# Ready to upgrade your appliances?



Everything you do from flipping a switch to upgrading your appliances—can add up to big energy savings. Check out Oakdale Electric Cooperative's energy efficiency rebates at www.oakdalerec. com and combine the buying power of holiday sales with money-saving rebates!

# **ENERGY STAR® Certified Appliance & Lighting Rebates**

- LED Bulbs
- **Electric Water Heaters**
- Central Air Conditioning
- Washer/Dryer
- Refrigerator/Freezer
- Dishwasher
- And more!



www.oakdalerec.com 608-372-4131 800-241-2468







Oakdale Electric Cooperative has a solution to help members alleviate seasonal financial stress, while gaining control of their electric bill. It's called SmartHub, and it's the co-op's free mobile and web application to manage electric account(s) safely and securely. Not only can members view billing and payment history, enroll in autopay, and update personal information, but they can also review their energy usage.

### Understanding energy usage is key to keeping costs in check.

If your electric bill has you feeling fowl, look no further than your electric co-op for assistance. Kurt Spolum, GIS/AMI specialist, has worked for the co-op for six years. He is available to consult with members needing additional help understanding their usage, and will provide practical, personalized suggestions for energy consumption reduction.

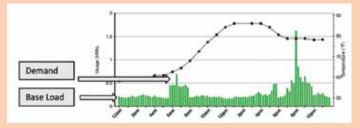
Pull up a chair and enjoy a delicious
Four-Course Meal of Energy Savings Solutions prepared by Kurt.

# SOUP: Savory SmartHub

With both an online and mobile application, SmartHub allows members to monitor, and review, their daily energy usage. Sign up by downloading the free SmartHub app from the Apple App Store or the Android Market by searching for SmartHub. Otherwise, log into SmartHub by visiting oakdalerec.smarthub.coop. (View more enrollment details on opposite page.)

## **APPETIZER: Bold Base Load**

Base load, also known as continuous load, is the minimum amount of electricity required over a 24-hour period to keep a home or business running. The electrical usage analysis graph in SmartHub allows for energy consumption to be viewed, and provides valuable information on **when** and **how much** electricity is consumed. Patterns of higher electrical demand will appear on the graph, allowing for a member to determine their base load. "Once a member understands their base load usage, they can next take a proactive approach to implementing changes," states Kurt.



### MAIN COURSE: Rich (Usage) Reduction

To reduce overall monthly electrical usage a member should start by addressing it at the 15-minute interval level. Spolum advises, "The easiest way to test usage changes is to start turning off certain items for one to two hours. The next day, review the electrical usage graph in SmartHub to see how it was affected. Every 15-minute interval makes up a daily kWh reading, and all the daily readings then make up the monthly reading on your bill."

# **DESSERT: Scrumptious Savings**

Apply these simple ideas at home this holiday season:

- 1. Use LED lights and fiber optic decorations.
- 2. Set holiday lights and decorations with timers.
- 3. Decorate with candles.
- 4. Turn off overhead lights, and use the light from a Christmas tree.
- 5. Plug decorations and electronics into power strips, and turn off when not in use.
- 6. Use a slow cooker, microwave, toaster oven, or warming plate when possible.
- 7. Use the oven efficiently by cooking multiple dishes
- 8. Turn the thermostat down when guests are visiting.
- 9. Run full loads in the dishwasher only.
- 10. Purchase Energy Star appliances when buying new. Don't forget to check out the co-op rebates available!

Add SmartHub to your holiday menu this year, and you'll fill up on Energy Savings Solutions!

# Don't be a TURKEY Sign up for

# Sign up for SmartHub!

When you sign up for SmartHub, you will be automatically entered for your chance to win a turkey for your holiday dinner. Five lucky winners will be drawn from **all** SmartHub registrations. This includes new and existing SmartHub users.

Drawings will be once a day from November 11–15. There will be one winner per day. A member can only win once during the drawing period. Turkeys will not be shipped or delivered and must be claimed by December 4, 2019.

# Signing up for SmartHub is simple and poul-free!

*To sign up through the website:* 

- 1. Visit oakdalerec.smarthub.coop.
- 2. Select the **New User** link.
- 3. Enter your account information and choose **Submit**.
- 4. A temporary password will be sent to the email address you provide.
- 5. When you receive the email, click the login link and use the temporary password.
- 6. Change your password and choose **Confirm** to access SmartHub.

# *To sign up through the app:*

- 1. Download the app from the Apple App Store or the Android Market.
- 2. Find Oakdale Electric Cooperative by location or name and **Confirm**.
- 3. Select the **New User** link.
- 4. Enter your account information and choose **Register**.
- 5. A temporary password will be sent to the email address you provide.
- 6. When you receive the email, click the login link and use the temporary password.
- 7. Change your password and choose **Continue** to access the SmartHub app.





# WATCH YOUR OCTOBER BILL FOR YOUR CAPITAL CREDIT REFUND

Oakdale Electric Cooperative members will be experiencing one of the benefits of membership this month when capital credit refunds are applied to all active accounts. Refunds were applied to the October bills, which members should receive around November 1.

Capital credits represent your ownership of this non-profit, memberowned cooperative. Capital credits are created when the cooperative has earnings, income minus expenses. At the end of each year, these earnings are spread proportionately to all active cooperative members according to the amount of money each member spent at Oakdale Electric Cooperative that year.

Capital credits accumulate in an account in each member's name and are paid as a percentage each year. The size of the percentage is determined by Oakdale Electric Cooperative's Board

of Directors according to the cooperative's financial condition.

condition.
Checks will be issued
to those who no longer receive electric
service from Oakdale Electric but are
still owed capital credits. All current
members will see a refund in their
October bill.



# DUAL FUEL TESTING SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 20

Each year, a test of the load management system is conducted for members of the Dual Fuel program. This year, the test will take place on Wednesday, November 20. The electric heat will be turned off at 5 p.m. and will be turned back on starting at 8 p.m., with everyone's electric heat scheduled to be back on by 10 p.m.

The test is done each year to ensure that your backup system to the electric heat is working properly and also to make sure Oakdale Electric Cooperative's load management equipment is working properly. Please check your systems on Wednesday, November 20, during the test times and let us know if you experience any problems. Also, please contact us if you have any questions about the test, the load management equipment, or the Dual Fuel program.

# **Bruce Ardelt, General Manager**

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

**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.