

What's Happening

October is National Co-op Month

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month



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



There Is A CHILL In The Air Time To Prep Your Home

✓ Clean Gutters

Your roof's drainage system annually diverts thousands of gallons of water from your home's exterior and foundation walls—so it's vital to keep this system flowing smoothly. Clogged gutters can lead to damaged exterior surfaces and water in your basement. (See safety NOTE below.)

✓ Inspect Roof

Few homeowner problems are more vexing than a leaky roof. Once the dripping starts, finding the source of the problem can be time-consuming. Stop problems this fall before ice and winter winds turn them from annoyances into disasters. (See safety NOTE below.)

✓ Inspect Furnace

Furnace filters trap dust that would otherwise be distributed throughout your home. Clogged filters make it harder to keep your home at a comfortable temperature, thus increasing your utility bills, so make sure to clean or change your air filter. Also, once a year, it's a good idea to have your heating system inspected by a professional.

✓ Seal Air Leaks

Gaps in caulk and weatherstripping let cold air into your warm home, and sealing up a drafty house can save up to 20 percent on your heating bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Weatherstripping is easily the most cost-effective way to rein in heating and cooling costs. In addition to inspecting weatherstripping, check for missing or damaged caulk around windows, doors, and entry points for electrical, cable, phone, and gas. Seal any gaps with a suitable caulk.

✓ Protect Faucets/Pipes From Freezing

Take steps so that outside faucets (also called sill cocks) and in-ground irrigation systems don't freeze and burst. First, close any shut-off valves serving outside faucets, then open the outside faucet to drain the line (there may be a small cap on the faucet you can loosen in order to facilitate draining).

NOTE: Rock Energy would like to remind members to always make sure to keep safety in mind when cleaning gutters and/or working on your roof. You may also want to consider hiring a professional to take care of these tasks.

DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS OPEN

The Rock Energy Cooperative Nominating Committee will be selecting candidates to run for board of director positions that will be on the ballot at the April 8, 2024 annual meeting.

Active members who are interested in running for a position on the REC Board of Directors must permanently reside in one of the areas up for election and meet all other qualifications. For more information, please contact the co-op at 866-752-4550 or send an e-mail to questions@rock.coop **by November 30, 2023.**

Districts Up For Election Are:

- **DISTRICT 1:** Dunkirk, Albion, Porter, and Fulton in Wisconsin
- **DISTRICT 3:** Johnstown, Bradford, and Darien in Wisconsin
- **DISTRICT 5:** Turtle, Clinton, and Sharon in Wisconsin / Roscoe, Manchester, Leroy, Chemung, Alden, and Hebron in Illinois

LED Light Bulbs

The light-emitting diode (LED) is today's most energy-efficient and rapidly-developing lighting technology. Quality LED light bulbs last longer, are more durable, and offer comparable or better light quality than other types of lighting.

Why are LEDs so Special?

- **LIGHT SOURCE:** LEDs are the size of a fleck of pepper, and can emit light in a range of colors.
- **DIRECTION:** LEDs emit light in a specific direction, reducing the need for reflectors and diffusers that can trap light. This makes LEDs more efficient for many uses.
- **HEAT:** LEDs emit very little heat. In comparison, an incandescent bulb release 90% of its energy as heat.
- **LIFETIME:** LED lighting lasts much longer than other lighting types. A good quality LED bulb can last 3 to 5 times longer than a CFL and 30 times longer than an incandescent bulb.

Source: energy.gov

Preparing For Winter

DON'T FORGET TO READY YOUR CAR

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit. Kits should be checked twice a year and expired items should be replaced regularly. Emergency supply kits should include:



- Snowbrush
- Shovel
- Windshield washer fluid
- Cat litter for traction



- Warm clothing
- Blankets
- Drinking water
- Nonperishable foods



- Properly inflated spare tire
- Wheel wrench & tripod jack
- Jumper cables
- Fire extinguisher



- Reflective triangles
- Reflective vest
- Brightly colored cloth (to tie on side mirror)



- First-aid kit
- Flashlight and batteries
- Compass
- Car charger for cell phone

 Safe
Electricity.org®

Source: NSC