



October 2023

## OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

October is National Co-op Month, and Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWECC) is joining cooperatives across the U.S. to celebrate. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, but they each have a common goal: to provide goods or services for the members of the co-op.

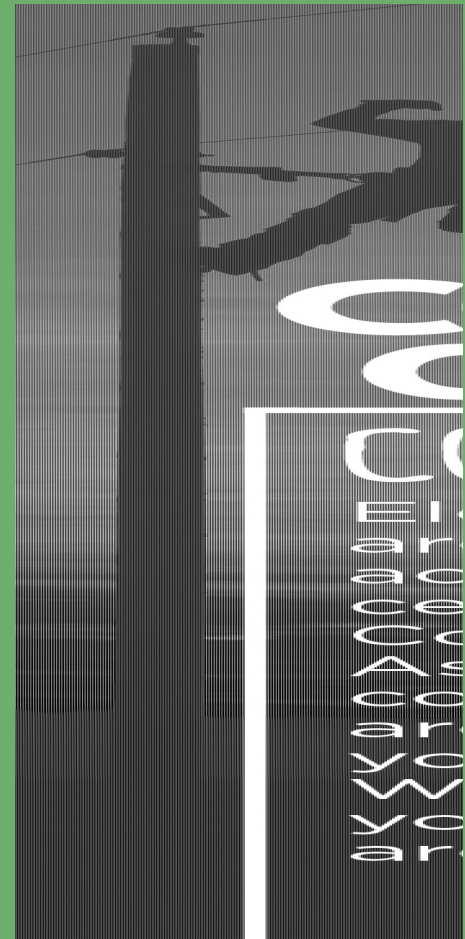
Electric co-ops, including CWECC, exist to serve their members. Our priority is to provide affordable, reliable energy to our local communities. Because we are led by you, the members we serve, we can evolve to meet your needs.

This October, as we celebrate Co-op Month, we're focusing on the ways "Co-ops Grow" for their members.

**Co-ops Grow Communities:** Co-ops help communities grow by promoting economic empowerment, fostering community engagement and supporting the unique needs of co-op members. "Concern for Community" is one of our core principles--and being community-focused is essential to everything we do.

There are many examples of how CWECC helps the communities that it serves. In addition to working with area economic development groups, we offer a couple of different financing options for small business loans for new or expanding businesses.

CWECC also supports local communities by donating to local food pantries, and through the annual CWECC Toys for Tots campaign.





## 2023 MEMBER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) will host its Member Appreciation Breakfast at its headquarters in Rosholt on Saturday, Oct. 28 as a way to show its appreciation to its members. The breakfast is scheduled to take place from 8-11 a.m.

In addition to a pancake breakfast, the following will be available at the event:

- Door Prizes
- Kids Costume Contest (Judging at 9:45 a.m.)
- Halloween Treat Bag for Kids
- Kids Bike Drawing at 10 a.m.
- Bounce House
- Hotline Demonstrations
- Craft & Gift Fair featuring local vendors
- Free Blood Pressure Screening provided by Rural Health Initiative staff



MORE INFORMATION



VCP  
Voices for  
Cooperative  
Power

**Keeping the lights on,**  
so you can keep the  
treats going.

## 7 QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE INSTALLING ROOFTOP SOLAR

"Free energy from the sun *and* lower electric bills... Where do I sign up?"

The benefits of installing rooftop solar panels may seem like a no-brainer, but the reality is, not every home (and homeowner's situation) is always right for solar.

There are several factors to consider before pulling the trigger on a rooftop solar system, like determining if your home will receive enough sun to achieve your goals, finding the right contractor, negotiating contracts and other important details.

Investing in solar for your home is a major decision. If you're considering rooftop solar, Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative can help.

Here are seven questions to consider before installing rooftop solar panels.



[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)



### **POLE INSPECTION TAKING PLACE**

Karcz Utility Services is currently inspecting poles in the CWEC service area.

Inspections are scheduled to take place in the townships of Helvetia, Union, Wyoming, St. Lawrence, Iola, and New Hope.

The inspections should be completed in 3-4 weeks.

Pole inspections are an important part of maintaining the reliability and integrity of the CWEC electrical grid.



Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative is now accepting applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant to work at the organization's Rosholt office. This position will be responsible for administrative duties which include preparing typed correspondences, answering phone calls, coordinating employee training, maintaining files, calendars, and records, setting up meetings, and assisting the CEO and staff in the day-to-day operations of the facility.

The deadline to apply is 4 p.m. on Friday, October 20. For a full job description and application, click the button below.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

**PLAYING IT SAFE ONLINE**



In today's world, most of us don't leave the front door unlocked. We protect our homes, loved ones and valuables from intruders with locks, alarms and other security measures. Cybersecurity is no different. It's the practice of protecting other valuables such as your identity, banking and health records and other sensitive information from digital attacks and theft.

In addition to pumpkin-spice lattes, crisper air and Halloween festivities, October is the time of year we recognize Cybersecurity Awareness Month. While taking necessary steps to protect our personal information is a year-round practice, at Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC), we use this time to share helpful cybersecurity reminders across our team of employees.

Given our increased reliance on internet-connected devices and gadgets, this month, we'd like to share a few cybersecurity tips and let you know how CWEC is working to boost our own cybersecurity efforts.

## GONE PHISHING.

Don't fall for offers that seem too good to be true.



[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE](#)

## SPOOKY ENERGY SAVINGS

This spooky season, we're sharing a few energy-saving tricks so you can treat yourself to lower energy bills. Here are four simple ways to summon the spirit of energy efficiency.

**Conjure instant savings with a smart thermostat.** One of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control, since home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use. Smart thermostats can help you manage heating and cooling costs by learning your daily routine and adjusting the temperature settings accordingly. You can control a smart thermostat from anywhere (through your smart phone), which allows you to prevent unnecessary energy consumption while you're away. Sorcery!

**Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating ghostly drafts.** The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home. Apply caulk and weatherstripping around drafty windows and doors to make your home more comfortable *and* lower energy use.



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