

DEC Current



Otsego Electric Cooperative
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Monday – Friday

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www.otsegoec.coop
www.oconnect.coop

Why Attend our Annual Meeting?

The best way to make a democracy work in our own business is to have every one of you owner-members of the co-op “front and center” at the Annual Meeting, taking your full part in the democratic process—voting for the directors who will guide your co-op through the next twelve months, helping to shape policy, and generally seeing to it that your co-op is run the way you prefer. That is democracy in action. Come, and make it work! This year’s meeting will be at a new time and day of the week on Saturday, August 12th, starting at 9 a.m. with coffee and donuts at the Milford School! The Business Meeting will start at 11.

The nominating committee’s list of candidates will be posted in the co-op office 20 days before the meeting.

We are endeavoring to secure outstanding guests and speakers. We will have a talented local musician offering entertainment during the “Member Mingle” where you can enjoy light refreshments, chat with local vendors and with other members.

We hope you will plan to join us for your Annual Meeting in August!

7 cooperative principles

-  **1**
VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP
-  **2**
DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL
-  **3**
MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION
-  **4**
AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE
-  **5**
EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION
-  **6**
COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES
-  **7**
CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Howard S. Marlette Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is given every year in memory of Howard Marlette who was an active member of the community and his church and he served the Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc. for 37 years as a Director. He also served as President of Otsego Electric Cooperative from 1992 to 2004; President of the New York State Rural Electric Cooperative Association from 1986 to 2004; and Howard also received the George D. Aiken Award from the Northeast Association of Electric Cooperatives in 2002.

To honor Howard's service to his community and his involvement in the Otsego Electric Cooperative, his family and the Cooperative award several scholarships to deserving students who plan to further their educations after high school.

Applications are available at www.otsegoec.coop and must be submitted to Otsego Electric Co-op, Attn: Cody Allen, P.O. Box 128 Hartwick, NY 13348 by May 1, 2022.

Scholarships are awarded by the Marlette family and Otsego Electric Cooperative.



Electric Vehicles are Coming

OEC is getting prepared for members who are deciding to purchase electric vehicles (EVs). We already have some members driving them. Please notify us if you are purchasing an EV or installing a new charger. You might qualify for a rebate as mentioned below! Whether some of us think EVs are a good idea or not, we need to plan for these new electric loads because they impact the way we deliver power to you. There are important considerations with some of the home charging systems we have already seen on our system.

Level 1 chargers or "trickle chargers" are pretty simple and they are as easy as plugging into a regular wall outlet. They are very slow but they can be adequate for a plugin hybrid. This is the slowest way to charge.

Level 2 chargers are the most common for daily EV charging. A Level 2 charger can replenish between 12 and 80 miles of range per hour, depending on the power output of the Level 2 charger, and the vehicle's maximum charge rate. That is about 10 times faster than a Level 1 charger. Some Level 2 chargers can deliver up to 80 amps of power. That could create the need for an electrical upgrade for many households, especially if your 200AMP electric panel is almost full. These Level 2 units may require a 100-amp 208-240Volt dedicated circuit and a heavy and costly supply line from the breaker box.

Level 3 chargers are very costly and mostly used for commercial EVs. They are not recommended for residential users.

One consideration we have as a cooperative is we need to get our infrastructure in place. This will depend on the rate of EV adoption, development of charging technologies, and geographic locations where the early EV adopters are. There is data that suggests that our peak load times might change so we will need to do a power requirements study to see how this will impact our entire system. Our peak load times could occur at different times of the day which will also influence the best times for you to charge your vehicle.

It is important for you to contact us if you are getting an EV or installing a charger so we can look at the type of load that you will be adding to your home. We offer a \$150 rebate for notifying us that you have purchased a new electric vehicle. We want to be proactive about upgrading the transformer if needed. For your safety, we also suggest hiring a reputable electrician to consult with first. You want to make sure your service is safe and adequate.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Washing windows and screens is a great way to practice energy efficiency during spring cleaning. Clean windows and screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures.

Clean screens also allow more fresh air in the home when the windows are open to recycle indoor air. Natural light and clean air are energy savers, and they enhance overall health and productivity.

Source: energy.gov

