

## What's Happening

**May 15**  
**Armed Forces Day**

**May 31**  
**Memorial Day**

### May is Electrical Safety Month

This national campaign, which was introduced in the mid-1990s, aims to raise awareness and educate the public on electric safety tips to avoid potential electrical hazards, reducing risks of property loss and accidental injuries and fatalities. Electrical Safety Month is the perfect time to assess your home's potential electrical hazards.

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## Keeping Electrical Safety Top-of-Mind!

May is National Electrical Safety Month, so now is the perfect time to brush up on safety procedures and to make sure that everyone in your home is aware of them in order to prevent unnecessary exposure to electrical hazards and risks.

Being cautious when using electrical appliances, extension cords, light bulbs and other equipment is important. Safety tips should be included in household rules, along with daily behavior expectations for all members of the family. It only takes one mistake to spark an electrical fire, but simple prevention measures can be effective solutions. For instance, don't run appliances around water; don't overload outlets with plugs; and never run electrical cords under rugs.

#### Electrical Fires


When an electrical short or spark occurs, it is vital to understand what to do to prevent or put out an electrical fire to keep the damage and devastation from spreading. You should, of course, call 911 or other appropriate emergency services immediately in case of

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SAFETY MONTH**

electrical injury or fire. There are many common causes of electrical fires and signs to be aware of, such as flickering lights, hot light switches, or frayed electrical cords.

#### Outdoor Electrical Safety

Since many electrical hazards can be found near the exterior of your home — and not just inside — it is also important to practice electrical safety outdoors. Keep trees pruned and away from power lines overhead, as well as where the power lines approach the house. Don't fly drones, kites, model aircraft or balloons near power lines. When using a ladder, carefully inspect the surrounding area to be sure it is free from power lines. Always assume that contact with a power line can be deadly, and do not approach a downed power line.



# ELECTRICAL SAFETY


⚡ TIPS FOR YOUR HOME

Watch the new ROCK ENERGY video: **"ELECTRICAL SAFETY IN THE HOME"**  
at [www.rock.coop/videos](http://www.rock.coop/videos)



**Cell phones don't belong in bed**

Do not sleep or lounge with a charging cell phone or other device. You could burn your skin or set bedding on fire.




**Pay attention to flickering lights**

Do not ignore odd electrical symptoms. Flickering lights, warm or discolored outlets, frequently tripped circuits or fuses, or smoky odors may mean you have a problem. Consult a qualified electrician.

**Don't overload outlets**

Plugging several cords on one circuit draws too much power and can damage electronics or your wiring and may start a fire.

## NEW ROCK ENERGY VIDEO!

Go to [www.rock.coop/videos](http://www.rock.coop/videos) and check out Rock Energy's newest informational video - Electrical Safety in the Home!



While electricity powers our homes, computers and appliances – you should never forget that it can be a very dangerous hazard. So, remember, when at home, always think SAFETY FIRST.

It's a good idea to know where some of the hidden electrical dangers are in your home, which our new video goes through! CHECK IT OUT - to see the new video, go to: [www.rock.coop/videos](http://www.rock.coop/videos).

Rock Energy offices will remain closed and REC personnel will be out on Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial 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, please call 866-752-4550.

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

### LANDSCAPING

Trees are available in the appropriate sizes, densities, and shapes for almost any shade application. To BLOCK solar heat in the summer, but let heat IN during the winter, use deciduous trees. To provide continuous shade or to block heavy winds, use dense evergreen trees or shrubs.

## February Storm Causes Bills to be Higher Than Usual

In mid-February, many natural gas customers across America were slammed with surging prices as southern states like Texas and Oklahoma were hit with a historic winter storm.

Unfortunately, the extreme cold weather in February sent market prices – and ultimately bills – skyrocketing. Rock Energy is aware that some of our members are concerned about the higher than normal bill they may have received. To address this issue, we have decreased the number of days billed on some of our members' bills. By doing this, the bill amount is less than what it would have been using a normal billing cycle (normally you are billed for 30 days of energy use per bill). The usage days that have been removed from the current bill will be spread across future bills over the next

few months.

If you have any questions about your bill, you can contact Rock Energy at 866-752-4550 to speak with one of our Member Services Representatives who can discuss the best assistance or payment plan option for you. We are working with members on an individual, case-by-case basis.

Rock Energy has been and will continue to communicate with members about any updates and/or changes regarding the current situation through email, our print newsletter and magazine, and on our web site. If you do not receive our email communications, please send us your email address. If you would like to provide us with your email address, call us at 866-752-4550, or go to [www.rock.coop](http://www.rock.coop) and click Contact Us.

## 2021 WECA Youth Leadership Congress is Going Virtual!

The 2021 Youth Leadership Congress is a FREE, two half-day event, to be held JULY 13-14, for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses.

This is an opportunity for young people to see what makes the cooperative business model different and successful, then apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.

During the event attendees will:

- Identify and learn how to develop your own leadership skills.
- Discuss cooperative careers with industry professionals.
- Be entertained and challenged by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and talk about topics that are relevant in your life.

This is a “by-teens, for-teens” cooperative leadership conference that is developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

**Who Should Attend:** High school students (including incoming high school students and 2020 high school grads) with family members who belong to a Wisconsin electric cooperative.

**REGISTER BY: JUNE 1**

**MORE INFO. & REGISTRATION: [WWW.ROCK.COOP](http://WWW.ROCK.COOP)**

(Go to the “Community & Youth” tab and click on “Youth Leadership Congress”)

