



May 2026

MORE THAN 300 MEMBERS & GUESTS ATTEND CWEC ANNUAL MEETING

The 88th Annual Meeting for Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) was held April 9 at Rosholt High School in Rosholt. There were 309 attendees, with 224 of them registered members of the co-op. This was the highest attendance for a CWEC Annual Meeting since it was moved to a weeknight event in 2019.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Board Chairman Al Zander addressed attendees

about the co-op's storm restoration response to the two ice storms that hit the CWEC service territory the prior week. In addition to sharing information about what the restoration process entailed, Zander also addressed some of the comments that members posted on Facebook. One of those comments asked why the co-op doesn't bury all its power lines. Zander said it would cost \$41.2 million to bury its single-phase power lines, or approximately \$4,900 per meter.

For the safety message, Kevin Kurtzweil, vice president of Operations for CWEC, explained that it is important for members to hook up generators properly during an outage. If a generator is not hooked up properly, it can be a hazard to linemen working on restoring power.

Kurtzweil also provided an update on two future projects that would have an impact on the communities where they will be located, as well as help grow the load for the co-op. One



project is a 60-unit apartment complex in Wittenberg being constructed by Swiderski. The second project is the construction of the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council 36-bed treatment center for members of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe.

[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)

ICE STORMS KNOCK OUT POWER, CAUSE WIDESPREAD OUTAGES

While ice may be good for hockey and ice skating, it can wreak havoc on an electric grid if too much ice accumulates on branches and trees and power lines.

That was the case when two ice storms rolled through the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's (CWEC) service territory Thursday, April 2 and Saturday morning, April 4, leaving extensive damage and power outages. At one point, more than 6,000 meters, about 75% of

CWEC's roughly 8,400 meters, were out of power. CWEC, through the Restoration of Power in an Emergency program, requested help to restore power from other electric co-ops in Wisconsin.

"Cooperation Among Cooperatives" is one of the seven principles that all cooperatives follow. When CWEC needs help restoring power, a request is made to other cooperatives, who send available linemen crews to help. When other cooperatives need help, CWEC will also help them if CWEC has available linemen crews.

Initially, three additional crews of six linemen from other cooperatives traveled to CWEC to help with power restoration. More crews from other cooperatives arrived over the weekend. In total, CWEC received help from seven electric cooperatives and one utility company. This added 24 linemen to the power restoration effort.



[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)

2026 CWEC MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

"Life in Rural Wisconsin"

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative is holding its annual photo contest for members' photos to be featured in its 2027 calendar. Winning photos may be used in future newsletters or cooperative publications.

- Photos must be taken within the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative service area.
- Photos should capture life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.)
- Photos must have a horizontal (landscape) orientation.

- Photos can be in color or black and white.
- Contest will run until August 24, 2026; however, submitted photos can be taken during anytime of the year.



PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY OPTIONS

RESPECT ELECTRICITY'S POTENTIAL WRATH: MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

May is National Strawberry Month and National Barbecue Month. Yum! While both of those observances sound incredibly delicious and worth celebrating with our taste buds, there are also more serious observances this month, including **Electrical Safety Month**.

Electricity can be extremely dangerous but is often out of sight, out of mind.



“While you can see, smell, or hear some electrical hazards — outlets that are warm to the touch or lights that constantly flicker, for example — many others are invisible and undetectable,” said Erin Hollinshead, executive director of **Safe Electricity**. “Always respect electricity and the potential danger that comes with its distribution and use.”

There are precautions you can take both inside and outside your home when it comes to possible electrical dangers.

“When outside, always be aware of overhead power line locations and never come within 10 feet of a line — for example, while trimming trees or carrying a tall ladder or other far-reaching object,” she said. “Also, if you see a downed power line near your home or in your travels, always assume it is live (energized) and NEVER go near one.”

[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE SET FOR JULY

For high school students who will be a sophomore or junior in the fall, Youth Leadership Conference is designed specifically for you.

This three-day, all-expense paid program is jammed with fun, hands-on activities and seminars designed to help students identify and develop their leadership skills. It is planned by high school students and features nationally recognized speakers.



This year's event, scheduled for July 14-16, will once again be held at UW-Stout in Menomonie.

High school students who are interested in being a sponsored representative of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, please contact your high school guidance counselor or Bert Lehman at 715-677-2220 or by email at bert.lehman@cwecoop.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YLC

HELPING MEMBERS BE MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT

While our goal at Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) is to provide electricity to our members as efficiently and safely as possible, we also provide our members with options to help them reduce the cost of their monthly electric bill.



As your trusted energy partner, CWEC believes that savings and efficiency are within reach for everyone, and we want to help you get there. That's why CWEC offers two options for home energy audits – a basic home energy audit and a professional audit.

Before we get into the specifics about each type of audit, here are details of what an energy audit would provide for you. An audit is a holistic view of your home's efficiency. Understanding how your home uses energy can help determine the best ways to adjust energy consumption, improve problem areas and ultimately keep more money in your wallet. An energy audit can also identify potential safety issues surrounding

electrical wiring and HVAC systems, making your home safer. You could say this is a good kind of audit.

So how does it work?

[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)

We Will Never Forget

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday, May 25 for the Memorial Day holiday. Regular business will resume on Tuesday, May 26. From everyone here at CWEC, we wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday.



Bill Payment
Options

Energy
Conservation
Rewards

Small Business
Loans

Operation Round
Up Information

Thinking about
adding solar
energy?

Meter Tampering
Policy



**Central Wisconsin
Electric Cooperative**
10401 Lystul Road
Rosholt, WI 54473
715-677-2211

[Contact Us](#)

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!