

Taking Your Family on Vacation?

Your Meter Will Keep Working, Even if You're Not!

Whether you're planning to spend your vacation visiting campsites or cabins, museums or monuments, just remember that your meter won't be taking a break with you. Many people seem to believe that when they leave on vacation, their electric meter stops until they return home and they will have no power cost for the time they are gone. Of course, this isn't true. There are plenty of ways your home uses electricity even when no one's in the house to flip a switch.

Your electric water heater will continue to operate and maintain the tank temperature even if you're not home to use any hot water. You could disconnect the water heater, ensuring that the appliance will use no energy while you're gone, but keep in mind that turning off the water heater will mean there will be no hot water when you return—probably not a good idea, especially if you'll be bringing home lots of dirty laundry that will need to be washed right away.



The refrigerator or freezer also continue to operate to maintain the preset temperatures when no one is home. The only way to avoid this usage is to empty your refrigerator and freezer and turn them off while you're gone, which may be a good idea if you're going to be gone for an extended period of time. However, it's a lot of hassle—plus an inconvenience—if you're only going to be gone for a week or two. There may be other appliances and electronic equipment that will continue to operate in an empty house as well, such as clocks, attic fans, power ventilators, televisions, dehumidifiers, heating and cooling equipment, computers and monitors.

If you are determined that no electricity is to be used during your vacation, you can turn off your main breakers or pull the main disconnect. But remember, when you do this, the automatic appliances and lighting will stop. Your home will be completely dark until you return, and the temperature may be at an uncomfortable level when you step in the door.

A better idea may be to put some lighting, the air conditioner, and any other necessary equipment on a timer while you're gone so you can keep some lights on some of the time for security purposes and maintain a comfortable temperature without adding significantly to your power cost.

Remember also that electricity is different from many other commodities because you use electricity a month or more before you pay for it. A bill that arrives immediately after you return from vacation will likely reflect electricity that you used before you left.

So don't be surprised if your August power bill is not as low as you're expecting. Electricity keeps working, even when you're not! ■

An advertisement for the 12th Annual Touchstone Energy Waterfest Ventian Lights Boat Parade. The top part features three images: a boat with lights, a boat with people, and fireworks. Below the images is the text: "12th Annual Touchstone Energy Waterfest Ventian Lights Boat Parade", "Saturday, August 6", "Castle Rock Lake", "Parade begins at the Dirty Turtle, O'Dells Bay, New Lisbon, at dusk.", and "More information is available at various local businesses or by contacting the Juneau County Economic Development Corporation, (608) 427-2070 or 888-898-2550."/>

12th Annual Touchstone Energy Waterfest Ventian Lights Boat Parade

Saturday, August 6
Castle Rock Lake

Parade begins at the Dirty Turtle, O'Dells Bay, New Lisbon, at dusk.

More information is available at various local businesses or by contacting the Juneau County Economic Development Corporation, (608) 427-2070 or 888-898-2550.

Can You Help Us Find These People?

Please check the following list of names. If your name appears on this list, contact our office. Oakdale Electric Cooperative would like to return capital credits to those who earned them; otherwise the unclaimed capital credits will be assigned to the Federated Youth Foundation. These funds are then used in the cooperative scholarship and education programs. The following individuals have not claimed their capital credits. Please contact our office either in person, by mail, or by phoning 608-372-4131 or sending an e-mail to tvonhadn@oakdalerec.com.

360 NETWORKS INC
 ABERCROMBIE, WM L
 ABHALTER, RICHARD
 ADAMS JR, C R
 ADCOCK, AUDREY B
 AETNA FARM 6351
 ALLEN JR, ROBERT H
 ALLEN, ARLIS J
 ANGLEMYER, LELAH
 AQUA-TECH INC
 ARPS, EMIL W
 AUSTIN, GLADYS
 BACHLI, GEORGE A
 BACKUS, CHRISTIE
 BAILEY, DON D
 BAILEY, MICHAEL J
 BAKER, CALVIN H
 BAKER, HEATHER D
 BALTUS, BRIAN
 BANFI, KATHRYN I
 BARINA SR, JOSEPH
 BARR JR, GARY
 BARTELS, VIRGIL
 BARTLETT, MERTON
 BARTZ, DONALD A
 BASSETT, DENNIS
 BEAVER RESORTS INC
 BEGALKA, JO A
 BEHRENS, DONA
 BENNETT, DEBBIE
 BERENT, SHEILA
 BERG, JANIS
 BERGER, JOHN
 BERLIN, JOHN W
 BEST POWER TECHNOLOGY INC
 BETSINGER, ARLENE
 BINDER, JOSEPH C
 BITTNER, DOROTHY
 BLANCHARD, TIMOTHY

BLOOM, MARVIN
 BODE, DEBRA
 BOGDANOWICZ, ZYGMUNT
 BOHNERT, STEVEN
 BOWMAN, DENNIS W
 BRENNAN, JAMES C
 BRIGHAM YEVONNE
 BROCKNER, JAMES A
 BROCKWELL, ELIZABETH
 BROOKS SR, DONALD P
 BROWN, LINDA
 BRYANT, SUSAN H
 BUDA, EDWIN A
 BUDA, JOHN
 BURIAN, JOHN A
 BURNAT, ROBERTA
 CAHOON, ROBERT P
 CAPRA, HENRY
 CAPUTO, LOUIS
 CARPENTERS INC
 CARTER, JOHN E
 CARTER, WILFORD B
 CERNAHAUS, JAMES
 CHAPMAN, DARWIN D
 CHASE, BONNIE L
 CHILCOAT JR, THEODORE R
 CHRISTENSEN, CLARENCE
 CISZNEWSKI, A H
 CLARK, EARL L
 CLARK, JOHN
 CLOUD, DELPHINE
 COLBY, J E
 CONNOR, LARRY
 CORPORATE CONSTRUCTION
 CRAIG, GEORGE B
 CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN
 ACADEMY
 CRYSTAL FRUIT CO THE
 DAHLGREN, JOHN R

DALY, NORMAN P
 DAMMANN, MRS JOHN
 DAVIDSON, THOMAS
 DAVIS, ALBERT
 DAVIS, DON
 DAVIS, LOUIS K
 DAY, DWAIN
 DECORAH, GRACE
 DEERING, MARY
 DEHLER, EDWARD
 DEMARCO, MICHAEL
 DICK, ALVIN
 DICK, EMALINE
 DIE CASTERS INC
 DRAZENOVIC, KATHERINE
 DUBE, ALFRED
 DUNN, ELIZABETH
 DZIOB, FRANK
 EDMONDS, EDWARD
 EICHER, RICHARD
 ELLIOT, HERBERT A
 ELLIS, LEROY
 ENDRES, GARY A
 ERICKSON, GARY
 ESPESETH, CINDY
 F & R ENTERPRISES
 FABIAN, ELEANOR
 FAIVRE, KATHLEEN
 FEINHANDLER, STEVE
 FEISTNER, JAMES
 FICHTENMUELLER, HOMER
 FISHER, GLENN
 FLAMMANG, ANNIE
 FLEISCHER, FAITH
 FORMARO, THOMAS J
 FUJICOLOR PROCESSING INC
 G & S TRANSPORTATION INC
 GABBARD, CLYDE
 GALLOWAY, JACK D
 GATES, PAUL
 GERALI, GENE R
 GIRAUD, CRAIG
 GJERTSEN, EDWARD
 GLOTFELTY, EDWIN
 GOETZ, JAMES
 GOOD, WM
 GRAVES, WILLIS C
 GREENBAY-WESTERN RAILROAD
 GROSS COMMON CARRIER
 GROVES, IRVING L
 HALL, ROY

HALLIGER, E J
 HAMILTON, RANDY G
 HARDY, MRS GEORGE
 HARMEL, KENNETH
 HARRISON, MARY R
 HARRISON, ROBERT L
 HARTL, SCOTT G
 HATLEVIG, JEFFREY
 HAWKINS, MARCY
 HEIDEMANN, JEFF
 HEIDTKE, KIM
 HELMKAMP, SHARON A.
 HENRIKSEN, INGA
 HERNANDEZ, PAUL
 HERRE, SHIRLEY L
 HERSHMAN, JEFF
 HILES JR, SAM
 HODGES, DAVE
 HOLM, DAVID J
 HOLMES FREIGHT LINES INC
 HOLST, GAYE
 HOMPERTZ, STEVEN L
 HOPPER, ROBERT F
 HOUGHTON, GWENDOLYN
 HOWARTH, J R
 HUNDT, LINDA L
 HURD, GARY
 JACOBI, ROLAND
 JAMES SR, NORMAN E
 JAX, TAMMIE J
 JENSEN, WM F
 JEPSON, MABLE S
 JOHNS, JANE H
 JOHNSON, EINAR
 JUNE, DIANA
 KAISER, IRENE M
 KAMINSKAS, MELVIN
 KARELS, RUTH A
 KENYON, WILLARD D
 KERN, KEVIN
 KEZMAN, JACQUELYN
 KILBOURN EAGLES
 KILEY, DARRELL J
 KINGSLEY, JOYCE
 KLUG, DONALD
 KNAPP, CLIFFORD D
 KNIGHTS INN
 KNIGHTS INN OF TOMAH
 KOHER, KENNETH
 KOHL, CHANDLER W

(Continued on page 28 ▶)

Capital Credits

(Continued from page 5)

KOLK, CALVIN
KOSHOSHEK, BRENDON J
KOZLOWSKI, LARRY R
KOZOYED, PETER
KRAMER, WILLIAM
KUBISIAK, JUANITA
KUEHL, SHARON
KUEHNE, DOLORES
KULPA, DENCY D
KUPSICK, LEROYCE
KUTTRUFF, JC
LAMBERT, LUCILLE S
LANDOWSKI, CHARLES
LANGENDORF, HENRY
LANGER EST, FRANK
LARKIN, JACK
LARSEN, BETTY
LASKO, WM M
LEGGE, RUTH
LEITNER, ADOLPH
LETZ, GEORGE C
LEUTH, HAROLD
LIGUE, RONALD
LINDEN, MICHAEL
LOADING DOCK LLC
LOVELL, ROY
LUNDERVILLE, JOHN S
MACDONALD & GANTNER
MACIOSEK, SCOTT
MADDOX, BRYAN
MADEJCZYK-OSWALD
(ESTATE OF), STANLEY
MALCZEWSKI, THOMAS O
MARTIN, JAMES B
MASINI, DAVID
MASINI, MARY
MASSEY, OPALJEAN
MASSEY, TOM
MATTISON, ROBERT
MAVIS, BRENDA
MCCLORY, FRANK
MCGHEE, BUCKLEY
MCKENNA, EVANGALINE
MCLAMARRAH, BEATRICE
MEILMAN BROS FARM
MEYER, JACK
MEYERS, EDWARD
MICHALAK, MARY
MICHEL, RICHARD
MICKELSON, PAUL G
MILLER, CHARLES A

MILLER, LAWRENCE H
MILLER, STEVEN J
MITCHELL, OTIS R
MODICH, SANDRA
MOKRY, FRED
MONAT, GORDON C
MOODY, AMBER
MORGAN, PAUL B
MORIVA, MADDALINE
MURILLO, JOSEPH
MYERS, LINDA
NAGLE, ELMER F
NARDI, FRANKLIN
NEAL, DANE E
NELSON, ALVIN O
NELSON, BRUCE D
NELSON, RUDOLPH
NEMETH, MICHAEL J
NICHOLSON, LAWRENCE
NOYES, LARRY
NU-LIFE CORP
O'CONNOR, MURRAY
OLSEN, WM S
OLSON, MELVIN R
ORTOLANO, ANTHONY
OTERO, MIQUEL A
OVERLAND EXPRESS INC
P & N GROCERY STORE
PACER, SHIRLEY
PAUL, FRANK J
PEASE, RICHARD
PEDERSON, JAMES
PERGANDE, BRUCE
PETERSON, TONY
PEVARSKI, DENNIS
PEZALL, FLORENCE C
PIERCE, JERRY
PILCH, WALTER
POLLARD, ROBERT
POMEROY, RICHARD W
PORT TACK LTD
POTRATZ, GEORGE
PROCHAZKA, AGNES
PUTNAM, MILDRED
RADDE, DONALD E
RADTKE, THOMAS A
RAFTSMAN LODGE MOTEL
REEVE & REEVE-SIGN
REICHE, PAUL
REICHOFF, ELLEN
RHOADES, JERRY
RICHLAND EQUIPMENT
RICHTER, JOHN
ROBEL, JOYCE E

ROBINSON, ARTHUR B
ROBINSON, ROBT W
ROBINSON, THOMAS D
ROLLETTE, MONTE C
RONAN, ALICE J
RR, CHG M
RYAN, LOIS A
S V S ASSOCIATION
SAINDON, ALICE
SAKS, ALAN
SCHAUENBURG, PATRICIA A
SCHMIDT, ROSEMARY
SCHMITZ, JEFF D
SCHRECK, MICHAEL R
SCHROEDER, JOHN D
SCHROEDER, ROBERT L
SCHULTE, SANDRA
SCHULTZ, BEN D
SCHWEITZER & JOHNSON
SCOTT, RANDY L
SEIDLER, JOHN W
SHAPUTIS, ED
SHAW, TIMOTHY S
SHIELDS, JAMES
SIMONSON, ERIC G
SIMONSON, ERIC G
SKOKOWSKI, ELLA
SKOWRON, SHERRY
SLATER, CLAY
SLEE, DAVID W
SMART, JAMES R
SMITH, ALAN D
SMITH, JAMES G
SMITH, ROBERT A
SMITH, THOMAS G
SNYDER, CAROLINE
SOSSONG, SHIRLEY
SOUBA, ROGER
SPEAR, JANE
SPERSTAD, OBERT
STANGE EMBROIDERY INC
STANLEY, FLOYD E
STAYTON, CINDY G
STEFANSKI, ZBIGNEW
STEHLIK, JOSEPH P
STEIN, BARBARA
STEINHOFF, KEN
STEPHENS SR, LESTER
STEPHENSON, SCOTT
STEUCK, MICHEAL
STEVENSON, RICHARD
STEWART, ANNETTE
STEWART, DANIEL N
STIGLITZ, ROBERT

STORGAARD, BRIGET E
STOUT, JIM
STUART, ROXANN
SULLY, DOROTHY E
SUNDBERG, GARY I
TADDER, MARVIN J
TAYLOR, LINDA
TAYLOR, ROBERT S
TEUBER, SCOTT W
THADANI, ASHOK F
THIEMKE, GERALD
THOMPSON, VINCENT S
TIBBITTS, MARION
TINDLE, MAURICE E
TINSLEY, ERNEST J
TOLLERUD, MARGARET
TONISSEN, VINCENT
TUMA, JOHN C
TVERAAS, RICHARD
TYLER, MICHAEL
VANKIRK JR, RAY
VANN, JEFF
VENECHUK, NICK
VERES, RICHARD S
VOCELKA, MIKE J
WALBERTS, JOSEPH
WALENSKY, EILEEN
WALKER, GORDON
WALTERS, EDWARD B
WEILAND, RAY J
WENZEL, ELENORA L
WERTH, RUDY
WESOLOSKI, LISA D
WEST, HELEN
WESTLUND, CARL
WICKSTRAND, GREGG
WILBANKS JR, DANIEL
WILDES, ELAINE
WILLIAMS JR, CHARLES B
WILLIAMS, SHELLEY
WILSON SR, RICHARD A
WINDMEIER, W W
WINKER, BARBARA
WISCONSIN FARM LINES LTD
WITMER, KIRSTEN
WITTE, DORIS
WOLFRAM, JERRY
WRONA, MITCHELL
WYNN, OLIVER
YOUNG, DALE
YOUNG, VICTOR
ZIAJA, GEORGE
ZMICK, AUDREY
ZUFALL, JACK F ■

Surviving Auto Accidents Involving Power Lines

Instincts tell us to flee danger. Unfortunately, in vehicle accidents that bring down power lines, these natural inclinations can lead to tragic results.

Safe Electricity wants everyone to know: If your car hits a power pole, or otherwise brings a power line down, stay in your vehicle and wait until the local electric utility arrives on the scene and ensures that lines have been de-energized. If you come upon or witness an accident involving toppled power poles and lines, don't leave your vehicle to approach the scene.

Indiana teenagers Lee Whittaker and Ashley Taylor saw a power line safety demonstration at their high school and never dreamed their new knowledge would be put to the test. Five days later, they and two classmates were in a car that crashed into a utility pole, bringing live power lines to the ground.

Fortunately, they heeded the safety advice they'd received and survived because they knew the right actions to take. And they helped others who approached the scene

“When people are involved in a car accident, electricity is usually the last thing on anyone’s mind... We forget that by exiting the vehicle, we’re risking bodily exposure to thousands of volts of electricity from downed power lines.”

—Molly Hall, Safe Electricity Executive Director

by warning them to stay away. A video of their story can be seen on www.SafeElectricity.org.

According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration, tens of thousands of accidents each year occur where power poles are struck by cars or large equipment. Each one of these accidents has the potential to bring down power lines. Surviving the accident itself might not be enough to stay alive without awareness of the right moves to make.

In the vast majority of those incidents, the safest place to remain is inside the car. Only in the rare instance of fire should people exit a vehicle. Then, they must know how to do so safely, jumping free and clear, landing with feet together, and hopping away. It's difficult to get out without creating a path for current to flow, which is why one should get out only if forced to.

“When people are involved in a car accident, electricity is usually the last thing on anyone’s mind,” Safe



Electricity Executive Director Molly Hall notes. “We’re often more concerned about whether anyone was injured, or how badly the vehicle is damaged. We forget that by exiting the vehicle, we’re risking bodily exposure to thousands of volts of electricity from downed power lines.”

Lee and Ashley are grateful to White County Rural Electric Membership Corporation, the Safe Electricity partner electric cooperative that sponsored a Live Line Demo program at their school. The students are encouraging everyone to learn from their experience.

To learn more, watch the video on www.SafeElectricity.org. Visitors can also check out a live power line demonstration, just like the one the Indiana teens saw at their school. (*Safe Electricity is the safety outreach program of the Energy Education Council, a non-profit organization with more than 400 electric cooperative members.*) ■



Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Bruce Ardelt, General Manager



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info@oakdalerec.com

Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

24-Hour Emergency Power Restoration: (800) 927-6151

Toll-free online bill payment: 866-392-4307

FAX Number: (608) 372-5173

Diggers Hotline: For underground cable locates and power line clearance information, call (800) 242-8511.