YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Bayfield Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Students representing 20 different Wisconsin electric cooperatives gathered at the University of Wisconsin–Stout from July 14–16 for the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's annual Youth Leadership Conference. They learned leadership skills, explored the cooperative business model, and prepared to become ambassadors for Wisconsin's electric cooperatives.

Bayfield Electric sponsored local student Aurora Olson to attend. Aurora and current and former Youth Board members shared how participating in the program has helped shape their education, careers and leadership journeys while encouraging students to take advantage of the opportunities available through WECA including the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

The three-day conference featured leadership development, team-building activities, district meetings, and presentations focused on personal growth, safety, and emerging technology. Students heard from motivational speaker Craig Hillier, who challenged them to become breakthrough leaders, and Hunter Gillett, who shared his inspiring story of resilience after surviving a plane crash. They also learned about safe driving from WECA's Ben Bella and explored how technology is shaping the future with Dairyland Power Cooperative Vice President and Chief Information Officer Nate Melby.



Aurora Olson joins current and former Youth Board members in sharing their experiences with students attending WECA's Youth Leadership Conference at UW–Stout.

SCAM ALERT
Be aware of utility phone scams

Every day, millions of Americans are targeted by scammers through phone calls, emails, text messages, or online. Scammers' tactics can change daily, which is why it is important for consumers to stay on top of the latest scam reports.



Recently cooperative members were targeted through a phone scam where the scammers demanded immediate payment and threatened to shut off power if payment was not received. **Remember, BEC will never threaten immediate disconnection and will never demand member's financial information over the phone.**

Our increasingly connected world provides scammers with more opportunities to connect with unsuspecting consumers. Be vigilant, and please report any utility scams to BEC so we can let others in our community know. If you are ever unsure, simply hang up and give our office a call. Together, we can help prevent our friends and neighbors from being victimized.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND FAQs



Through Bayfield Electric Cooperative's revolving loan fund, business assistance loans are available for qualifying economic development projects within our service area. This program is in conjunction with the USDA. Consider developing your business in northern Wisconsin. We would be proud to be your power supplier! For more information, please contact our office at 715-372-4287.

Purpose

The Revolving Loan Fund seeks to enhance the quality of life in the rural areas of Wisconsin by contributing to the long-term improvements in the general economy by promoting quality job creation and retention, diversification of the economy, improving the skills of the rural workforce, and providing needed community services to benefit rural citizens.

Ineligibility

Ineligible uses of the loan include, but are not limited to, pre-development cost, refinancing of existing debt, and general improvement loans related to normal replacement needs of a business.

Eligibility

In general, eligible projects can include and a business venture, government public body, or non-profit entity involved in a community or economic development project that promotes the purpose of the loan.

Financing Information

The loan seeks to minimize its financial participation in all projects. The loan is not intended to compete with other public or private lenders. The loan will collaborate with other lenders to provide the financial package necessary to help realize the project.

Loan amount, terms and conditions shall be determined by the Bayfield Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

Loan project must include a minimum of 20% funding from other sources.

COBANK SHARING SUCCESS PROGRAM

Bayfield Electric has partnered with CoBank, a cooperative bank serving agribusinesses, rural infrastructure providers, and Farm Credit customers. They announced the launch of its annual Sharing Success program. The $6 million fund is a cornerstone of CoBank's corporate citizenship efforts, matching donations by the bank's customers to nonprofit organizations in their communities.

CoBank established Sharing Success in 2012. Since then, the bank and its customers have together contributed nearly $86 million to groups such as volunteer fire departments, local schools, and hunger relief programs.

The 2026 Sharing Success fund has been fully allocated, but the program will re-open in January 2027. Each cooperative could apply for up to four matching grants, which can't exceed a total of $15,000. Bayfield Electric's board members presented checks from Bayfield Electric and CoBank's matching fund program to local

NEED ELECTRIC SERVICE?

Get on the schedule for the remainder of 2026 now.

If you're still planning to build a new home or add service to a recreational piece of property this year, please contact Bayfield Electric to discuss your electrical service needs. We can also offer you Energy Star rebates. Check our website for details.



DORM ROOM ELECTRICAL SAFETY:

TIPS FOR A SAFE SEMESTER



Be smart and stay safe. Share these tips with your campus-bound students.

DON'T OVERLOAD OUTLETS
Too much power draw = fire risk.

Tip: Plug dorm room fridge directly into wall outlet.

UNPLUG WHEN NOT IN USE
Even when off, devices can still draw power or overheat.

Tip: Unplug fans, chargers and appliances when you're out.

DECORATE SAFELY
Don't use nails or tacks to secure cords or light strands.

Tip: Use plastic hooks to hang string lights.

NEVER CHARGE A PHONE UNDER PILLOWS OR BEDDING
It could overheat or catch fire.

Tip: Create a dedicated charging station in your room.

NEVER USE DAMAGED CORDS
Frayed or cracked cords can spark a fire.

Tip: If a cord looks worn, replace it — don't tape it!

KEEP CORDS COOL & CLEAR
Don't run cords under rugs, beds or doorways.

Tip: Keep cords visible to avoid overheating.

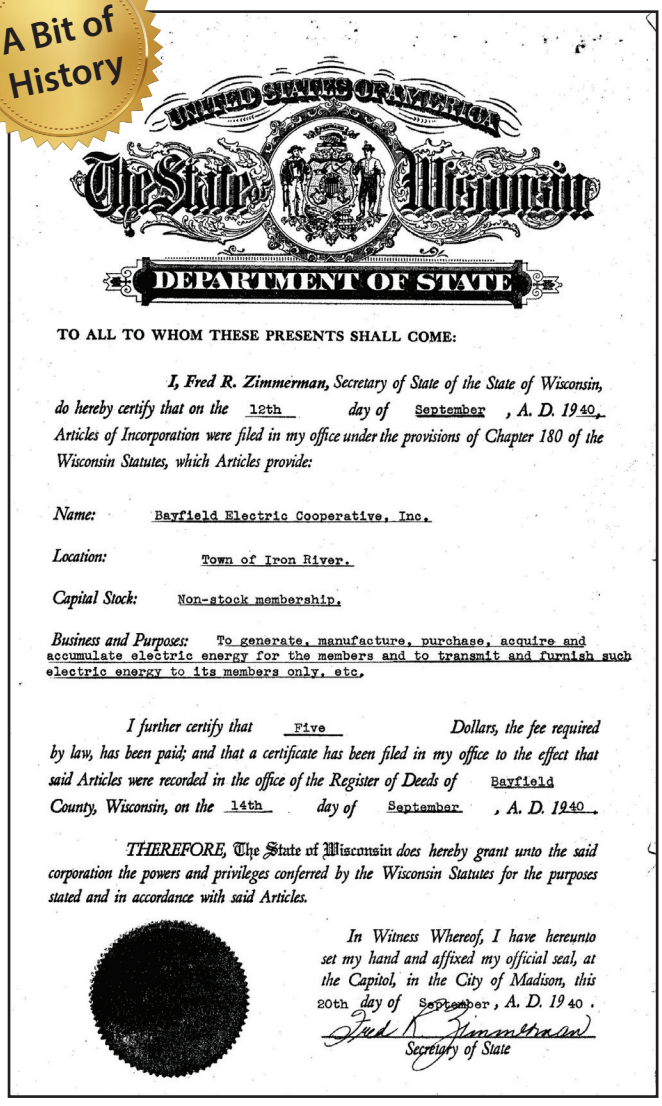
REPORT ELECTRICAL ISSUES FAST
Flickering lights? Warm outlets?

Tip: Tell campus maintenance ASAP; don't wait.

Learn more:

SafeElectricity.org®

A Bit of History



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The State of Wisconsin

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

I, Fred R. Zimmerman, Secretary of State of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that on the 12th *day of* September *, A. D. 1940, Articles of Incorporation were filed in my office under the provisions of Chapter 180 of the Wisconsin Statutes, which Articles provide:*

Name: Bayfield Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Location: Town of Iron River.

Capital Stock: Non-stock membership.

Business and Purposes: To generate, manufacture, purchase, acquire and accumulate electric energy for the members and to transmit and furnish such electric energy to its members only, etc.

I further certify that Five *Dollars, the fee required by law, has been paid; and that a certificate has been filed in my office to the effect that said Articles were recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of* Bayfield *County, Wisconsin, on the* 14th *day of* September *, A. D. 1940.*

THEREFORE, The State of Wisconsin does hereby grant unto the said corporation the powers and privileges conferred by the Wisconsin Statutes for the purposes stated and in accordance with said Articles.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, at the Capitol, in the City of Madison, this 20th *day of* September *, A. D. 1940.*

Fred R. Zimmerman
Secretary of State

TEXTING AND CALLING NOTIFICATIONS

Is your information up to date?

We ask you to please make sure your account info is up to date, especially phone numbers. We have recently started to communicate to our members through texting. The main number we have on file for you can be found on the bottom of your monthly bill. If this needs to be updated simply write a note on the stub and return it to us with your payment or give our office a quick call. If we have a planned power outage or are doing routine transformer or pole inspections in your area, you'll hear from us!

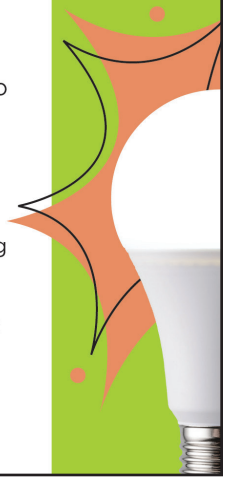
Please note: notifications will come from a different number rather than our main phone line.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH

September kicks off the fall shoulder season, when cooler mornings and milder evenings often mean you can give your heating and cooling system a break. Open windows, use ceiling fans and enjoy the fresh air whenever temperatures allow. It's also the perfect time to schedule annual HVAC maintenance before colder weather arrives. Because demand is typically lower during the fall, heating and cooling professionals often have greater availability, making it easier to book an appointment. Regular maintenance can improve your system's efficiency, help prevent unexpected breakdowns and keep your home comfortable all year long.

Source: Department of Energy



MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Billing Date: September 10, 2026
August Usage
Gross Due after September 30, 2026
Disconnect September 15, 2026

Christopher Kopel, CEO

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www.bayfieldelectric.com
Payment by Phone: 855-940-3796
After-Hours Outage: 715-372-4047

Amanda Kavajecz, Editor

Bayfield Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday–Thursday
7:30 to 10:30 a.m., Fridays

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.