

February 2025

### ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES: DO THEY REALLY SAVE YOU MONEY?

If you are in the market for a new appliance, you might wonder if buying an ENERGY STAR-certified version will make a difference in your energy bills.

The **short answer is yes**, when you compare its estimated energy costs to its less efficient counterpart.

In fact, there are really two costs to consider before buying an appliance: the cost itself and the projected monthly energy costs.



The energy-conscious appliances donning the square-shaped Energy Star logo use 10 to 15 percent less energy and water than standard models, according to **Energy.gov**. For example, Energy Star clothes washers use about 40 percent less energy than conventional clothes washers while also reducing water bills.

And the **longer answer is yes**, if you consider the appliance's lifespan.

READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE

### CWEC 87TH ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 10

Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School 400 W Grand Avenue Wittenberg, WI 54499



#### **ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Central Wisconsin Electric
Cooperative's Commitment to
Community Program is designed to
help households with their energy
costs, including electric bills. For
many Wisconsin households, energy
costs place a severe and continuing
stress on the family budget. To
better serve our members, CWEC is
part of the Wisconsin Home Energy
Plus (HE+) program. This program is
funded through public benefits and
federal dollars to help eligible low-



income households pay for home energy assistance and weatherization. Members may be eligible for energy assistance if they meet the HE+ program guidelines. Members should contact their local agency to determine eligibility.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE

### **HELP KEEP WISCONSIN ENERGY AFFORDABLE**

We are asking for the help of our members to encourage their state representatives to pass the Right of First Refusal legislation in the state legislature. Members can help by filling out the postcards inserted in the center of the February 2025 issue of Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News and mailing them

to their state



senator and state representative in Madison. Members can learn more about the Right of First Refusal legislation by reading Rob Richard's column on page 8 of that issue of the magazine, as well as the article titled "Billion Dollar Bill" that starts on page 10.

To find who your state senator and representative are, visit: <a href="https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/">https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/</a>

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

## DO NOT TAMPER WITH YOUR ELECTRIC METER

- Never break a meter seal.
- Never open a meter base.
- Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.



Contact Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative to have a meter seal cut or meter removed.

### **BALANCING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY & DEMAND**

Electricity is essential for nearly every aspect of daily life—so essential that we rarely think about how it's produced and delivered to our homes. You might be surprised to learn that behind the scenes, a network of

experts is working daily (and even by the minute) to anticipate how much electricity you need before you even use it.

We're all connected to the electric grid, so ensuring the right amount of electricity for all involves a complex process of forecasting energy demand, planning for capacity and securing enough supply to meet Americans' needs.



READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE

# TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Be cautious of fraudulent websites pretending to be an electric utility. Scammers often create look-alike sites to steal your personal or payment information. Always type your utility's official web address directly into your browser instead of clicking email or text links. Watch for signs of a secure website, such as "https://" in the address bar and a padlock icon. If you're ever unsure, call your utility company using the official phone number listed on your bill to verify payment or account details. Stay vigilant to protect yourself from utility fraud.



### **CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST WINNERS**

The following children were randomly chosen for the top prizes for the Christmas Coloring

contest hosted by Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative.

First Prize: Elsie Vanderkooy

Second Prize: Marcie

Gagas

**Third Prize:** Waylon Skierka







Stay connected by keeping your contact information up to date. Current contact information benefits you in multiple ways.

- ✓ Faster outage reporting and response
- Timely alerts about planned outages and other important updates
- ✓ Smoother customer service interactions
- Improved access to member benefits and programs

Ensure your phone number, email address and mailing address are up to date so you can enjoy the benefits of staying connected.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION



Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative | 10401 Lystul Road | Rosholt, WI 54473 US

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