

GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING



By James Anderson General Manager/CEO

For many of us, the meaning of Thanksgiving usually includes feasting, four-day weekends, football games, family reunions, or a forerunner to Christmas festivities. Thanksgiving was intended to be a time when we expressed our gratitude. However, those two simple words, “Thank You,” can occasionally get lost in the busyness that naturally occurs with each holiday.

John F. Kennedy once said, “We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.” I agree and would like to take a moment to thank our members, employees, and

the JREC board for what they do for this cooperative and the community.

Concern for Community is one of the seven cooperative principles that we as a JREC family follow year-round. This concern was demonstrated again this year when our members, employees, and board donated school supplies, backpacks, coats, gloves, hats, food, and money to make a difference in the lives of families in the communities we serve.

“Thanksgiving is an emotional holiday. People travel thousands of miles to be with people they only see once a year. And then discover once a year is way too often.”—Johnny Carson

May gratitude fill your Thanksgiving table.



Jump River Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



CAPITAL CREDITS

Your piece of the pie!

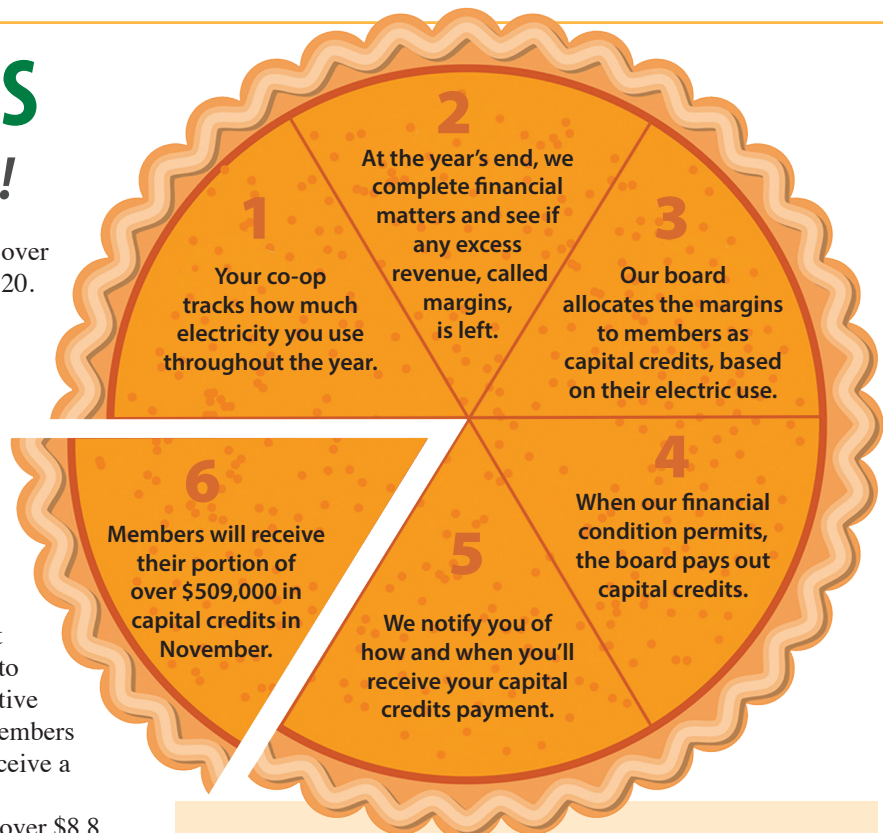
In November, you will receive your slice of the over \$509,000 in capital credits being refunded in 2020. Capital credits are just one piece that sets Jump River Electric Cooperative (JREC) apart from investor-owned utilities. Each co-op member is an owner and because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits. The graphic at right explains how this co-op benefit works.

Recently, the board of directors approved retiring 100 percent of any capital credits *allocated in 1990 and an additional 2.5 percent of allocated capital credits from the years 1991 to 2019. These capital credits will be applied to active members' energy bills in November. Inactive members who have a **retirement of \$10 or more will receive a check in the mail this December.

Over the years, your co-op has returned just over \$8.8 million in capital credits. This is proof that co-op membership pays off!

If You Move off JREC power lines, please be sure to notify us of any address changes so we can continue to refund any capital credits you are eligible to receive in the future.

In the Event of Death, the capital credit account is available for estate retirement. The representative of the estate should contact JREC to settle the capital credit account.



***Allocation**—Your share of the amount of net margins JREC sets aside into a separate account to be used as operating capital for reliability improvements and maintenance over a period of years. You received notice of this allocated amount earlier in the year.

****Retirement**—The amount you receive back as a capital credit refund. This amount is a percentage of your total capital credit balance.



INTERRUPTIBLE HEAT TEST SET

On Wednesday, November 18, residential electric heating on our dual fuel program will be interrupted for a test of the load management system. The test will begin at 5 p.m., with all electric heating to be restored by 10 p.m. If everything is working properly, a yellow light will be visible in the window of the load management receiver. If your electric heat remains on during the test, or if you experience any other problems, please contact our office at 715-532-5524.

Reducing your consumption between the hours of 5 to 10 p.m. on the coldest winter days will reduce the number of peak alerts and dual-fuel electric heat interruptions. This also helps the cooperative save on our wholesale power bill, and this savings is passed along to you.

Tune in to the following stations to hear peak alert messages on those coldest winter days.

WOJB 88.9 FM WLDY 93.1 FM WRLS 92.3 FM
WIAL I-94 FM WECL 92.9 FM WAXX 104.5 FM

BUNDLE UP – IT’S COLD OUT THERE!

Before you know it, we will be telling our little ones to do just that. A recent Wisconsin census showed that almost 15 percent of families living in Rusk County live below the poverty line. That, unfortunately, means that many families struggle to not only supply their children with food, but the much-needed winter supplies like a pair of mittens or a hat and scarf.

We all know how cold these Wisconsin winters are, so that is why JREC will be hosting our fourth annual Hat, Scarf, and Mittens Drive. Items donated will be given to local schools and day-care centers to help fill this simple need for many of our young ones.

Please drop off hats, scarves, and mittens at either of our offices Monday–Friday during the month of November. For more information contact JREC at 715-532-5524.



SAFETY – NO. 1 PRIORITY DURING YOUR HUNT

Nearly 600,000 hunters will soon be heading into Wisconsin’s woods, fields, and marshes for the state’s nine-day gun deer season. Incidents resulting in serious injury during the hunting season can happen when hunting from the ground or

a tree stand. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), tree stand falls are outpacing gun-related injuries and deaths for hunters.

We encourage all members, even experienced hunters, to review the following firearm and tree stand safety tips before heading out into the woods this hunting season. As you are looking for your 30-point buck, be aware of electrical equipment and take necessary precautions while hunting. Keep all these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR HUNTERS

This hunting season, we encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment and take necessary precautions while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.



Take notice of posted warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.



Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.



Know where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt.



Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.



Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.



Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Any non-electrical equipment attached to a pole can pose an obstruction and serious hazards to our line crews.

Rules of Firearm Safety

Knowing the basic rules of firearm safety is essential.

- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded
- Always point the muzzle in a safe direction
- Be certain of your target and what’s beyond it
- Keep your gear in good working order
- Inspect your clothing and other equipment for signs of wear and tear
- Transport guns safely

Tree Stand Safety

- Climb and hunt sober
- Always check the condition of your tree before you climb
- Test the hardware
- Get a full-body fall restraint harness
- Attach an extra foot strap to your fall-restraint harness
- Exercise caution when climbing or descending and when climbing in and out of your tree stand or platform
- Use a short tether
- Use a haul line
- Have a recovery and escape plan
- Make sure you can communicate

Courtesy of Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin

WELCOME, NEW EMPLOYEES

We welcome two new employees to the JREC family. Both men started the first part of October and will be a great addition to our line crew.

Benji Gindt is working alongside our Ladysmith line crew as a groundsperson. Prior to working for JREC, Benji lived in Boyd. He graduated from Cadott High School before graduating from Chippewa Valley Technical College from the electrical power distribution program. Benji also served on the Boyd fire department and hopes to be part of the Ladysmith fire department in the future. Farming, fishing, and hunting are some of his favorite things to do, so living in northern Wisconsin serves him well.



Dawson Weik joins the Hayward line crew as an apprentice lineman. He grew up in the Butternut area and graduated from Chequamegon High School. Following high school, Dawson graduated from Northeast Technical College from the electrical power distribution program. Prior to working at JREC, he was a youth apprentice for Pierce-Pepin Electric Cooperative and enjoys, you guessed it, fishing and hunting.



2020 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

Jump River Electric Cooperative will be holding its first ever member photo contest. Members are invited to submit photos for inclusion in our 2022 calendar. Winning photos may be used in future cooperative publications, our website, or on social media. Criteria for the photos include:



- Photos must be taken within the Jump River Electric Cooperative service area.
- Photos should capture life in northern Wisconsin (fall/winter season, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.)
- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape).
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- All JREC members 18 years and up are eligible to submit a photo. If under the age of 18, a parent/guardian entry form must accompany the photo submission.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- Three (3) photos per member will be accepted.
- Email your digital image to dzimmer@jrec.com by **January 14, 2021**. Include your Jump River Electric (JREC) account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting JREC permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website or Facebook page.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING MEMBERS

The winter heating season has now begun. It's important that you make every attempt to keep current on your electric bill. We understand circumstances can make that difficult, but there is some help available for qualifying residents. The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) administers the federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Public Benefits Energy Assistance Program.

For more information, including eligibility requirements and application details, please contact your local office:

Chippewa County	715-726-7840
LCO Tribal	715-634-8934
Rusk County	715-532-2299
Sawyer County	715-634-4806
Taylor County	715-748-6123
Wis. Rural Housing	888-400-5974
Farm Crisis Center (<i>for farmers only</i>)	800-942-2474

To learn more, call toll free 1-866-HEATWIS (432-8947) or visit homeenergyplus.wi.gov. You can also contact Keep Wisconsin Warm Fund – Bill Pay Assistance at 1-800-981-9276.



Every child deserves a safe and comfortable place to complete homework assignments. Therefore, the Foundation for Rural Housing is proud to present HomeNet. HomeNet is an internet assistance program providing families across Wisconsin with home internet access during the school year. The Wisconsin Rural Housing's goal is to improve grades by connecting families to this learning tool.

Qualifications for this program are as follows:

- Must have one child in middle or high school,
- Must have a device that is internet accessible,
- Must be under the 80 percent county median income, and
- Your home must be able to receive internet.

You can find the application for this internet program (HomeNet) and an educational reimbursement program at www.wisconsinruralhousing.org. Direct questions to wrh@wisconsinruralhousing.org.

Keep in mind that JREC offers Viasat high-speed internet. You can read all about that service at jrec.com/viasat-high-speed-internet.



LUCKY 13 TURKEY DRAWING

Thirteen is our lucky number at JREC. Sign up and it could be yours as well.



That's right, 13 names will be drawn with one name each day during the weekdays of November 9 – 25. Enter and, who knows, this may be your year to win a turkey. Good luck!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

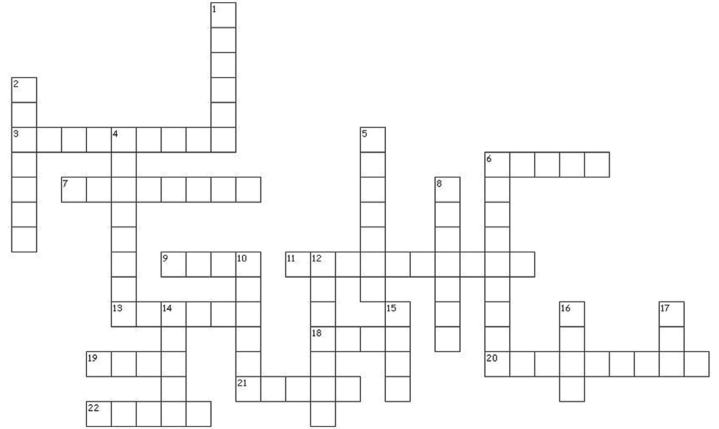
ACCT. # _____

Return to JREC, P.O. Box 99, Ladysmith, WI 54848

**Two entries per family, one winner per household.
Turkeys need to be picked up by December 7.**

BE SAFE WITH ELECTRICITY!

Read the safety tips to find the missing words



Across

- Use extension cords on a _____ basis, not as permanent household wiring.
- Run lamp _____ along walls and behind furniture so they're safely out of the way.
- Screw light bulbs in securely. Loose bulbs may _____ and cause a fire.
- Before you dig, _____ your local underground utility locator service to avoid damage and injuries.
- Prevent electrical shocks and fires by using safety-tested _____.
- If you see a _____ or sagging power line, stay far away, warn others to stay away and call the utility.
- Make sure outlets in the kitchen, bathroom, laundry, workshop, basement and garage have _____s.
- Unplug _____-producing appliances like irons and toasters when not in use.
- Don't remove the _____ pin to make a three-prong fit a two-prong outlet.
- Make certain extension cords are _____ to handle the lamp, tool or appliance you are using.
- Have your home's wiring checked regularly, at least every 10 _____.

Down

- Use _____ covers or special outlets if you have young children in the home.
- All _____ sockets should have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Use a portable GFCI if those outlets don't have them.
- Flickering, blinking, and dimming lights can be a sign of home electrical _____.
- Test ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) _____.
- Keep cords out of walkways. Don't cover cords with _____ or rugs. The cords could overheat.
- Go indoors when _____ roars.
- Never place tall items like a _____ or antenna near a power line.
- Never reach into water for a _____-in appliance. Unplug it first.
- Keep appliances away from _____.
- Overloaded outlets and extension cords can overheat, increasing the risk for _____.
- Limit the number of appliances plugged into each outlet.
- Pull by the _____, not the cord when unplugging appliances.
- Keep all objects at least _____ feet away from overhead lines.

Across: 3. temporary 6. cords 7. overheat 9. call 11. appliances 13. downed 18. GFCI 19. heat 20. grounding 21. rated 22. years Down: 1. safety 2. outdoor 4. overhead 5. monthly 6. carpeting 8. thunder 10. ladder 12. plugged 14. water 15. fire 16. plug 17. ten

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Shop online at
electricsense.amcmarketplace.com

Nov. 25- Dec. 2, 2020

HAPPY
Thanksgiving

JREC offices will be closed November 26 & 27



James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

1102 West 9th Street North • P.O. Box 99, Ladysmith, WI 54848
715-532-5524 • www.jrec.com

After-hour emergency service, call 866-273-5111

Find us on Facebook 

JREC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Denise Zimmer, Editor



Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 