Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

November 2023



OEC Current



Holiday Hours

Thursday—November 23th—Closed Friday—November 24th—Closed

Payment Assistance

We understand that situations arise when it can be difficult to pay your bills, especially as costs rise with lower winter temperatures. If you need assistance paying your bills, there are programs, such as HEAP, that are available to assist you. In order to find out if you qualify, you can visit www.mybenefits.ny.gov or call one of the following numbers for assistance:

Otsego County Department of Social Services 607-547-1700
Chenango County Department of Social Services 607-337-1500
Madison County Department of Social Services 315-366-2211
Herkimer County Department of Social Services 315-867-1220
Opportunities for Otsego 607-433-8000
Catholic Charities 607-432-0061



Office for the Aging 607-547-4232

Happy Veterans Day

We stand united in gratitude for the brave men and women who have selflessly served our country! Thank you! 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

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www.otsegoec.coop

www.oeconnect.coop

Portable Generator Safety

Our Winter season is fast approaching, which at times means greater potential for power outages with storms. If you're planning to use a portable generator, we want to remind you to play it safe!

Here are 10 do's and don'ts to keep in mind when using portable generators:

- 1. **DO:** Install backup CO alarms.
- 2. **DO:** Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times.
- 3. **DO:** Position generators at least 25 feet outside the home, away from doors, windows and vents that can allow CO to enter the home.
- 4. **DO:** Ensure your generator is properly grounded. Use a portable ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to prevent electric shock injuries.
- 5. **DO:** Use three-pronged extension cords that are rated to handle the load of the generator. Inspect extension cords for cuts, frays or other damage before use.
- 6. **DON'T:** Operate a generator inside your home or an enclosed (or partially-enclosed) space. Generators produce high levels of CO, which can be deadly.
- 7. **DON'T:** Open windows or doors while the generator is running.
- 8. **DON'T:** Rely on generators as a full-time source of power. They should only be used temporarily or in emergency situations to power essential equipment or appliances.
- 9. **DON'T:** Overload generators. They should only be used to power essential equipment. Make sure your generator can handle the load of the items you plan to power.
- 10. **DON'T:** Connect generators directly into household wiring unless you have an appropriate transfer switch installed. If a generator is connected to a home's wiring without a transfer switch, power can backfeed along power lines and electrocute utility lineworkers making repairs.

While generators provide convenience during power outages, they can quickly become hazardous—even deadly—if improperly operated.

OEC Family Pays it Forward

We our proud to report that our Lineman Brian Wellman's daughter Addison, being the animal lover that she is, was recognized as top contributor at the Susquehanna SPCA's Barktoberfest & Dog Show! The event is a local effort to raise funds and awareness at the shelter. The event hosted Steps for Pets. Addison brought home the flyer from school and immediately had to sign up. She visited our local Co-op office, friends, and family to raise donations! On the day of the event, she turned in her earnings and walked proudly with their family dog, Leah. The shelter was so proud of her efforts as top contributor that they are throwing her a Pizza Party! We are proud to support our co-op families and their efforts to bring the best to our community! Shine on Addison!

