

Set your thermostat to 78 degrees  
between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

POLK-BURNETT ELECTRIC CO-OP  
**Powerlines**

See article below to  
Do the Summer Shift  
and Beat the Peak.



**BEAT THE PEAK ALERT**



Your Source for Reliable Power & Extraordinary Service

AUGUST 2018



## A name you can trust by General Manager Steve Stroshane

This weekend, a co-op member approached me at an event in my hometown of Osceola. Our small talk quickly turned into something more serious, and he asked about the success of our [SunTuria Solar](#) development and if residential solar might be an option for his home.

I share this story as an invitation to you to come to the co-op for answers. In the age of Google, Siri and the internet, we encourage you to talk with your local co-op first. We have been your energy partner for years, and we pride ourselves on being your first source of information about all things energy-related.

Our co-op employees have the experience and education to help you make informed energy decisions for your home, business and family. We are responsive. We are local. And we are experts in our industry.

Please contact us for answers to all your energy questions, including 1) advice on how to make your home more comfortable and [energy efficient](#), 2) information about electrical [safety](#), and 3) questions about [solar](#) energy, [geothermal](#) systems and [e-vehicles](#).

In a national survey on the [Cooperative Difference](#) conducted by Touchstone Energy, co-op members across the country said, "My co-op is a name I can trust." I'm pleased to report that this summer, many of you trusted us as a source for information by attending co-op energy seminars on energy efficiency, geothermal systems and residential solar.

I know that trust is earned, not freely given, and here at Polk-Burnett, we work every day to be a resource you can trust, not only for electricity, but also for information. Please let us know if we can help you; our number is 800-421-0283, ext. 595.



### Sign up for your co-op's e-newsletter: It's a great source for reliable and convenient information

I'd also like to invite you to sign up for the co-op's e-newsletter! We'll send you tips to save energy and money, plus rebate deals, co-op news and special offers. We promise not to send a lot of junk; just our e-newsletter delivered to your email inbox once a month.

Polk-Burnett e-news is especially handy for co-op members who have gone paperless and receive an e-bill. (You won't miss a thing!) [Subscribe on polkburnett.com](#) or [contact a member services representative, 800-421-0283, ext. 335. We'll help you get started!](#)

*Polk-Burnett's e-newsletter is convenient, free and secure. Your contact information will not be sold or shared, and you may unsubscribe at any time.*

**SUMMER SHIFT: Reduce electricity weekdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

**BEAT THE PEAK: Enroll to receive peak alerts by phone, email or text when energy demand and price are high.**

## Please help us Beat the Peak

Are there activities you perform on certain days of the week or times of the day because it's always been your routine? When was the last time you thought about how your habits today affect the next generation?

This summer, consider shifting your weekday chores and activities that consume electricity to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. This helps keep rates affordable because you're shifting the demand for electricity to times when it is less expensive to buy. Reducing electricity also cuts your carbon footprint.

### Everyone can help:

1. Set the thermostat to 78 degrees, especially when no one is home.
2. Wash laundry early in the morning or after 7 p.m. Use cold water, if possible. Then, hang on line to dry.
3. Start the dishwasher after 7 p.m., then open the door when the dry cycle begins and let air dry overnight.
4. Shut off unnecessary lights and electronics.
5. Use the microwave for cooking or enjoy a picnic with foods that don't require a stove or oven to prepare.

**Beyond Summer Shift: Enroll in [Beat the Peak](#) on [polkburnett.com](#) or 800-421-0283 to receive alerts by text, email or phone asking you to reduce energy when demand and price are high. Thank you!**

**LOWER YOUR ENERGY BILL**

**BOOST ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND IMPROVE COMFORT IN YOUR HOME**

**WITH REBATES FROM YOUR CO-OP FOR:**

- Home performance testing  
\$300 OFF TEST and Up to \$1,000 on HOME IMPROVEMENTS
- Appliances and lighting
- Air-source and geothermal heat pump systems
- Renewable energy systems

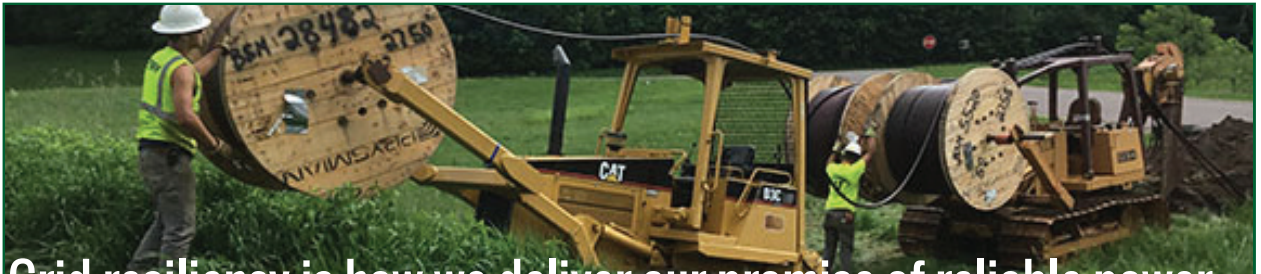
**REBATES FOR CO-OP MEMBERS**

**Energy Sense**

**Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

**GET READY FOR WINTER!**  
In 2017, EnergySense helped members earn \$151,000 in rebates and cut electricity by 2.4 million kWh.

**POLK-BURNETT ELECTRIC CO-OP**  
800-421-0283, x595  
polkburnett.com



## Grid resiliency is how we deliver our promise of reliable power

by Ed Johansen, operations manager

Grid resiliency is making headlines in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, which caused extensive damage to Puerto Rico's electric system, resulting in the longest sustained outage in U.S. history. Resiliency is the reliability of our electric service. It's our ability to restore your power quickly. It's our ability to meet the demands of new technology in your homes (smart appliances, devices and e-vehicles) and serve you with various generation sources (solar, wind, coal and natural gas), without missing a beat. It begins with designing and building systems to withstand high winds and powerful storms, cyber security threats and other disruptions that could result in power outages. A resilient grid is flexible and adaptable. Resiliency is a 24/7, 365-day-a-year task. Whether it's power lines, substations or generation facilities on the grid, it takes proactive maintenance and sound investments to keep them running smoothly.

The lack of resiliency in Puerto Rico wasn't solely caused by hurricane damage, it was the result of years of neglect in taking care of the system. Here in Wisconsin, we know that weather (tornados, lightning, wind, snow and ice) are always a threat, but we have confidence in our system to recover quickly, with as little disruption as possible.

The dictionary defines resiliency as the ability to bounce back. We work toward that goal for you every day.

*Above: Three-phase power line construction near Bone Lake, County Road I links Bunyan and Luck substations to create system redundancy for faster outage recovery. Just as we service vehicles with regular oil changes, the grid must also be maintained.*

Source: energy.gov



## Energy efficiency tip of the month

Look for LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway and porch lights. Many include auto shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar lights for outdoor spaces.

## What's the best deal for keeping warm this winter?

Are you looking to conserve energy and lower electric costs while keeping cozy and warm this winter?



**Now is the time to upgrade your heating system to an Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) heater from Polk-Burnett.** The benefits of ETS heat:

- ✓ Safe and clean.
- ✓ Easy to operate and maintenance free.
- ✓ 100% efficient.
- ✓ No carbon monoxide. No exhaust. No fuel tanks.

Plus, when you install a high efficiency ETS heater from Polk-Burnett, you qualify for off-peak rates, which deliver even more savings!

☎ Call today for more information about warm and efficient off-peak electric heaters from Polk-Burnett, 800-421-0283, ext. 595.

## Be Safe: Stay in your vehicle if power lines are down

Following an accident or storm that drops power lines around your car:

- ✓ **Stay inside car until power is shut off; the ground outside may be energized.**
  - ✓ Do not drive over wires; they may be live with high-voltage electricity.
  - ✓ Call 911 and keep others away until help arrives.
  - ✓ If you must exit the vehicle, jump clear so no part of your body touches the car when you land.
  - ✓ Keep both feet together and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away. Keeping feet together and on the ground minimizes the chance for shock.



### Annual meeting prize winners

Congratulations to co-op members:

Gary Karis.....	Amery.....	TV
Joshua Marincel.....	Osceola.....	iPad
Ronald Thompson.....	New Richmond.....	\$50 credit
Lan Gubrud.....	Luck.....	\$50 credit
Gwen Johnson.....	Star Prairie.....	\$50 credit
Dennis Hall.....	Balsam Lake.....	\$50 credit
David Thompson.....	Andover, MN.....	\$50 credit
James Niemann.....	Cumberland.....	\$50 credit
Jay Becker.....	St. Croix Falls.....	\$50 credit
Joseph Denn.....	Frederic.....	\$50 credit
Laverne Larson.....	Milltown.....	\$50 credit
Paul Collins.....	Amery.....	\$50 credit
Ron Nelson.....	Amery.....	50 gal. propane



### Beat the Peak prize winners

Congratulations to co-op members who won a \$50 electric bill credit for Beat the Peak enrollment:

Brenda and John Mulroy.....	Webster
Jay Becker.....	St. Croix Falls
Jon and Angelika Shafer.....	Webster
Jerry and Loretta Pedersen.....	St. Croix Falls
Edward Ellefson.....	Centuria
Shaun and Alysia Fisher.....	Luck
Linda Peterson.....	Osceola
David and Johanna Voss.....	Danbury
Gary and Theresa Nelson.....	St. Croix Falls
Joel Olson.....	Spoooner

**IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL SURVEY, WE APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION TO HELP US IMPROVE.**

All members who submit a survey will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

Polk-Burnett is your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Reliable power with efficiency and extraordinary service.

Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter.

800-421-0283 • polkburnett.com



Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer | Member Owned | Not for Profit



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative