

Celebrate Cooperative Month with your local cooperatives

A FREE Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
Activities for kids of all ages



MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY


Saturday, September 28

7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the CECO Building,
west of Greenwood on CTH G



Clark Electric Cooperative

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“Take Back” Initiative 7–11 a.m.

Bring your unused, controlled, non-controlled, and over-the counter medications in their original containers to be dropped off—free, with no questions asked.

Questions? Contact the Clark County Sheriff's Department at 1-800-743-2420.



Food Drive for Local Food Pantries

Help us demonstrate the 7th Cooperative Principle, Commitment to Community, by bringing a non-perishable, non-expired food item to be donated to your local food pantry.



Giant Inflatables Pumpkins Crafts for Kids

Live Musical Entertainment

Greenwood Fire & EMS
will provide free blood pressure testing.



Electronic Recycling Drive 7–11 a.m.

More information about the Electronic Recycling Drive on page 29.



Memorial Medical Center
will be here to provide community health information.

Youth Leadership Congress Teaches Cooperation and Leadership

Clark Electric Cooperative was well represented at this year's 50th Youth Leadership Conference (YLC), held at UW–River Falls July 10–12. Seven students from area high schools represented Clark Electric Cooperative (CEC) at this year's conference: Lexi Hinker, Greenwood; Madison Lucas, Greenwood; Ashley Walker, Greenwood; Kevin Johnson, Granton; Seth Naedler, Granton; Kristin Wagner, Abbotsford; and Logan Rau, Abbotsford. The YLC is designed to provide today's youth with stronger leadership and team-building skills as well as a broader understanding of electric cooperatives.

Through a mix of workshop sessions, hands-on activities, and team-building experiences, participants were exposed to a variety of real-life issues and given the opportunity to identify and explore their leadership potential. Sessions related to college life, alternative energy, careers in cooperatives, a cooperative's role in the community, and establishing relationships with other students from across Wisconsin were held throughout the three-day event.

These are a few of the comments



Left to right: Kristin Wagner, Ashley Walker, Kevin Johnson, Logan Rau, Seth Naedler, Madison Lucas, and Lexi Hinker.

received from the students who represented CEC this year:

"The conference was a great experience and I learned many new things. I learned how cooperatives work and about safety around electricity. I also learned different ways to be a leader."

"The conference was a very fun and educational experience."

"I learned a lot about cooperatives and to how get out of my comfort zone and participate in group activities. This will help me to achieve my goals in the future."

"The animated illusionist was amazing and really funny."

Wisconsin's electric cooperatives and UW–River Falls have co-

sponsored this event for 50 years to demonstrate to high school students the basics of cooperatives and how they can apply the ideals and philosophies of cooperation directly to their lives. Students who attend the congress improve their ability to interact with their peers and demonstrate their desire to be leaders.

The delegates left the conference with valuable leadership skills they can use both in school and in their community activities. Each spring Clark Electric Cooperative contacts schools in our service area asking for students to represent the cooperative at the Youth Leadership Congress. This is a great opportunity for students entering 10th or 11th grade. ■



Approximately 130 teens from throughout the state gathered at this year's YLC. Among the activities were team-building exercises that required cooperation for a successful outcome.

Auditing Energy: Small Measures Can Add Up to Real Savings

No matter the age of your home, it could benefit from an energy audit. You can get started on your own in finding low-cost solutions that could save money on your monthly electric bill.

First, ask yourself a simple question: Does my home feel drafty and cold in the winter, or stuffy and hot in the summer? If yes, then it probably experiences air leakage.

To track down where those spots are, start with the usual suspects—like damaged seals around doors and windows. If you see daylight or feel air, then apply caulk and weatherstripping to keep outdoor air where it's supposed to be. But don't forget spots you might not

immediately think of, like recessed canister lights and electrical outlets. Outlet insulation kits can be purchased for as little as \$2, and you can fix up your canister lights with some caulk around the edges.

Also look where walls meet the ceiling. Cobwebs mean you've got drafts.

Next, peek into the attic and inspect the crawl space or basement for sufficient insulation—how much you need depends on your climate. Check out the insulation calculator from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory at www.ornl.gov/~roofs/Zip/ZipHome.html. Keep in mind insulation won't do its job well if you don't have a proper air barrier working in tandem. That means all joints and cracks must be sealed between your living space and insulation.

Finally, look to your light fixtures. Compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) are up to 75 percent more efficient than traditional incandescent bulbs, and they've come a long way in light quality, design, and affordability. You can purchase CFLs in a variety of shapes and hues. They cost more upfront, but you'll make your money back in less than nine months and, after that, they start saving money. Make sure to purchase a CFL that's rated by ENERGY STAR, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's program that denotes products meeting specific energy efficiency criteria. ENERGY STAR-rated CFLs will typically last 10 times longer than a traditional incandescent bulb producing the same amount of light.

LEDs—light-emitting diodes—are in the next wave of residential lighting. An ENERGY STAR-rated

model is estimated to use only a quarter of the electricity consumed by traditional bulbs and can last for 25 years. As with many new technologies, the up-front cost for an LED bulb is still much more than even a CFL, but prices are expected to drop as new products are developed.

To learn more about reducing your electric bill, visit our website at cecoop.com and click on the Energy Info tab. There is also more information at EnergySavers.gov or TogetherWeSave.com. To schedule an energy audit with a professional, call Focus on Energy at 1-800-762-7077.—Megan Howard (Sources: EnergySavers.gov, [Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative](http://EasternIlliniElectricCooperative.com), EnergyStar.gov) ■



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Electronics Recycling Drive

Clark Electric Cooperative, along with 5R Processors, will host an Electronics Recycling Drive Saturday, September 28, from 7 to 11 a.m., at the CECO Building west of Greenwood. The event will be held in conjunction with our Member Appreciation Day. The following items are acceptable for recycling:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| MONITORS/TERMINALS | MP3 PLAYERS/iPODS | EQUIPMENT | DVD AND VHS PLAYERS |
| CPUS | CELLULAR AND HARD | AUDIO VISUAL | FAX CARTRIDGES |
| LAPTOPS | WIRE PHONES | EQUIPMENT | MAINFRAME |
| DOCKING STATIONS | CIRCUIT BOARDS | STEREO EQUIPMENT | EQUIPMENT |
| PRINTER/TONER | WIRE AND CABLING | MICROWAVES | NETWORKING |
| CARTRIDGES | ALUMINUM CANS | UNINTERRUPTED | EQUIPMENT |
| COPY MACHINES | CASH REGISTERS | POWER SUPPLIES | OTHER COMPUTER |
| FAX MACHINES | KEYBOARDS/MICE | VIDEO BOARDS | PERIPHERALS |
| PRINTERS | TELECOMMUNICATION | C-PAP MACHINES | GPS UNITS |
| TVS | | GAME CONSOLES | |

There is a \$30 charge for large projection screen TVs and a \$10 charge for broken glass on TVs.

Residents may also purchase data removal services from 5R for \$10/per drive or \$10 per system or laptop. Fileservers will be extra if there is more than one drive. Computers, laptops, or single hard drives can be unloaded for data erasure at the designated DOD Wipe area (DOD=Department of Defense approved software). Serial number tracking with the owner's information will be properly recorded. The process can take anywhere from 3 to 10 hours, depending on the size of the hard drive. For this reason 5R has to bring the units/drives back to their facility to perform the data destruction/erasure procedures.


This method is a proven procedure based on military standards that ensure 100 percent removal of all data on your hard drive. 5R Processors will provide residents with a certificate of destruction and all accompanying serial numbers as their official report that your drive was erased before the unit or drive is sent on to the recycling/refurbishing department.



The directors and staff at Clark Electric Cooperative and Clark Appliance and Satellite, Inc. would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Labor Day! Our office will be closed Monday, September 2, 2013.



**Clark Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

124 N. Main Street • P.O. Box 190
Greenwood, WI 54437

e-mail us at info@cecoop.com or
tnelson01@cecoop.com

www.cecoop.com