



EQUIPMENT UPGRADES UNDERWAY

Load management receivers to be switched out



Clark Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



Tim Stewart,
CEO/Manager

Since the early 1980s, Clark Electric Cooperative members have participated in an energy/load management program in partnership with our wholesale power

provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative. This program helps shift electricity use for certain devices (i.e. water heaters, air conditioners, electric vehicle chargers, grain dryers, interruptible heat, etc.) away from times of peak energy demand and high wholesale prices. This strategy helps keep electric rates down.

As technology evolves, so must our methods of managing and delivering electricity. The energy/load management program is administered remotely via load management receivers (LMRs). The current LMRs have been in service for nearly two decades and are no longer manufactured and replacement parts are hard to find. Clark Electric and Dairyland's other member cooperatives are upgrading LMRs, which will improve energy/load management performance and offer more opportunities for new devices to participate in the future. Combined with education, energy efficiency incentives, and cooperation among cooperatives, Clark Electric works hard to help keep members'

electricity reliable and rates stable.

As the transition to the new equipment occurs, members should not notice any change in service or their participation in their load/energy management program during this process. Because there are 24 cooperatives upgrading LMRs together, there is also an economy-of-scale savings on LMRs (i.e. the price per receiver is lower because there is a large group order versus Clark Electric Cooperative trying to place a smaller order on our own).

Making the Switch

The cooperative will start converting load management receivers connected to electric heating systems first. Clark Electric will be contacting members who have an LMR by letter to let them know when their LMR will be replaced. Depending on the location of the receiver, the process is expected to take no longer than one hour. A Clark Electric Cooperative employee may need to go inside a member's home to replace the LMR. These employees will be wearing Clark Electric Cooperative clothing and driving a Clark Electric Cooperative vehicle. Members wanting to verify the identity/timing of the employee are encouraged to contact the Clark Electric Cooperative office at 715-267-6188 or 1-800-272-6188. There is no cost for this work to be done.



Members with load management receivers will be updated to our new receivers such as the one pictured above.

How does the energy/load management program work?

An LMR is installed by your local electric cooperative. When an energy/load management event begins, a signal is sent to the receiver to pause power to the device(s) enrolled in the active program. When the event is over, a signal is sent to the receiver to switch the device(s) on to resume normal operation.

Devices eligible to participate include:

- electric water heaters (residential or dairy)
- air conditioner
- interruptible heat unit
- grain dryers
- EV chargers

There is no charge to enroll and program participation results in minimal to no noticeable interruption in daily use of the device. The cooperative adds incentives to sign up for these programs.

For more information on signing up for a control or if you have any questions, please contact our office at 715-267-6188 or 1-800-272-6188. More information can also be found on our website at cecoop.com.



STUDENTS EXPLORE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE AT YLC

Clark Electric student elected to 2024–25 Youth Board

Clark Electric Cooperative sponsored four students to this year's 61st Youth Leadership Congress (YLC), held at UW-Stout July 16–18. They joined more than 60 students from cooperatives throughout the state to learn about the cooperative business model and improve their leadership skills. Students from Greenwood, Neillsville, and Loyal represented Clark Electric at this year's YLC.

During the three-day event, students learned team-building skills and stronger leadership skills as well as the 7 Cooperative Principles. Through challenging team-building activities, the participants were exposed to a variety of real-life issues and given the opportunity to explore their leadership potential. They learned about the importance of setting goals and how determination, hard work, and persistence pay off, and how to step up to be a leader whether you are in a leadership position or not.

Guest speakers this year included Bel Dennis and Megan Powell, owners/operators of Dialed in Digital. There was also a presentation by Safety and Loss Control Manager Ben Bella as well as motivational speaker Craig Hillier. There was a Q & A session with line workers from Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative about their recent work with the Light Up Navajo Project and how they helped bring electricity to rural homes on the reservation.



Left to Right: Travis Pongratz, Jarret Rueth, Shaylen Pierce, and Ashlyn Green.

On the last evening of the conference, the students attended a formal etiquette dinner where they dressed up and learned proper etiquette at a formal dinner table. To end the night, they all enjoyed hypnotist Al Snyder for a night full of laughs.

Students also had the opportunity to run for a seat on the WECA Youth Board. The final morning everyone gathered for the closing session where candidates running for the Youth Leadership Board delivered their speeches. Thirteen students gave speeches, following a vote to elect six Youth Leadership participants to serve on the board for 2024–2025, Jarrett Rueth



Left: Students dressed up for the etiquette dinner. Pictured here are (left to right) Ashlyn Green, Shaylen Pierce, Jarret Rueth, and Travis Pongratz. Above, center: Jarret Rueth delivering his speech for Youth Leadership Board. Above right: Travis Pongratz engages in a team-building activity. Right: Shaylen and Ashlyn at the etiquette dinner.



from Clark Electric Cooperative was elected to serve on the board and will help in the planning of the 2025 YLC.

The delegates left the conference with valuable leadership skills they can use in school and in their community.

“It was an exciting and fun week, and I would recommend it to everyone! I enjoyed the experience of learning new techniques about leadership and how to become more confident with yourself and how to express your skills in leadership,” said Shaylen Pierce.

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 rewarding opportunity for students entering 10th or 11th grade.



Students from electric cooperatives throughout Wisconsin gathered at UW-Stout in July for the 60th annual Youth Leadership Congress.

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY & Kick-off to Cooperative Month



A FREE Pancake, Egg & Sausage Breakfast Saturday, September 28

7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the
Clark Electric headquarters,
just west of Greenwood on CTH G

- **“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? Clark County Sheriff's Department at 715-743-3157.*
- **Food Drive for Local Food Pantries**
- **Activities for Kids of All Ages**
Pumpkins, Crafts for Kids, Giant Inflatables
- **Greenwood Fire & EMS**
will provide free blood pressure testing.
- **Marshfield Medical Center & Clark County Health Department**
will be here to provide community health information— free of charge.

Clark Electric Cooperative

1209 W. Dall-Berg Rd.
Greenwood, WI 54437
715-267-6188 • 800-272-6188

River Country Co-op

331 Industrial Ave.,
Owen, WI 54460
715-229-4613



Farm season means sharing the road with large farm equipment, which can be wide and slow. Farmers must move slowly in large equipment, but public roads are often the only way to get from point A to point B.

When you find yourself following or meeting large farm equipment on the road, take a deep breath and **do the following to keep everyone safe:**

- 1** Be alert and cautious, and give large farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles space.
- 2** Do not pass in a "No Passing Zone," or in any area where it is not safe to do so, such as intersections, bridges and railroad crossings, among others.
- 3** Make sure the tractor is not trying to make a left turn before you pass on the left.
- 4** Do not tailgate. Following too closely means you could be in the operator's blind spot.
- 5** Be careful when you do get the chance to pass. Oftentimes, farmers will move their equipment over when it is safe to do so.

Source: Texas Table Top
(Texas Farm Bureau)



Left to right: Jesse Friedenfels, Jake Waldhart, Konner Kitzhaber and Jeremy Wnek

CLARK ELECTRIC CREW RESPONDS TO MUTUAL AID REQUEST

Being part of a cooperative comes with numerous benefits, including Principle #6, Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

R.O.P.E. or Restoration Of Power in an Emergency, is a unique program of cooperatives helping cooperatives. When a major storm rolls through a cooperative's service territory and causes extensive damage to its distribution system, that cooperative can request mutual aid and activate the ROPE program. Needed personnel and equipment from unaffected cooperatives travel to the affected area to help restore power.

On July 14, another bout of severe weather including heavy rains, high winds, and flooding hit Wisconsin, and Riverland Energy was one area that was hit hard. Amid extreme heat on Saturday, heavy rains pounded the region for much of the afternoon and evening, causing widespread outages in the Riverland service area.

In response, the ROPE program was activated, and Wisconsin cooperatives, including Clark Electric, came forward to answer the call for help.

Linemen Jesse Friedenfels, Jake Waldhart, Konner Kitzhaber, and Jeremy Wnek headed to Riverland Electric Cooperative to assist in restoring power to the members by the evening of July 15.

Clark Electric Cooperative has sent crews to several other cooperatives in recent years including Eau Claire Energy, Clay Electric in Keystone Heights, Florida, Bayfield Electric, Barron Electric, Oconto Electric, Washington St. Tammany Electric Cooperative in Franklinton, Louisiana, after Hurricane Katrina, and Washington Island Electric Cooperative.

While Jesse, Jake, Konner, and Jeremy volunteered to respond to the latest call for help, every one of our linemen at Clark Electric Cooperative stands ready to assist other cooperatives through the ROPE Program.

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road
P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
email us at info@cecoop.com or tnelson01@cecoop.com
www.cecoop.com



**Clark Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.