

- **Tables**
- Flu Shots
- Gift Bags
- Popcorn
- Prizes
- Touchstone Energy®
- Craft Time Studios
- Face Painting
- Giant Games



CHECK OUT OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARY!

When visiting the co-op this fall for Member Appreciation Day, check out the newest addition by the front entrance—a Little Free Library! This take-a-book, share-a-book free book exchange provides access to books for readers of all ages. Access to books is essential,

especially for children, to help improve their reading achievement.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is proud to provide the first, and only, registered Little Free Library in the Oakdale vicinity. Take a book or share a book when you visit on October 19, or earlier!



hopping in one place to purchase fresh, seasonal products directly from the hands of the producers is my jam. I can think of no sweeter way to start the day than with a morning trip to the market to fill up on farmfresh products for the week. Making this experience even more delightful is the time spent with my family. My boys are developing a healthy appetite for supporting our local farmers at the market, and I'm hand selecting five fresh lessons for them along the way.

Meet the People. There is no better way to help children better understand where their food comes from than by meeting the people who produced it. And you only need to look as far as behind the booth at a farmers market to do just that! Encourage your kids to engage in

the art of conversation, a necessary life skill, by asking questions, making eye contact, and actively listening. Farmers are proud of what they sell and love to share their knowledge.

Fresh is Best. Vibrant red radishes, crisp Swiss chard, vine-ripened tomatoes, and free-range eggs. Food tastes better from a farmers market because it's sold at the peak of the growing season. Plus, a short commute from farm to market, shortly after being picked, ensures foods keep their delicious flavors and dense nutrients. Your kids will be able to taste the difference, as fresh, and local, is always best.

Taste Testing Approved. The "look but please don't touch" rule doesn't apply at farmers markets. Touching

and tasting are allowed, assuming permission is granted. Many times samples are offered at booths, but don't be afraid to politely ask for one if it's not. Most farmers will be tickled green to have a youth ask for a taste test of the fruits, and vegetables, of their labor.

Try Something New. Picky eaters beware! Kids are more likely to try something new, even green, when they are included in making food shopping choices. Farmers Markets are the ideal place to diversify palates because booths are piled high with bright, colorful, fresh produce, appealing to both young eyes and tummies. Allow kids to pick out new fruits and/or vegetables, and be amazed when they take a bite out of something new.

Let's Get Cooking. Children of all ages love to help in the kitchen. Work as a team to prepare a farm market-to-table meal using gathered produce by assigning age-appropriate tasks to all helpers. Cooking helps develop fine motor abilities and hand/eye coordination, improves math and reading skills, and builds strong family relationships. Although the process may require extra clean-up and patience, the benefits outweigh the mess.

There's no doubt about it, Farmers Markets are definitely my jam, and my kids' as well. Their preference is homemade strawberry jam topped on a toasted English muffin!

Celebrate National Farmers Market Week with your kids, August 4–10, by visiting a local market in the Oakdale Electric service territory to purchase fresh, locally grown vegetables, fruits, flowers, meats, and other specialty items. —Deana Protz.



ELROY'S FARMERS MARKET

April – October Wednesday 3 – 7 p.m. 202 Main St.

LA VALLE FARMERS MARKET AND FLEA MARKET

May – October Saturday 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Hartje's Travel Center, Market & Hardware | S1428A State Road 33

MAUSTON FARMERS MARKET

May – October Saturday 7 a.m. – sold | Tuesday 2 – 6 p.m. Juneau County Courthouse

NECEDAH FARMERS MARKET

July – October Saturday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Village Parking Lot at Fire Station

NEW LISBON FARMERS MARKET

May – October Sunday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Thursday 2 – 6 p.m. Heritage Park

PITTSVILLE FARMERS MARKET

July – October Saturday 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Baum's Mercantile Parking Lot | 5307 2nd Ave.

Reedsburg REEDSBURG CITY PARK MARKET

May – October Monday & Thursday 12 – 5 p.m. 222 N Park St.

PARK PLAZA MARKET

May – October Monday & Thursday 12 – 5 p.m. 1355 E Main St.

CONCERT IN THE PARK MARKET

June – August 14 Wednesday 6 – 8 p.m. City Park | 222 N Park St.

REEDSBURG AREA MEDICAL CENTER FARMERS MARKET

May – October Friday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. 2000 N Dewey Ave.

SPARTA WISCONSIN FARMERS MARKET

May – October Saturday 8 – 12 p.m. | Wednesday 3 – 6 p.m. Mueller Square | North Water St

TOMAH FARMERS MARKET

May - October Wednesday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Saturday 6 a.m. – 1 p.m. Gillett Park | E. Holton St.



















CAN YOU HELP US FIND THESE PEOPLE?

The following are former members who have capital credit checks that were not cashed. If you know the current address of someone listed here, or of a relative or benefactor who may have rightful claim to the capital credits if the former member is deceased, please contact us at 608-372-4131 or info@oakdalerec.com. Any unclaimed checks will revert to the Wisconsin Federated Youth Foundation, Inc. a charitable tax-exempt trust established by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association for educational purposes.

360 NETWORKS INC
AETNA FARM 6351
ARROWHEAD RV LLC
ARROWOOD BONNIE
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BAKER ISABELLE E
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Bruce Ardelt, General Manager

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Deana Protz, Editor



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.