

WE'RE THANKFUL FOR OUR FELLOW COOPERATIVES



Chris Tackmann, General Manager/CEO

When you think about Oakdale Electric Cooperative, you probably associate us with the local community. And you would be right. Our leadership team, board of directors, and employees all live and work right here in the community we serve. But you may not realize that Oakdale Electric Cooperative is actually part of a much larger cooperative network that brings additional value, tools, and knowledge that benefit you, the members of the co-op.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives When a severe weather event is predicted for our region, we call on our fellow co-ops in areas unaffected by the approaching storm. Through this system of mutual aid, we coordinate with other co-ops to bring additional trucks, equipment, and manpower to our area. We work together and share resources in order to restore power to our community. And Oakdale Electric Cooperative reciprocates by assisting other electric co-ops when they request help.

A defining characteristic of a cooperative is “cooperation among cooperatives.” This is a way that co-ops work together to meet bigger challenges such as power restoration after a severe weather event.

Another area in which Oakdale Electric Cooperative benefits from cooperation among cooperatives is cybersecurity. Through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) “Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities Program” (RC3), we are able to access training, resources, and tools to strengthen our efforts to combat cyber threats.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative’s ability to tap into the larger electric cooperative network and access tools, products, resources, and leading practices from across the nation ultimately makes our co-op and our community stronger.

Global Impact Lastly, communities across the globe have benefitted from the lessons learned and experience of co-ops in electrification of rural areas in the United States.

NRECA International has provided access to reliable and affordable electricity to 120 million people in 43 countries. This effort is made possible through the support of electric co-ops in this state and across the country.

Hundreds of lineworkers, engineers, and other co-op employees have served as volunteers to bring first-time access to electricity and train local partners to help utilities be sustainable in their own communities.

November is a time for reflection and giving thanks. I am grateful for our fellow co-ops that enable us to better serve you and our broader community. When electric co-ops collaborate, we strengthen each other and the communities we serve—and that is something for which to be truly thankful. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

Petition to become a candidate for a director position this November.



Director Qualifications:

- You are a cooperative member residing primarily in districts 3 or 6;
- You have not been employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise, or a business selling energy, supplies, or services to the cooperative;
- You have not been employed by the cooperative within the preceding five years;
- You have not been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction at any time in the preceding seven years.
- You have not been an incumbent of or candidate for a partisan elective county, state or federal office in connection with which a salary is paid;
- You have not been a claimant against the cooperative within the preceding five years

How to run:

Oakdale Electric Cooperative’s Bylaws outline the procedure by which director candidates are nominated. The Bylaws state that the nomination of candidates for director shall be by petition. To be valid, a petition shall be signed by not less than 15 members and submitted by January 25, 2022.

If you are interested in running for a director’s seat, call us at (800)241-2468.



Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

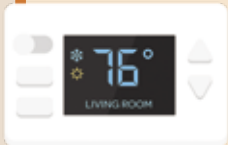


20 TIPS TO GOBBLE UP ENERGY THIS THANKSGIVING

1

Turn up the Heat.

Crank the thermostat up a couple degrees, from the ENERGY STAR preferred setting of 68 degrees Fahrenheit, and keep the ceiling fan off.



4



Ice, Ice, Baby.

Use the microwave to defrost items, rather than doing so naturally overnight in the refrigerator.

Steer Clear.

Use metal pans for cooking over ceramic and glass pans.



8

Light it Up.

Flip all light switches to on, including those in unoccupied rooms.



2

Bigger is Better.

Buy a turkey larger than needed, using the oven for a longer duration.



5

One at a Time.

Cook all side dishes separately, even those with the same baking temperature.



9

Bright Idea.

Use incandescent lights, compared to LEDs, to use at least 75% more energy and last 25 times shorter.



3



The Great Escape.

Leave the refrigerator door open, allowing the cold air to escape, when gathering items.

6

Check it Out.

Open the oven repeatedly to check the progress of a dish.



7

10



Take the heat.

Preheat the oven when cooking a recipe with a cook time of over 60 minutes.

11



Slow Ride.

Forego the slow cooker, an energy efficient appliance, for cooking.

Times Up.

Turn the oven or stove heat off at the designated time, never earlier.

15



18

Mix and Match.

Use a small pot or pan on a large stove burner.



16

Come Clean.

Start the oven's self-cleaning function only when the oven has cooled completely.

12

Blow the Lid Off.

Keep lids off of pots and pans when cooking on the stovetop.



Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot.

Place warm leftovers immediately into the refrigerator after eating.



19

13

The Heat is On.

Load a dishwasher only half full and use the heated dry option.



Bottoms Up.

Cook with warped-bottom cookware compared to flat-bottom cookware.



17

14



Get Your Hands Dirty.

Wash all dishes by hand. This method uses more energy and water than an ENERGY STAR-certified dishwasher.

Air it Out.

Skip caulk or weather strips, and allow cold air to flow through leaky doors and/or windows.



20

We hope this article had you fowling with laughter. Please note, these 20 tips will not help to save energy, but there is an easier and smarter way to do just that and it's called SmartHub.

After signing up for a free SmartHub account, track your usage and take the guesswork out of your bill. Through detailed graphs, you'll be able to monitor usage 24/7 and track your consumption, finding ways to reduce and save.

...all in the palm of your hand and online.



SMART USAGE. SMART MANAGEMENT. SMART LIFE. SMARTHUB.



THANKS FOR GIVING bill credit



Operation Round Up® is just what its name implies. Operation Round Up® funds are generated through a voluntary rounding up of cooperative members' electric bills to the nearest dollar. This change is used to assist worthy causes right here in our service area.

For those who opt to participate in the Operation Round Up® program, the rounding up results in an average donation of approximately \$6 per year.

Thanks to the generosity of our cooperative members, nearly \$100,000 has been given back to our local communities since the program's inception in 2002. To show our gratitude this Thanksgiving, Oakdale Electric Cooperative will be randomly selecting 100 members that currently participate in Operation Round Up® to receive a \$20.02 Thanks for Giving bill credit.

- **Members currently enrolled in Operation Round Up will be automatically entered for the Thanks for Giving bill credit.**
- **Members not currently enrolled in Operation Round Up will need to enroll [by Tuesday, November 30 by 9 a.m.] in Operation Round Up to be entered into the Thanks for Giving bill credit.**

Choose from the following enrollment options:

1. **WEBSITE:** www.oakdalerec.com > Member Benefits > Operation Round Up > Sign – Up
2. **SMARTHUB:** SmartHub App > Bill & Pay > Operation Round Up > Enroll

One hundred [100] winners will be randomly drawn on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 9 a.m., and those winning members will be notified by phone that same day. The \$20.02 bill credit will be applied to the December 2021 billing statement. Employees, directors, as well as immediate family of Oakdale Electric Cooperative, are not eligible.

Chris Tackmann, General Manager/CEO


P.O. Box 40, Oakdale, WI 54649
608-372-4131 • 800-241-2468

   info@oakdalerec.com

Deana Protz, 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.