



Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

CAPITAL CREDIT RETIREMENT APPROVED

Clark Electric Cooperative returns \$1,010,000 to members

It is my privilege to announce that the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors approved a \$1,010,000 capital credit retirement to be made in January 2025. This marks the 62nd consecutive year that capital credit retirement has been made totaling in excess of \$32,638,000 being returned to the membership.

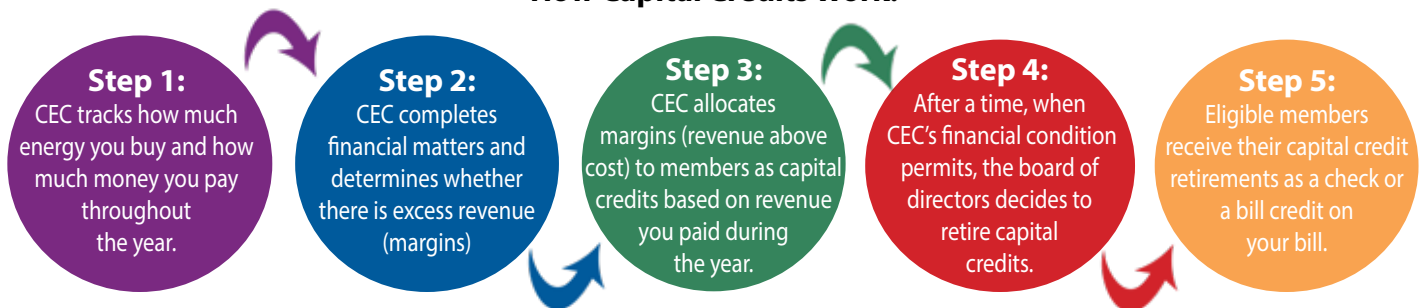
As a rural electric cooperative member, you are part owner of Clark Electric Cooperative. Basically, you've pooled money (through paying your electric bill) with thousands of other members and created equity for your rural electric cooperative to deliver you electricity and to provide services at an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

As we are a member-owned, operated, and not-for-profit utility, one of our fundamental principles is a commitment to returning excess revenues. 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 4.25% 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 2004 & 2005 and the Dairyland Power Cooperative capital credits assigned for 1998, 1999, and 2000.

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.

How Capital Credits Work:



ACE FOUNDATION AWARDS \$41,000 TO COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Adler-Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation recently awarded \$41,000 to 22 different community-based projects located throughout the Clark Electric Cooperative service area. Some of this year's awards helped fund Area Food Pantries, Christmas Wish Program, Community Enhancement Projects, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Local School Projects.

Tim Stewart, Chief Executive Officer of Clark Electric Cooperative and one of the trustees of the Adler-Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation, indicated that "The purpose of the ACE-Community Commitment Foundation is to support programs and events which enrich the lives of people of Clark County and the surrounding area communities. Our mission is to invest in the future of the Clark County area by

helping create opportunities for philanthropy and community enrichment. We are pleased to be a part of these community enrichment programs."

The ACE-Community Commitment Foundation was established in 2004 by Clark Electric Appliance and Satellite Inc., to strengthen local communities by aiding not-for-profit and community organizations to fund projects that will enhance the quality of life of local residents of this area. To-date, the Foundation has awarded \$706,910 for community enrichment projects.

Clark Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit electric utility that serves 9,700 members in Clark, Chippewa, Jackson, Marathon, Taylor, and Wood counties.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MAY 21, 2025

Clark Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2025 at the Neillsville American Legion, 6 Boon Blvd, Neillsville, WI, starting at 9:30 a.m.

The Annual Meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, conduct business, and elect their representatives to serve on the board of directors.

The governance process is summarized below and is not intended to replace the details found in the bylaws. The bylaws can be viewed in their entirety at www.cecoop.com.

Nominations by Petition

- Candidates for director shall be nominated exclusively by petition. For a candidate to be validly nominated, the petition shall contain the signatures of no less than ten (10) members. The signature of either or both members holding a joint membership shall constitute the signature of one (1) member. To be valid, a petition must be received by the Cooperative not less than 60 days prior to the annual meeting (in 2025 that date is March 21, 2025).

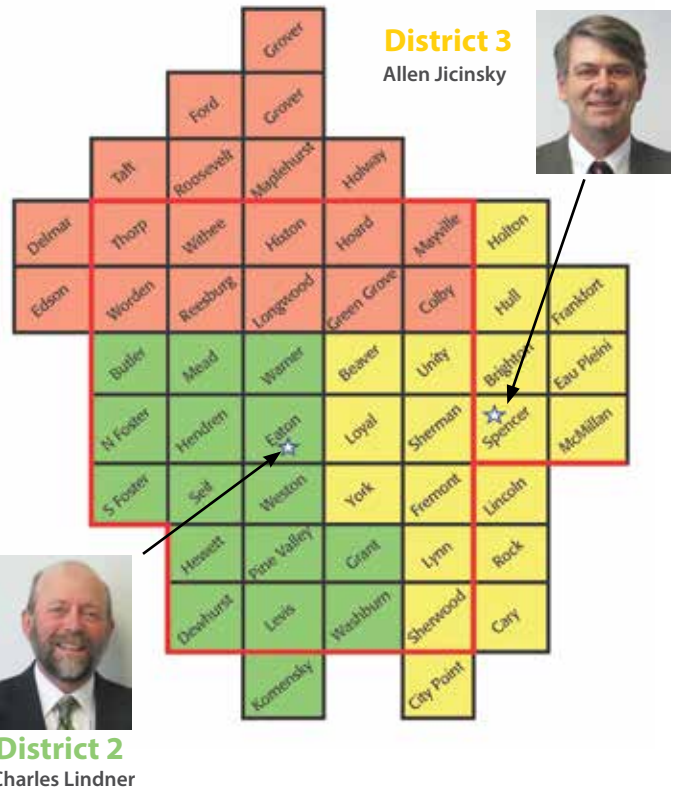
Voting in Person or by Absentee Ballot

- If there is only one (1) nominee for a seat, election may be by unanimous consent or by voice vote or similar process at the annual meeting, without the need to cast written ballots. Where there is more than one (1) nominee, the election will be by ballot, members may vote in person or by absentee signed ballot. Absentee ballots shall be provided to all members. To be counted absentee ballots must be received by the Cooperative or designee no later than noon on the last business day preceding the day of the annual meeting.

Director Districts

- Director district boundaries are intended to balance the number of members in the respective districts while endeavoring not to split towns, villages, or cities between districts. See map of director districts.
- The Cooperative has seven (7) directors; two of which serve from each district and one (1) serving in an at-large position.

This year members will be asked to elect two directors for a three-year term. One position from district two (2), and one from district three (3). These seats are currently held by Charles Lindner, town of Eaton (District 2) and Allen Jicinsky town of Spencer (District 3). These directors are eligible for re-election. Any advisory resolutions must be received by the



cooperative at least 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The cooperative's bylaws establish the minimum qualifications for being a director as well as broader detail on the election process. A copy of the bylaws is available on the cooperative's website at www.cecoop.com or by contacting the business office at 715-267-6188. If you have any additional questions about becoming a director, please contact Tim Stewart, CEO/GM, at the business office.

Directors are expected to attend monthly board meetings, represent the cooperative in state, regional, and national affairs, and take advantage of NRECA educational opportunities such as classes, seminars, and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry. Directors will spend approximately 25 to 35 days a year in the performance of their duties.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the annual meeting, enjoy a nice lunch, register for a \$25.00 door prize and help conduct the business of your electric utility. Member involvement is critically important to the success of your cooperative.



PROVIDING RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

Beyond the flip
of a switch

Clark Electric Cooperative has numerous maintenance programs that help provide safe, reliable electricity. One of the most important programs the cooperative performs is our vegetation management program. This program is twofold. First, trees are cut and trimmed from within the right-of-way. Once the trimming and clearing process has been completed, a herbicide application is applied to help reduce regrowth within the right-of-way.

In today's high-tech electronic world that we live in, it's more important than ever to provide safe, reliable electricity to our members.



Trees continue to be among the leading causes of blinking lights and power outages. The cooperative has an extensive tree-clearing program that is performed on a five-year rotation by professional tree-clearing contractors. The contractors are instructed to cut, clear, and mow the right-of-way to provide 15 feet of clearance to the primary power lines. Clearance of 3 to 6 feet is required on overhead secondary

service wires, depending on the type of service you have.

The cooperative also has a herbicide program that is completed on a two-year rotation. This program is also completed by professional contractors who are all state certified and licensed through the Department of Agriculture. The use of herbicides to control small trees and

brush is far more economical compared to the use of heavy machinery such as bucket trucks, chippers, and mowers.

It's important to remember that a single tree can cause blinking lights and power

outages that can affect hundreds of customers for miles around. A tree-clearing program in combination with herbicide treatments is the most economical way to maintain a clear right-of-way corridor.

These very important maintenance programs are just two of many that are needed to help keep the lights on when you, the member, flip the switch.



TRIMMED TREES = BETTER SERVICE

When you see us trimming trees near power lines, know that we are doing so because:

- Tree and foliage overgrowth can interfere with power distribution.
- Power lines can give off a spark or arc that may land on a nearby branch and ignite.
- The lights in your house may flicker when tree branches brush power lines during high winds.
- Stormy weather can cause nearby limbs to break off and land on power lines.
- Unobstructed power lines make it easier and safer for line workers to maintain equipment and restore power.

REMINDER: SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS MARCH 3, 2025



Clark Electric Cooperative is once again offering a scholarship opportunity to graduating students from qualifying high schools in our service area. One \$2,000 scholarship will be available for a student from each school or group of schools in our service area.

Lineman Scholarship – A scholarship may be awarded to a student attending an approved Line Distribution Program.

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 \$290,000 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 principles; 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, and at our office located at 1209 W Dall-Berg Rd., Greenwood.

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 cooperatives across Wisconsin.

**All applications must be returned to the cooperative office by 4:00 p.m.
Monday, March 3, 2025**

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

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Never make a utility bill payment to anyone calling you on the phone, coming to your door (unless that is a verified bill payment method used by your utility company), texting you or emailing you. Always call your utility company at the number provided on your bill or on the utility's website if you have a question about payment or billing information. Know your utility bill payment options—online, by phone, automatic bank draft, mail or in person.

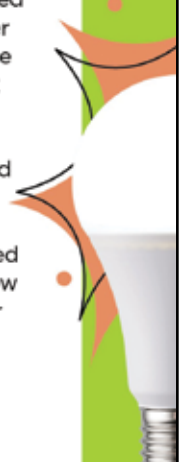
Source: Utilities United Against Scams




ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Taking steps to help your home heating system run more efficiently can reduce energy use and lower your winter bills. Check to see if any air vents around your home are blocked by furniture, curtains or other items. Obstructed vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and can increase pressure in the ductwork, causing cracks and leaks to form. If necessary, consider purchasing a vent extender, which can be placed over a vent to redirect air flow from underneath furniture or other obstructions.

Source: energy.gov



**Clark Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.