

# IMPROVING FOR YOU

## Crews Working Hard

Clark Electric Cooperative has many maintenance programs that help provide safe and reliable electricity. Every year we spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on programs such as pole testing, underground inspections, tree trimming and spraying. These programs are part of our work plan, which is a detailed plan of what we will be doing for the next several years.

Currently our crews are finishing up pole change-outs. These change-outs are determined from the pole testing; they're the poles that have been deemed bad and in need of replacing.

By keeping the trees trimmed back, we prevent tree contact with the electric lines, which reduces blinking lights and outages. So remember, when we are trimming, we are doing it for service reliability and for your safety.

This spring our crews have been very busy replacing two primary overhead lines in the Chequamegon National

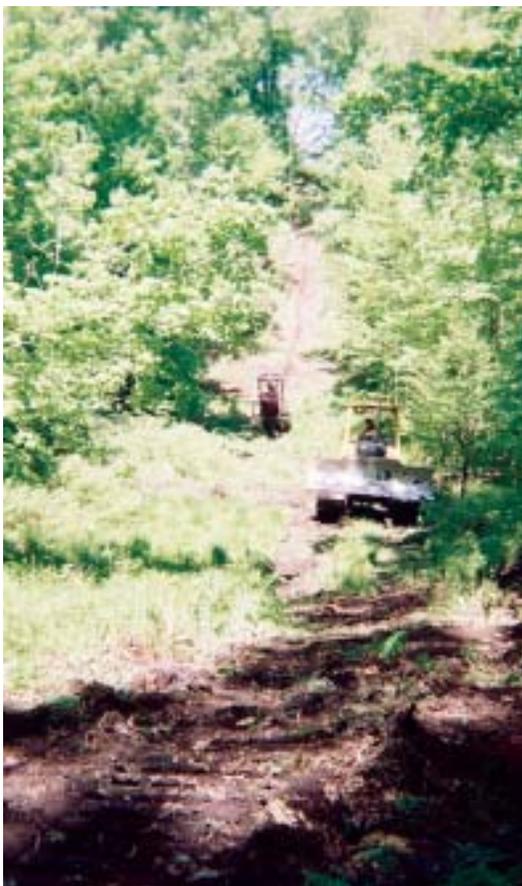


*Equipment Operator Frank Arch plows in the new underground primary conductor in the Chequamegon National Forest.*

Forest. This entailed plowing underground in the very hilly countryside. Maintenance of the overhead lines was very time-consuming and difficult. By replacing the overhead with underground lines, we will reduce maintenance costs as well as the number of outages associated with these lines.

The maintenance work we do is all part of Clark Electric's continuing effort to provide safe and reliable electricity to you, our member-owners. ■

*The cats clear the hill and put the wires in the ground. The terrain was so steep in certain areas that the cats had a hard time going up the hills.*



## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July



# Evergreen® Update

## You Can Do Your Part

The Evergreen Program continues to grow. The members of Clark Electric Cooperative, through the efforts of Dairyland Power Cooperative, are leaders in supporting renewable energy.

To those who are already participating—thank you! By supporting renewable energy programs like Evergreen, our children and grandchildren will enjoy a cleaner, greener world. For those who are interested in joining the program or expanding their current investment, simply fill out the application form and mail it to our office (it may be included with your power bill).

Evergreen energy is sold in 100-kwh blocks. One block of Evergreen power is \$1.50 above and beyond the cost of one block of energy produced by traditional means. So if you decide to buy three blocks of Evergreen, you would be billed \$4.50 per month, which would show up as a line item on your electric bill. ■

## I want to invest in the Evergreen® Program.

Please count me in for one \_\_\_\_\_ or more \_\_\_\_\_ (specify number) 100-kwh blocks per month of electricity from renewable sources. Each 100-kwh block is \$1.50 per block per month.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print):

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## History of Evergreen

Dairyland Power Cooperative initially invested in wind power during the 1990s with a one-third interest in a wind turbine farm in Chandler, Minnesota. This participation launched the Evergreen program, and the Chandler farm continues to provide 2 mw of renewable energy, enough to power the homes of nearly 600 member-consumers.

Since then, Dairyland has greatly expanded its wind investment. In October 2003, Dairyland contracted for wind energy output from the G. McNeilus Wind Farm (Adams, Minnesota) and in March 2004 doubled its participation in the wind farm. This growing partnership nets 17 megawatts (mw) of renewable energy—enough to power 4,800 residential homes in the Dairyland Power Cooperative system.



Methane Digester Generators

Three animal waste-to-energy projects have been completed and several more are in development on dairy farms in Dairyland Power's system. In these projects, manure is the resource and methane gas its byproduct through anaerobic digestion for the fuel used to generate renewable energy for you.

Dairyland has also partnered with a landfill company to use residential garbage to generate electricity. Methane, created naturally as the landfill waste decomposes, is the fuel used to generate the renewable energy. This first new facility came on-line in March 2004 and can power 2,600 homes in the Dairyland Power system.

Two more landfill gas-to-energy projects are expected to come on-line in the near future. ■

# MORE LOCAL NEWS

## MEMBERS GO TO DPC



### Members Visit DPC Headquarters and JPM

Each year, Clark Electric Cooperative invites members to visit Dairyland Power Cooperative headquarters and one of Dairyland Power Cooperative's generation facilities. This year, 45 members loaded a bus and headed to La Crosse, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, May 16.

Members were given a brief presentation about Dairyland Power Cooperative and how it operates for its 25 member electric cooperatives. During the day, members were told how power is actually generated, transmitted, and distributed to their homes.

The group visited Dairyland's print shop, where Clark Electric's *Spectrum* is printed, as well as our monthly billing statements. The next stop was the mail department, where thousands of pieces of mail are sorted and distributed.

The tour continued with a visit to the generation facility located at Alma, Wisconsin. The group toured the John P. Madgett Power Station, one of Dairyland Power Cooperative's primary generation facilities. Members

were given an informative tour of this facility, where they were shown how power is produced.

Overall, it was a very informative day. The members left with a greater appreciation for what it takes to provide electricity, which many of us all too often take for granted. ■



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**Store Hours:**  
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