CWEC has an on-line payment option. To access this exciting option go to our website at www. cwecoop.com and click on the Billing & Rate Information tab and look at the Online Payment & Billing Information.
- MainStreet Messenger **First Alert Systems for** more details call 715-677-2211 or 1-800-377-2932
- Visit us at www.cwecoop.com



## **Summer Safety Tips**

\hen the weather gets hot, we head outdoors for sun and fun. Keep in mind some tips from the Electrical Safety Foundation International to make sure everyone has a safe summer.

#### Water and electricity don't mix

Summer is the season for swimming and boating, and awareness of electrical hazards around water can prevent deaths and injuries. Water and electricity don't mix.

- Use covers on outdoor power outlets, especially near swimming pools. Keep cords and electrical devices away from the water, and never handle electrical items before you've dried off.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help prevent electrocutions and electrical shock injuries. These devices interrupt the flow of power when they sense a surge. Portable GFCIs require no tools to install and are available at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30.

#### **Lightning and storms**

Lightning strikes are fatal in 10 percent of victims, and 70 percent suffer serious long-term effects, according to the National Weather Service. Because lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles, blue skies are not a sign of safety. If you hear thunder, take cover.

- If weather conditions indicate a storm, stay inside—away from doors and windows or seek shelter in a low-lying area away from trees and any metal, including sheds, clotheslines, poles, and fences. If you're near water, stay as far away as possible.
- If you're in a group, spread out-don't stand close together.
- Indoors, unplug electronics before the storm arrives, and don't use corded phones.
- Avoid plumbing—sinks, bathtubs, faucets.
- Don't forget about your pets. Doghouses are not safe from lightning, and chained animals are easy targets.
- If your home is flooded during a storm, don't turn on appliances or electronics until given the okay by an electrician. If there's laying water, don't go inside. The water could be energized.

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International

#### **CWEC PLANS OUTAGE IN TIGERTON**

entral Wisconsin Electric Co-op will be doing an upgrade to the Tigerton Substation on Saturday, July 25th that will require them to shut off power for those in the Tigerton area for approximately 30 minutes beginning at 5:00 AM. "The Tigerton Substation upgrade is part of our ongoing effort to provide our members with the most reliable electric service possible" said Mark Forseth CWEC Vice President of Member Relations. "We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause any of our members."

#### Mark Your Calendar.... **Labor Day** Celebration

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2015, in recognition of Labor Day. Regular business will resume on Tuesday,

September 8. From everyone at CWEC, we wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend!





### **Meter Tampering Charge**

Members often have electrical work performed by an electrician or service professional. Upgrading your distribution panel or installing outdoor electrical equipment are all tasks that most members hire someone else to do.

If you do this, please make sure that no one, including you or your contractor cuts your meter seal and removes your meter. Because your electric cooperative is committed to providing you safe, reliable electricity, we have policies in place to discourage this practice. Regardless of what anyone tells you, you as the member are liable for the \$500 meter tampering fee that is assessed when meter seals are cut or missing.

Anytime that you are planning to have electrical work done, make sure your contractor knows that



cutting your meter seal is dangerous and will result in a fee to you. If you have questions about meter tampering, please contact us at 800-377-2932.

Be safe. Don't cut your meter seal.

# Electric Line

Electric Line is published quarterly by Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative. This publication is designed to provide information about the cooperative to our member-owners.

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If you have questions or comments please contact us at 1-800-377-2932.

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#### **Reconnect My Service**

Disconnecting service to a member for non-payment is a last resort. In fact, we do everything possible to avoid shutting off service to members. We send a delinquent notice to every member who has not paid by the due date and we attempt to contact each customer using an automated phone call system. We ask that you contact us before you are disconnected so that payment arrangements can be made. You may be eligible for low income assistance or a deferred payment agreement.

If you have been disconnected, you must pay all outstanding debt in full, plus applicable reconnection fees and any required deposit. Calls for reconnection of electric service due to non-payment must be received **before 4:00 pm** for same day reconnection service.

Remember, call us at 800-377-2932 to help you make the necessary arrangements so there is no disruption of service.

#### **All In A Days Work**



John Bestul and Gabe Pospyhalla, CWEC linemen, changed out an old pole that needed to be upgraded for the attachment of underground cable which will be used to return electricity generated from our new solar demonstration system to our primary distribution system.