

What's Happening

**August is
Back-to-School
Safety Month**

**August 11
National Safe
Digging Day**

**September 5
Labor Day**
REC Offices Closed

**August 26 is
National Dog Day!!**



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With the current spike in energy costs, Rock Energy highly suggests members take steps to reduce their energy use.

Conservation is one area that members can utilize to reduce energy consumption. Conserving energy during peak energy use hours not only increases energy efficiency, but also lowers consumption during demand periods. Through the proper utilization of these two factors, Rock Energy Cooperative and its members will benefit as less power will be consumed during the peak hours of 1 to 6 p.m.

The price of electricity is based on two primary factors, including the price of fuel needed to generate power and the demand for power. The demand peak occurs each month at the highest usage hour, which is unknown and changing.

The overall goal of conserving energy during this high-use time period is to reduce the overall system demand, with less power being necessary at critical peak times. Plus, using energy efficient ideas in homes and businesses can help each consumer as well. Especially on days that are over 85 degrees, and/or are very humid, members should make an extra effort to reduce electrical usage from 1 to 6 p.m.

While you can certainly implement energy efficient changes in your home or business any time during the day, please remember that making an effort to conserve energy during high usage (peak) hours is especially important. And in the end, it's a big benefit for both you and for the cooperative.



Energy-Saving Tips

- ▶ Installing programmable thermostats on a heating/cooling system can help control the amount of energy used and reduce costs. Setting a programmable thermostat to operate during off-peak hours, or turning the fan to "auto" can also help conserve energy. Always clean or change filters frequently.
- ▶ During peak hours try to reduce the use of heat-producing appliances such as ovens, ranges, dishwashers, washers and dryers.
- ▶ Doing laundry on the weekend or after 7 p.m. during the week will help. Pre-soak clothes and use a shorter agitation time. Use cold water for washing.
- ▶ Prepare extra meals on the weekend, and use the microwave to heat them up through the week. This will save time, as well as energy.
- ▶ Run the dishwasher after 7 p.m. and let the dishes air-dry when possible.
- ▶ Save household projects such as vacuuming, ironing and running power tools for the weekend or during off-peak hours.
- ▶ Use a timer or manually operate a pool or spa pump and heater during off-peak times only. Cover your pool or spa to keep it clean and save heat.



86th Annual Meeting to be held Sept. 19

Rock Energy encourages members to join us and vote during the upcoming director elections, which will be held at our 86th Annual Meeting on Monday, September 19, 6 p.m., at the Eclipse Center in Beloit, WI. Directors up for election this year are in Districts 2, 4 and 9.

- This year's event will remain a business meeting only, like it was last year. No dinner served, nor scholarships presented.
- No guest speakers or kids' activities.
- Attendees should bring a mask to the event (masks may be required).

Even though this year's meeting will be a "business only" event, by virtue of paying your electric bill each month, you're a member of the co-op, and every member has an opportunity to vote when it comes to co-op governance. This ties back to our guiding principles of equitable economic participation and democratic control of the co-op, and it's exactly why we hope to see you at this year's Annual Meeting in September.

To register to attend this year's annual meeting, please call 866-752-4550.



GENERATOR INSTALLATION

With proper use and maintenance, generators provide great convenience during a power outage. If you're considering the purchase of a generator, check out our newest video and make sure you have all of the RIGHT information you need to get started. The video covers the various factors that need to be carefully considered before installing a generator at your home.

To watch this video, and other REC videos, go to:

www.rock.coop/info-videos

Reporting an Outage Using SmartHub

Did you know that you can report an outage through SmartHub on-line or with the SmartHub App? Just log into your account and click on the "Report An Issue" button in the top right corner (see image to the right). This link is also on the left side under "Quick Links." You will be directed to a page where you can report the outage by clicking on the "Power Outage" button (see image below).

Get SmartHub! SmartHub is Rock Energy's online account management system. The free app for computers and mobile devices is easy to use and offers many features to provide members with secure account management right at their fingertips. With SmartHub, you can: Check your usage, contact our office, pay your bill, receive account notifications, report an outage, and sign up for paperless billing.

The screenshots show the Rock Energy Cooperative SmartHub website. The top screenshot displays the main navigation bar with 'Report An Issue' in the top right corner, highlighted by a red arrow. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for 'Quick Links', 'View and Manage My Usage', and 'Communication / Alerts'. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Report An Issue' page, where the 'Power Outage' button is highlighted by a red arrow. The page also includes a 'Report An Issue' form and a 'Pay Now' button.

2022 LABOR DAY
SEPTEMBER 5

ROCK ENERGY OFFICES CLOSED LABOR DAY

Rock Energy offices will be closed and REC personnel will be out on Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of Labor Day. Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices throughout the holiday weekend and at the payment kiosk outside our South Beloit office, 15229 Willowbrook Road. Even though our offices are closed, standby crews are available. If you need to report a power outage or a natural gas incident, please call 866-752-4550.