

# ROCK ENERGY NEWS

FOR ROCK ENERGY COOPERATIVE MEMBERS

www.rock.coop

April 2017

## Pick Up the Phone Before the Shovel

### National Safe Digging Month Raises Awareness to Underground Dangers

Spring is finally here! With the snow melted and the ground ready for planting, eager homeowners are gearing up to start those outdoor digging projects.

Before you reach for the shovel, remember to call 811, the national call-before-you-dig number, to ensure that your buried utility lines are marked.

This April marks the 10th annual National Safe Digging Month. The designation reminds residents that our land is made up of a complex underground infrastructure of pipelines, wires, and cables.

Striking an underground line while digging can cause injuries, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, and result in fines and repair costs.

A call must be placed to 811 before every digging

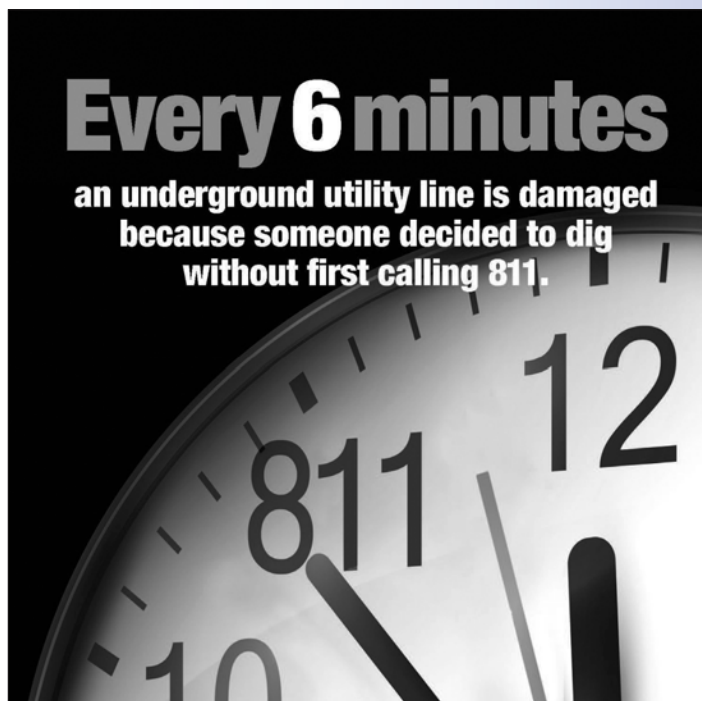
project, from simple landscaping projects like planting trees or shrubs, to building a deck or installing a rural mailbox.

Every six minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811.

Don't become part of the statistic—make sure to call!

Here's what happens when you call 811:

- Your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. That's Diggers Hotline in Wisconsin and JULIE (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) in Illinois.
- Wisconsin requires the call to be made three business days before the start of the project, while Illinois law specifies two business days.
- A representative will ask for the location and



description of your digging project.

- Utility companies servicing the area then will send a professional locator to the proposed area to mark any buried lines with flags: red for electric; yellow, gas or petroleum; orange, communications; blue or purple, water; and green, sewer or drainage.
- Wait until your official

project start date before beginning to dig to make sure all the utilities have been marked. If your planned work site is marked, don't dig in that area.

- In Wisconsin, your project must begin within 10 days of your official start date. In Illinois, work must begin within 14 days of your locate request and is valid for 28 days.



Save the Date!

Rock Energy Night  
at the Ballpark

Saturday, June 10

## Youth Leadership Deadline Extended

The deadline for students to apply for Youth Leadership Congress has been extended to May 1.

The conference, sponsored by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association, is scheduled for July 26-28 at UW-River Falls.

Applicants must be current freshmen,

sophomores, or juniors who reside in the co-op's service territory.

Details are available on our website at www.rock.coop. Just click on the Community & Youth tab. If you have questions, call Barbara Uebelacker, communications specialist, at 866-752-4550 or email her at BarBU@rock.coop.

# Homeowner's Insurance Policies Cover Losses from Power Outages

Rock Energy Cooperative works diligently to make sure your electricity is there when you need it; but like all things, nothing is 100 percent guaranteed.

Power outages or voltage issues—whether triggered by a storm, lightning, trees, equipment failure, animals, or vehicles hitting power poles—can damage computer equipment, TVs, and other appliances in your home.

These events are out of our control, and Rock Energy Cooperative does not compensate

for any damaged equipment.

However, most homeowner's insurance policies cover losses from power interruptions that are caused by lightning, windstorms, and other sources.

Make sure you're familiar with your policy and what is covered. Call your agent if you're not sure about your specific coverage.

You can help protect your own equipment by unplugging it during a storm or power outage and by installing surge protection.

## Newsletter Available Online

You don't have to wait until your statement comes each month to stay informed about what's happening at Rock Energy.

This newsletter, *Rock Energy News*, is available at our web site, [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop), at the beginning of each month. Just click About Us and select Magazines & Newsletters. The site also has local pages of *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* and *Illinois Country Living* for easy viewing.

## Update Your Contact Information

Do you have a new phone number or email address?

If so, remember to let us know so we can keep our records current. You can call us at 866-752-4550 between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays. Or go to [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop) and click on Contact Us.

## Happy Easter!

Rock Energy Cooperative offices will be closed on Friday, April 14, in observance of Good Friday. We will reopen at 7:30 a.m. Monday, April 17. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend.

Even though our offices are closed, standby crews are always available 24 hours a day. Call 866-752-4550 to report a power outage.



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**Rock Energy Cooperative**  
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## Get Connected

Check out these great local deals offered with your Co-op Connections Card.

**Happy House Liquor, 1121 Elmwood Ave., Beloit – 608-362-1831**

Fully stocked liquor store.

**\$5 Off Any Purchase of \$40 or More (excludes lottery and cigarettes)**



**E&D Waterworks, 915 N. Parker Drive, Janesville – 608-752-4718 – [www.edwaterworks.com](http://www.edwaterworks.com)**

Bottled water and salt delivery, water treatment sales and service, well inspections and water testing, water softeners, heaters, chlorinators, and filters. All your water needs!



**10% Off Labor on Any Service Call (Rock County residents only)**

### Healthy Savings Discounts

The same program that offers discounts at local merchants and has saved Rock Energy members about \$132,000 on prescriptions also offers significant savings on dental, vision, hearing, lab and imaging services, and chiropractic work.

To locate participating providers in your area, call 800-800-7616 or go to [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop), click on the Co-op Connections Card, and look under the Healthy Savings tab. Be sure to have your Co-op Connections Card handy.



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### Current Deals

For a complete listing of current deals, visit [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop) and click on the Co-op Connections Card.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Summer is right around the corner! Have you changed your home's air filter? Filters get loaded with more and more particles as they do their job. This actually has the effect of making them more efficient, but it also increases resistance and reduces airflow. Remember to check filters once a month.

Source: [EnergySavers.gov](http://EnergySavers.gov)