



SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Chris Tackmann, General Manager & CEO

Oakdale Electric Cooperative exists to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to our members. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of all members and to serve the long-term interests of our local communities. This is where you can help.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is one of the few local organizations that is uniquely positioned to bring together all members of the community. It is worth noting that the health of the cooperative and the well-being of the community are closely intertwined.

As a member of the community, you have a perspective that is valuable—and we invite you to share it with us. At the annual meeting, co-op leaders will discuss priorities and challenges, and discuss the financial health and priorities for the coming years. The annual meeting is also the time to vote for new board members who will represent you—the membership. Board members are local consumers, just like you.

Your dollars are reinvested locally into improvements that impact the reliability and affordability of your energy, and Oakdale Electric Cooperative wants to hear from you to better inform our decisions as we plan for the future. Every energy bill you pay to the co-op helps ensure better service and reliability for the whole community.

While the digital world provides convenient options for communication, there are times when there is no substitute

for in-person engagement. When members of our community come together for a common purpose, we improve the quality of life for all in our corner of the world.

If you've never attended our annual meeting, or if it's been awhile, please stop by. Our co-op employees and members look forward to visiting with you! Mark your calendar for

We are partnering with a company called Survey & Ballot Systems to provide online voting.

the annual meeting on Saturday, April 29, at Tomah Recreation Park – Recreation (gold) Building, 1625 Butts Ave. Tomah, WI.

Also, this year, we will be offering a new way to vote for our directors. We are

partnering with a company called Survey & Ballot Systems to provide online voting. Members will now have the option to either vote by mail; vote online; vote through SmartHub, in the app or online; or vote in person at the annual meeting Saturday, April 29.

Detailed voting instructions are included on the 2023 Oakdale Electric Cooperative Director Election ballot that will be mailed and available online and in SmartHub on Friday, March 31.

I hope to see you at the meeting. As always, please feel free to contact us if you ever have any questions or concerns.

88th Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 29

Registration 8 a.m. *Coffee & Donuts*

Business Meeting 9 - 10 a.m.



Recreation Park - Recreation (gold) Building
1625 Butts Ave. Tomah



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Essay Contest

Scholarships of \$1,500, \$1,250 and \$1,000 are awarded to the authors of the top three essays at each of the 12 participating public high schools. Students must first participate in Youth Leadership Conference (YLC), July 11-13, 2023, that is fully funded by Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC).

Additional requirements to be eligible are as follows:

- Student must be a son or daughter (or under legal guardianship) of an active member of OEC residing in the same household.
- Student must be entering his/her senior year of high school in the fall of 2023 at one of our 12 area high schools (Brookwood, Mauston, Necedah, Nekoosa, New Lisbon, Pittsville, Reedsburg Area, Royall, Sparta, Tomah, Wisconsin Dells and Wonewoc).
- Following attending YLC, the student must write an essay on the same topic chosen by Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) for its scholarship essay contest.
- Student should mail one copy of his/her essay to OEC and one copy to WECA to be eligible for both scholarships. The same essay can be submitted to qualify for both contests.
- Scholarships will be awarded to students entering a post-high school educational facility in the academic year



"I wasn't sure what to expect at first but after going, I would tell anyone to go. You gain leadership knowledge, new friends, college experience, and much more to prepare you for your future. Its not much time out of your summer and there's opportunities for up to two scholarships, well worth it and a lot of fun."—2022 Youth Leadership Conference attendee Reid Spolum

following high school graduation. Proof of enrollment will be required.

Students should sign up through their school counselor. Questions can be directed to OEC's Communications Specialist Jackie McGlin at jmcglin@oakdalerec.com or 608-372-4131 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Lineworker

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior pursuing a post-secondary education in an electrical lineworker program. Any applicant enrolling in a lineworker program is eligible. Preference will be given to OEC members, and residents of Monroe, Juneau, Jackson, Sauk, and Wood counties.



At-Large/Non-Traditional

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who is not enrolled in one of the 12 participating public high schools in our service area (At-Large) or someone pursuing post-secondary education after spending time in the work place or raising a family (Non-Traditional).

To be eligible, the applicant must be a member or the son or daughter (or under the legal guardianship) of an active member of OEC in good standing accepted at a post-secondary program or accredited training program.

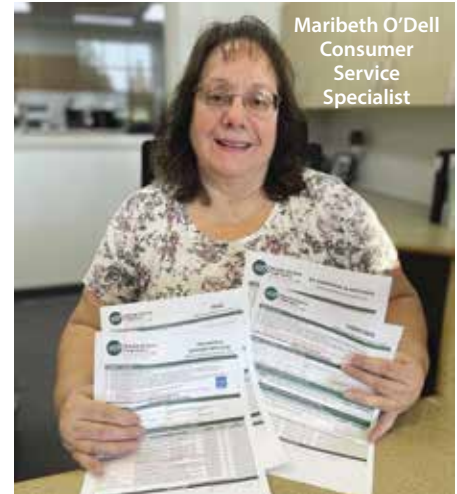
Applications for the Lineworker and At-Large/Non-Traditional scholarships are due by May 1, 2023.

To apply or for more information about scholarships, visit www.oakdalerec.com/scholarships.



ENERGY-SAVING INCENTIVES

We want to help you control your energy costs by helping you make your home as energy efficient as possible. Members have earned thousands of dollars in energy efficiency incentives through Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC). View all available incentive forms at www.oakdalerec.com/incentives. For questions, contact Consumer Service Specialist Maribeth O'Dell at maribeth@oakdalerec.com or call 608-372-4131 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.



Maribeth O'Dell
Consumer
Service
Specialist

ENERGY STAR Appliances & Recycling Incentives

Clothes Washer.....	\$25
Clothes Dryer	\$25
Dishwasher	\$25
Dehumidifier	\$25
Refrigerator.....	\$25
Freezer	\$25
Inductive Range.....	\$25
Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling	\$25
Room A/C Unit Recycling	\$25

Lighting Incentives

Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs (min. 5 bulbs)	\$.50/bulb
Room Occupancy Sensor	\$.50
LED Exit Sign	\$.50
LED Fixture.....	\$.50 per 800 lumens

Electric Water Heater Incentives

50–79 gallon.....	\$150/unit
80 gallons or larger	\$300/unit
Heat pump water heater	\$300/unit
Solar storage water heater	\$300/unit
*w/electric back-up	

The water heater installation will be inspected by the Oakdale Electric Cooperative load management department and a load management control must be installed. A copy of the receipt is required.

A controlled water heater qualifies for a \$3 monthly credit. Unless you are on the dual fuel rate.

**A control is not required for heat pump water heater.*

HVAC

Heat Pump – Air Source & MiniSplit.....	\$300/ton
Heat Pump – Geothermal.....	\$500/ton
Heat Pump – Commercial Air Source & PTHPs	\$300/ton
New Furnace w/Efficient ECM Blower Motor	\$35/each

Ag, Commercial, Industrial Incentives and Home Energy Audit Incentives are available. View all available incentives at www.oakdalerec.com/incentives.

Important Incentive Details

- Incentives must be submitted within **3 months** of purchase and installation.
- Incentives are in place through **December 27, 2023**. Funds are limited, so submit required documentation as soon as possible.
- Incentives will be applied as a credit on an electric account.
- **Refer to incentive forms for detailed criteria.**
- Incentive program is subject to change without notice.

Know the difference between EnergyGuide and the ENERGY STAR labels

As a reminder, Oakdale Electric Cooperative only offers incentives on ENERGY STAR rated appliances. See below to learn the differences between these two labels.

EnergyGuide

The EnergyGuide label is a required label which estimates the annual energy consumption for an appliance. It also provides information about whether that use is above or below the average for that type of product. The dollar amount listed is the estimated yearly operating cost based on the national average cost of electricity.

ENERGY STAR

The ENERGY STAR label is the government's symbol for energy efficiency. It helps consumers easily recognize highly efficient products, homes, and buildings that save energy and money, and help protect the environment. The ENERGY STAR logo is often incorporated into the EnergyGuide label for certified products.

Incentives are available for the purchase of new ENERGY STAR rated appliances. For more information, visit www.oakdalerec.com/incentives.



OEC WELCOMED NEW ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

Breanna Linzmeier joined Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC) as the engineering assistant in January.

Breanna has a degree in business management and a customer relationship professional diploma, as well as an electric cooperative background.

Breanna comes from Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative, where she began as a member services representative and moved into the role of operations coordinator. "I believe my experience and knowledge in the cooperative world will help me adapt quickly to my new duties in the engineering department," stated Breanna.

Outside of her career, Breanna spends much of her time with family and friends or reading a good book. OEC welcomes and is proud to have Breanna join the team.



L-R: Dave Stutzman, n.a.s.a. president; Chris Tackmann, OEC general manager & CEO; Jeanette Boehm, n.a.s.a. volunteer; and Dan Boehm, n.a.s.a. Tomah chairman.

SQUIRREL STRONG

Oakdale Electric Cooperative presented a donation to the Tomah branch of the North American Squirrel Association (n.a.s.a.). A well-deserving organization, n.a.s.a. of Tomah volunteers provide free outdoor activities for the disabled, elderly, and veterans. From organizing disabled turkey and deer hunts, to taking nursing home residents on holiday light tours, the nonprofit organization provides accessibility to multiple outdoor activities.

"We continue to be amazed at the support we receive from area businesses, organizations, and individuals in and around Monroe County, to which, we would not be able to do what we do without the strong community support," n.a.s.a. President Dave Stutzman said.

Time for spring cleaning!

Washing windows & screens can be energy efficient too. Clean windows & screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures. Clean screens also allow more fresh air in when windows are open to recycle indoor air. Natural light and clean air are energy savers, and they enhance overall health and productivity.






Energy
Efficiency
Tip of the Month

Source: Dept. of Energy

Chris Tackmann, General Manager & CEO


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   info@oakdalerec.com

Jackie McGlin, Editor



Oakdale Electric
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
24-Hour Emergency Power Restoration: 800-927-6151
Toll-free Online Bill Payment 866-392-4307

Diggers Hotline: For underground cable locates and power line clearance information, call 800-242-8511.