

## What's Happening

**March 31**  
Easter

**April 18**  
Lineman  
Appreciation Day

### April is National Safe Digging Month

Traditionally, April brings a ground swell of outdoor work which often includes digging. Whether it is a small project or a large home improvement project, National Safe Digging Month (April) is a way to remind us all to call 8-1-1 before starting any digging project.

## Call 8-1-1 Before You Dig

In observance of National Safe Digging Month in April, Rock Energy urges all members to call 8-1-1 before every digging project so underground utilities can be marked.

Digging without knowing the approximate location can result in service disruptions, costly repairs, serious injuries, and even death if gas, electric, communications, water, and sewer lines are damaged.

Every 9 minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 8-1-1.

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



### When You Call 8-1-1:

- 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 law requires the call to be made three business days before the start of the project, while Illinois law specifies two business days. Be sure to write down your dig # for future reference.
- 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.
- Wait until your official project start date before beginning to dig to make sure all the utilities have been marked.

### For More Information:

**NATIONWIDE:** [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) or call 8-1-1

**WISCONSIN:** [www.diggershotline.com](http://www.diggershotline.com) or call 800-242-8511

**ILLINOIS:** [www.illinois1call.com](http://www.illinois1call.com) or call 800-892-0123

### Rock Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 1758  
2815 Kennedy Rd.  
Janesville, WI 53547-1758

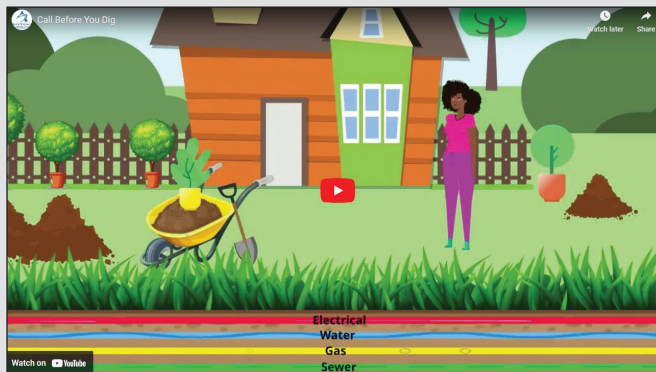
P.O. Box 126  
15229 Willowbrook Rd.  
South Beloit, IL 61080

(866) 752-4550

Shane Larson  
Chief Executive Officer

Jonas Berberich  
Editor

### Watch The Rock Energy "Call 8-1-1 Before You Dig" Video!



Scan the QR code to watch the video.



# 2024 Youth Leadership Conference

The annual WECA Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) is a dynamic three-day event sponsored by Wisconsin's electric cooperatives and facilitated by WECA. It is a unique opportunity for youth to develop their leadership skills while learning the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses. This is a by-teens, for-teens cooperative leadership conference. It is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

**July 16-18, 2024**  
**UW–Stout (Menomonie, WI)**  
**Register By: June 1**



Scan the QR code to register.

## What Will You Do At YLC?

- See what makes the cooperative business model different and successful and apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.
- Work together with other youth leaders to demonstrate the power and value of cooperation.
- Identify and develop your own leadership skills.
- Learn some of the important history that has shaped today's cooperatives.
- Discuss cooperative careers with professionals in the industry.
- Be entertained and challenged by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and explore topics important and relevant in your life.
- Experience college life at a University of Wisconsin campus.



Attendees don't pay. They are sponsored by their local electric cooperatives.

Students spend three days on a college campus and experience a typical college environment, complete with living in the residence halls, attending sessions throughout campus, and even experiencing a university dining service.

Finally, attendees elected to the youth board will not only plan the next conference their way; they also have the opportunity to attend the annual National Rural Electric Cooperative Association National Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., the following June.

## Who Should Apply?

- High school students from Rock Energy Cooperative member families.
- Students active in their school and community.

## SPRING ENERGY-SAVING CHECKLIST

### GIVE YOUR AC A CHECKUP

Have your HVAC system inspected by a pro annually for peak performance.

### FEEL THE BREEZE

Switch your fan's direction to counter-clockwise to push cool air down.

### SEAL PESKY LEAKS

Don't lose cool air this summer. Seal your air leaks, especially around windows.

### REPLACE AIR FILTERS

Switch them out once a month to keep them working in tip-top shape.

### DON'T TRICK YOUR THERMOSTAT

Move electronics that radiate heat away from your thermostat to avoid your AC system running longer than necessary.

## Homeowner Insurance Policies Cover Loss 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 does not compensate for any damaged equipment.

However, most homeowner insurance policies will 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.