Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

May 2023





## Save the Date: 79th Annual Meeting!

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be reaching a milestone in hosting its 79th Annual Meeting on **Saturday**, **August 19**, **2023!** The meeting will be held at the Milford Central School located at 42 W. Main Street in Milford. \*Please note the change to a Saturday morning event!

Registration will begin with a "Member Mingle and Meet Your Directors" Session at 9:00 AM. During this time, we encourage you to enjoy a spread of coffee and donuts and a variety of local vendors. The Annual Meeting will follow and begin promptly at 10:00 AM. Live music will be provided for your enjoyment! Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinners will be available for "Grab and Go" following the close of the meeting and the raffle drawing. The cost per dinner will be \$10.00.

We have secured many wonderful raffle drawing prizes! Each household membership will be given 5 tickets to enter into the drawings! Additionally, we encourage early registration! 10 Lucky Early Registrants will be entered to win a \$100.00 bill credit! Must be present to win! More information to follow. We hope to see you there!

# On the go and in Control! Now you can manage your account like never before.

**SmartHub** provides convenient account access and two-way communication to your utility or telecommunications provider (OEConnect) online or via your mobile device. Manage payments, notify customer service of account and service issues, check your usage and receive special messaging from your provider all at the touch of a button.

**SmartHub** is available on Android and iOS smartphones and tablets as well as on the Web.

**SmartHub** provides a safe and secure environment for bill payments and transactions between your utility or telecommunications provider and your financial institution. If you have questions or would like help setting up an account, please call the office.



Otsego Electric Cooperative P.O. Box 128, Hartwick, NY 13348

> Office Hours 7:30 – 4:00 Monday – Friday

Phone: **607-293-6622** 

Pay-by-Phone

1-844-843-6842

After Hours and Outages: **1-866-591-3192** 

Call **UDIG New York** before you dig at **811** or **1-800-962-7962** 

#### **Board of Directors**

Gary Potter President

Charles Arnold Vice President

Edward Clarke Treasurer

Steve Child Secretary

Fred Braun, Jr. *Director* 

> Amy Parr Director

Patrick Hooker Director

Timothy R. Johnson CEO

www.otsegoec.coop

www.oeconnect.coop

#### **Budget Billing**

Budget Billing is a convenient way to manage your electric payments and plan your monthly budget. To help control fluctuating monthly bills, the Cooperative offers fixed budget billing to its members. To sign up, call the office at 607-293-6622 and we would be happy to discuss our options!

Fixed budget billing is available to members who wish to pay the same amount each month and not be surprised by higher summer or winter bills. We will estimate your monthly consumption based on your past year's usage or 36 months if you have been a member long enough. We utilize April as a "catch-up" month, so if your budget did not cover your Winter bills, you would be required to pay what is owed in that billing cycle. Each year in April, we recalculate your budget amount based on your usage, to ensure we have you set at an appropriate amount.

#### **Energy Explorers**

Help your children learn about electric safety with our Energy Explorers activities! We often think to teach our children about fire safety, water safety and more, but electric safety is sometimes forgotten! Avoid accidents by arming them with knowledge!

### ECTRICAL May is National Electrical Safety Month! Take this guiz to test your safety skills. Check your answers in the key below. 1. It's safe to plug in several devices to one electrical outlet as long as you use a power strip. A. True B. False 2. Smoke alarms should be tested A. Every month B. Every other month C. Every six months 3. Extension cords are safe to use year-round if the cord is not frayed or damaged. A. True B. False 4. When unplugging a device from an electrical outlet, always hold while unplugging. A. Cord B. Plug C. Device 5. It's never safe to play near power lines, but it's OK to play near pad-mounted transformers (those big green boxes you see in neighborhoods). A. True B. False 6. Where is the most dangerous place to use electricity? A. Near other electrical equipment B. Outdoors C. Near water Answerkey: J. B. Z. A. S. B. 4. B. 5. B. 6. C

#### **Safe Tree Planting!**

Trees or other vegetation growing near electric lines poses a major threat to the safety of humans and animals in the vicinity of the lines. Not only can it cause safety concerns, trees that grow into the lines can cause disruption of your electric service.

As we are nearing planting season, if you are considering planting trees on your property, please ensure you are making safe decisions about where you plant! Try to avoid areas where the trees will grow into the power lines in the future.

Check out the chart for some helpful information!

