

# CAPITAL CREDIT RETIREMENT

56th consecutive year of benefits from your cooperative

*Demonstrating the third Cooperative Principle*



**Clark Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Tim Stewart,  
CEO/Manager

It is my privilege to announce that the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors approved a \$940,778 capital credit general retirement to be made this year. This marks the 56th consecutive

year that a capital credit retirement has been made, totaling in excess of \$25,602,149 being returned to the membership since inception.

As a rural electric cooperative member, you are part owner of Clark Electric Cooperative. Basically, you've pooled money (through paying your electric bill) with thousands of other members and created equity for your rural electric cooperative to deliver you electricity and to provide services at an affordable cost.

As a locally owned business, Clark Electric Cooperative is committed to the

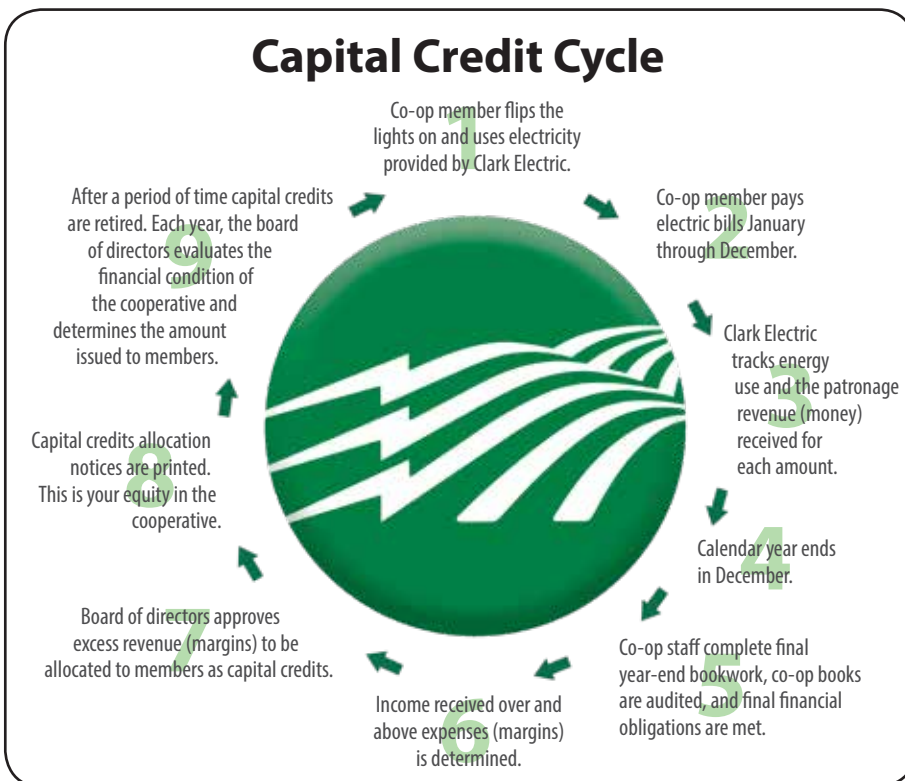


people, businesses, and communities we serve. As we are a member-owned, not-for-profit utility, one of the fundamental principles we follow is a commitment to returning your investment. This is done in the form of capital credits. Since

Clark Electric Cooperative operates on a not-for-profit basis, we return margins to members and former members through the capital credit allocation and retirement process. The amount returned is in relation to the individual member's transactions with the cooperative. Capital credits are returned to cooperative members on a rotating schedule. Currently the cooperative is retiring 4.35 percent of our allocated capital and applying that amount against the oldest capital credits assigned to the members. This retirement will affect the cooperative's capital credits assigned in 1996 and 1997 and the Dairyland Power Cooperative capital credits assigned for 1990 and 1991.

## Special Refund – LACBWR Decommissioning

Over the years we have talked about decommissioning the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor (LACBWR) and that it be done in a manner that ensures public safety and compliance with all regulatory requirements, while minimizing the cost impact on Dairyland's members and reducing future liabilities. LACBWR has not been operational since 1987, yet the government has not complied with the



MY CO-OP



Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. This Act gave the government responsibility for storage of the nation's spent nuclear fuel with a deadline of January 31, 1998, to begin accepting the fuel. However, since this has not yet begun, the storage and related expenses have remained with Dairyland Power.

In October 2016, Dairyland accepted a settlement offer of \$73.5 million from the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for damages related to the government's breach of contract with LACBWR. The net proceeds of the settlement were returned to the Dairyland member cooperatives in February 2017. The settlement was the result of Dairyland's second round of litigation with the U.S. government regarding LACBWR and represents the 2007–2012 time frame.

As you may recall, the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors authorized a special cash refund in the amount of \$1,368,595 directly to the members based upon 2007–2012 patronage, the same time frame that the cost recovery occurred. Those checks were issued May 2017. However, an additional \$600,000 was held in reserve to offset future LACBWR cost exposure. If it was not needed, then this amount would be returned to the members either via check, bill credit, or as an offset to future rate increases. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am very pleased to report that decommissioning has progressed well and the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors has authorized another special cash refund to the members for the \$600,000. This will be refunded utilizing the same methodology as the 2017 special refund and will be processed with the January 2019 Capital Credit General Retirement.

Our goal is to provide you with electricity at a price that is as close to cost as possible. We don't aim to maximize profits like investor-owned utilities do. This way, more of your money stays in your pocket—up front. In short, you are receiving a vital resource, electricity, from a business owned and operated by you, your friends and neighbors. Working together, we provide you with the highest level of service we can while striving to keep your electric bills affordable—the best possible service at the best possible price.

And that's the cooperative difference!

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your hot water tank warm to the touch? Consider insulating it to save 7 to 16 percent annually on water heating costs. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

Source: energy.gov



*Happy New Year*  
from your friends and neighbors at  
**Clark Electric Cooperative**  
Our offices will be closed  
**Tuesday, January 1**

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# A Full House of Energy Savings

## ATTIC

In many homes, attic insulation is one of the easiest, least expensive and most effective ways to reduce your energy use. Contact us to find out how much insulation is right for your home. In colder regions, a properly insulated attic also reduces the chance of ice dams.

## DEN/OFFICE

Plug all electronic gadgets such as phone and laptop chargers, printers, gaming consoles and BluRay players into a power strip with an on/off switch. When not in use, turn the power strip off to eliminate all those energy vampires.



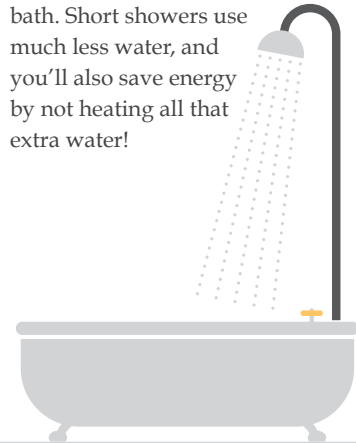
## BEDROOM

Ceiling fans can help save energy all year long! In the summer, fans should rotate counter clockwise to push air down creating a cooling flow. In the winter, fans should rotate clockwise to help draw cool air up toward the ceiling and push the warm air that naturally rises down to you and your family.



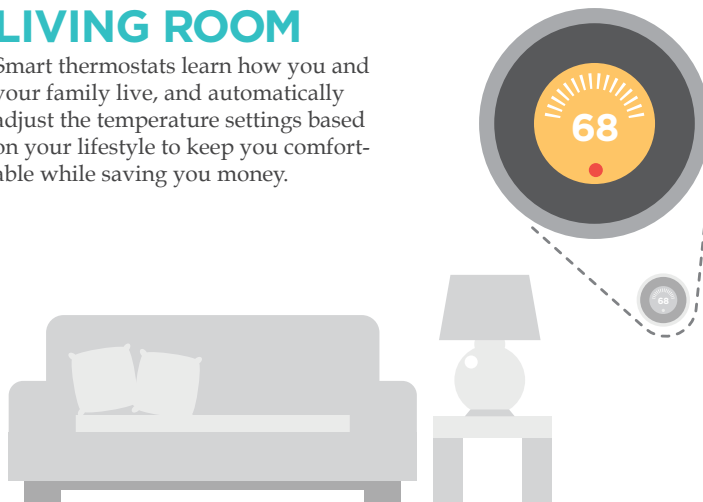
## BATHROOM

Take a short shower instead of a bath. Short showers use much less water, and you'll also save energy by not heating all that extra water!



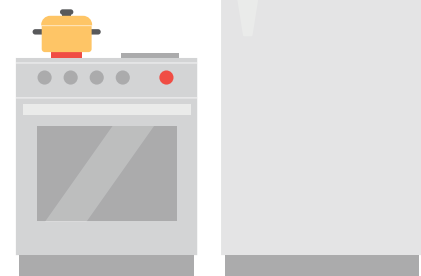
## LIVING ROOM

Smart thermostats learn how you and your family live, and automatically adjust the temperature settings based on your lifestyle to keep you comfortable while saving you money.



## KITCHEN

Make sure your burner isn't bigger than the pan, and use flat-bottomed pans to maximize surface contact with the burner. Don't preheat the oven until you're ready to use it. Minimize the number of times you open and close the refrigerator or oven door.





# CLARK ELECTRIC OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

## Applications are due at the office Monday, March 4

Clark Electric Cooperative is once again offering a scholarship opportunity to graduating students from participating high schools in our service area. One \$500 scholarship will be available for a student from each school or group of schools in our service area.

To be considered for the scholarship, the student's parent or legal guardian must be a member of Clark Electric Cooperative and currently receive electric service from Clark Electric Cooperative.

The Clark Electric Cooperative scholarship program began

in 1995, and since its inception we have provided more than \$219,000 in scholarships to area students. An independent scholarship committee judges the applicants based upon merit.

Giving back to the community is one of the cooperative principals; furthering the education of our area youth is another. Clark Electric is proud to help these fine young people meet their educational goals.

Applications are available from your high school counselor, online at [www.cecoop.com](http://www.cecoop.com), and at our office located at 1209 W Dall-Berg Rd., Greenwood.

**All applications must be returned to the cooperative office by 5 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2019.**

### Schools Eligible for Scholarship Consideration

Abbotsford High School, Colby High School, Granton High School, Greenwood High School, Loyal High School, Neillsville High School, Owen-Withee High School, Spencer High School, Thorp High School, Stanley High School

### One Scholarship Between These Grouped Schools:

Stratford High School, Columbus High School, Osseo-Fairchild High School, Abbotsford Christian Academy

Marshfield Senior High School, Medford High School, Gilman High School, Pittsville High School, Home School Student

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant at 715-267-7958 or 1-800-272-6188.

These scholarships are financed through the Federated Youth Foundation Scholarship Program, which is funded from unclaimed capital credits. Federated Youth Foundation (FYF) is a non-profit charitable foundation serving cooperative across Wisconsin.



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### Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road, P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437  
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