

Electric Line Newsletter

AFFORDABLE ELECTRICITY POWER QUALITY OF LIFE

Most of us use electricity, either directly or indirectly, at almost all times. Because electricity is so abundant and available with the simple flip of a switch, it's easy to take it for granted.

According to the Energy Information Agency (EIA), the typical U.S. household now uses more air conditioning, appliances and consumer electronics than ever before. The average home also contains 10 or more internet-connected devices. Considering everything that is powered by electricity, it's no wonder we occasionally might wince at our monthly bill. But keep in mind, it's no longer just the "light bill."

Electricity powers quality of life

Electricity powers our quality of life. From the infrastructure of your home (appliances, water heater and HVAC system) to charging your smartphones, computers, TV and Wi-Fi router, your energy bill covers so much more than lighting.

Today, there is more demand for electricity than ever before. At home, in schools and business,

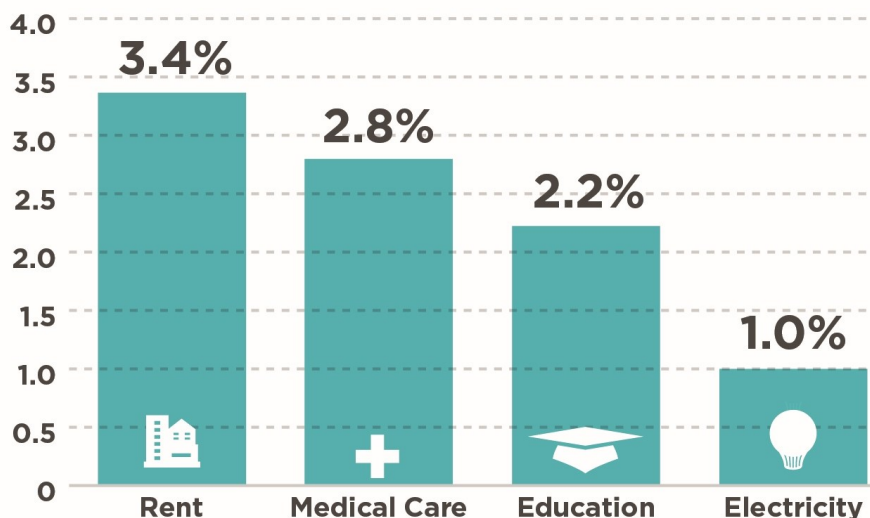
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ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common expenses. Looking at price increases over the last five years, it's easy to see electricity remains a good value!

Average Annual Price Increase 2015-2020

Percent



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Consumer Price Index

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and in commercial sectors such as transportation, the need for electricity is increasing.

Typically when demand goes up, so too does the price, as is the case with most goods or services, like cable or even your favorite specialty coffee. However, that's not true with electricity. Let's take a look at how the value of electricity compares to other common expenses.

Over the last five years, the cost of rent increased 3.4%; medical care increased 2.8%; and education increased 2.2%. But the cost of electricity only increased 1%. Considering all the ways we depend on electricity, it still remains a great value.

So, the next time you're enjoying your favorite podcast, TV series or movie, consider the value of electricity and how it enhances your quality of life.

We care about you, the members we serve, and understand that electricity is more than a commodity—it's a necessity. That's why Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will continue working hard to power your life, reliably and affordably.

POLE INSPECTIONS SET FOR AUGUST

To help ensure the integrity of the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's (CWEC) electric system, pole inspections are scheduled to begin the first week of August. Once started, it will take about 2-3 weeks to complete the inspections.

CWEC has contracted with RAM Utilities to perform the inspections. If a pole to be inspected is in the yard of a CWEC member, a representative from RAM Utilities will knock on the member's residence door, identify themselves, and state the reason for being there.

The inspections will take place in areas serviced by the Tigerton Substation Feeders #2, #4, and #6. This includes the townships of: Fairbanks, Wyoming, Dupont, Germania, Wittenberg, and Franzen.



**Proud to power our
community when
it matters most.**



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TYPES OF FUEL SOURCES

Electric co-ops and other utilities use a variety of fuel sources to generate the electricity that powers your home. Below are the main fuel sources used to generate power.

Renewable Energy Sources



Solar

Solar energy is generated by sunlight that is typically harvested through solar photovoltaic panels.



Wind

Wind energy is generated by large turbines that spin and convert wind power to electricity.



Hydro

Hydropower uses the force of flowing water to rotate turbines and generate electricity.



Geothermal

Geothermal energy is generated by using heat from within the earth.



Biomass

Biomass is renewable organic material (from plants and animals) that is burned to produce power.

Non-Renewable Energy Sources



Coal

Coal is a black or brown rock that is burned at a coal plant to generate power.



Natural Gas

Natural gas is extracted from the earth and burned to produce pressurized gas. The gas spins a turbine to generate electricity.



Nuclear

Nuclear energy uses the process of fission to generate heat that produces steam, which is used by a turbine generator to produce electricity.