



## For as little as 65 cents a month, you can support **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

If you are interested in protecting our environment and getting more of your electricity from renewable resources, Bayfield Electric Cooperative has the program for you.

Evergreen is a voluntary renewable energy (green power) program available through Bayfield Electric. Evergreen is for you if you are willing to pay a little bit more to get some or all of your electricity from renewable energy resources. In addition to your normal monthly electric bill, you pay a small additional charge each month to offset the additional cost it takes to support renewable energy.

Evergreen comes from solar, wind, and waste-to-energy renewable resources. Your participation in Evergreen enables Bayfield Electric to secure additional renewable energy resources above and beyond government requirements.

For more information about the Evergreen program, contact Bayfield Electric at 715-372-4287 and ask for Jake.

## BAYFIELD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING

**Monday, May 13**

**Iron River Community Center  
Iron River, WI**

Registration starting at 5 p.m.  
Meeting starting at 6 p.m.

Members who attend in person will receive a \$20 bill credit



*Event subject to change. Check our website, [www.bayfeldelectric.com](http://www.bayfeldelectric.com), for updates.*

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

July 16-18, 2024 | UW-Stout campus



## CALLING ALL HIGH-SCHOOLERS:

Youth Leadership Congress is an annual event hosted by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) and Wisconsin electric cooperatives. The event engages high school students in activities that emphasize team building, cooperative business knowledge, life skills, and leadership skills. YLC is a great opportunity for students to learn more about cooperatives while building strong leadership and interpersonal skills. Past attendees have found it motivating, educational and, of course, fun! Attending YLC also allows you to be eligible to attend the National Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., the next year.

The applicant's parent(s)/legal guardian must be an active member of the Cooperative. The applicant must be a sophomore, junior or senior at one of the following area high schools in the Cooperative's service territory:

Ashland High School  
Bayfield High School  
Drummond High School

Hurley High School  
Mellen High School  
Mercer High School

Northwestern High School  
South Shore High School  
Washburn High School

**There's no cost for you to attend! For more information and registration materials, please contact our office. All registrations must be submitted by May 28, 2024.**





# POWER UP YOUR AWARENESS: MAY IS ELECTRIC SAFETY MONTH

As we immerse ourselves deeper into the digital age, electricity has become an indispensable part of our lives. From powering our homes to fueling industries, electricity is the unseen force that propels modern society forward. However, with great power comes great responsibility. May, designated as Electric Safety Month, serves as a crucial reminder to prioritize safety in our interactions with electricity.

Electricity, while indispensable, can also be hazardous if not handled with care. Electrical accidents can result in

injury, property damage, and even loss of life. Therefore, it is essential to raise awareness about electric safety practices.

### Home Safety Tips:

- **Inspection and Maintenance:** Regularly inspect electrical appliances, cords, and outlets for signs of wear and tear. Replace damaged items promptly to prevent electrical hazards.
- **Overloading Circuits:** Avoid overloading outlets with multiple appliances plugged into the same socket. Distribute the load evenly

across different circuits to prevent overheating and potential fires.

- **Water and Electricity Don't Mix:** Keep electrical appliances away from water sources such as sinks, bathtubs, and swimming pools to prevent electric shocks.
- **Childproofing:** Install tamper-resistant outlet covers to prevent children from inserting objects into sockets. Educate children about the dangers of playing with electrical appliances.
- **Proper Cord Management:** Avoid running cords under rugs or furniture where they can be damaged. Use cord organizers or cable ties to keep cords neat and organized.

## Four Easy Ways to Boost Electrical Safety in the Home

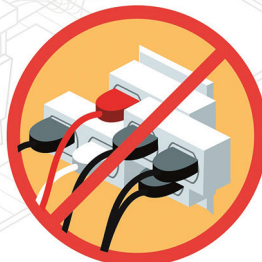
**DON'T** place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.



**DO** keep electrical devices away from water to prevent electric shock.



**DO** ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.



**DON'T** overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

May is National Electrical Safety Month.

### Workplace Safety Measures:

- **Training and Education:** Provide comprehensive training to employees on safe electrical practices, including proper use of equipment and identification of potential hazards.
- **Equipment Maintenance:** Implement regular inspections and maintenance schedules for electrical equipment to ensure they're in good condition.
- **Lockout/Tagout Procedures:** Establish clear procedures for isolating electrical sources during maintenance or repair work to prevent accidental energization.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Provide appropriate PPE such as insulated gloves, goggles, and protective clothing for employees working with electricity.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Have emergency protocols in place, including evacuation procedures and first aid training, to respond effectively to electrical accidents.

Electricity powers our world, but it also carries inherent risks. By observing Electric Safety Month, we reaffirm our commitment to prioritizing safety in our homes, workplaces, and communities.

# STRUGGLING WITH PAYMENTS?

*Let us help!*

Ashland County Housing Authority is the administrator for Bayfield Electric’s “Commitment to Community” program. A yearly payment can be applied to a Bayfield Electric member’s electric account if the member qualifies for the Wisconsin Energy Assistance Program (WEAP) and meets the requirements for the Ashland County Housing program. To see if you may qualify for energy assistance, contact your local Department of Human Services. For more information on this program, please contact Nikki at 1-800-274-8311.

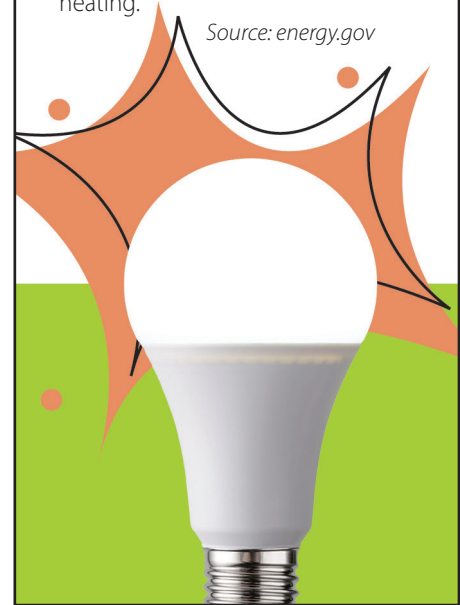


## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

A well-designed landscape can add beauty to your home and reduce home heating and cooling costs. Plant deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns to the south of your home to block sunlight in the summer and reduce the need for air conditioning. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Plant evergreen trees and shrubs with low crowns to block winter winds. Dense evergreen trees and shrubs planted to the north and northwest are the most common type of windbreak and can help lower energy used for home heating.

*Source: energy.gov*



**MEMORIAL DAY**  
REMEMBER AND HONOR

Bayfield Electric Cooperative’s office will be closed Monday, May 27

**MONTH OF MAY**

Billing date: **May 10, 2024**  
April usage  
Bills due upon receipt  
Gross due after **May 30, 2024**

Remember Mom on

*Mother's Day*

May 12

### Christopher Kopel, CEO

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### Amanda Kavajecz, Editor



## Bayfield Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday–Friday  
*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*