

# OEC Current

## Broadband Update

We are very excited to share that we have started lighting up services to customers in the Laurens, Milford and Oneonta areas! This is a huge step in the project. We will be working on installations in those areas for the next several months. We have focused on doing service drops and installs in those areas because the construction and electronics were readied there. The Service Drop process involves connecting the fiber-optic cable from the pole to a box connected to the side of the house. Once there is a light signal flowing at the side of the house, we will schedule the install. We now have over 10 active accounts and that number will start growing rapidly now that the weather has improved. Approximately 50 drops have been done. We currently have several fiber splicers working all around our Otsego Electric Cooperative system so they will be able to splice these connections.

We will continue to do a few test accounts in other areas around the county. Underground service drops will require drier weather and a little planning to schedule and install. If your electric service is underground but you are willing to have the fiber run aerially, that may speed up the process a little. If you have over 300' of underground that you want us to bury, additional charges will apply. We appreciate all of your patience while we build this fiber-optic project and we look forward to serving you.

## Earth Day

Earth Day is Monday, April 22 this year. It is a great opportunity to remind ourselves of easy things we can do to be friendly to the environment all year long:

- Use energy-efficient appliances and electronics.
- Go paperless. Pay bills online when possible.
- Bring reusable bags to the market when shopping.
- Turn off lights when you leave a room.

## Budget Billing

We offer Budget Billing to help make year-round planning a little easier. We are about to start re-evaluating existing budget bill accounts for 2019 this month. If you are already enrolled in budget billing, you must bring your account to a \$0 balance with the April billing. The new budget year will begin with the May billing. If your budget amount has changed, you will receive a letter from our office. Please call the office at 607-293-6622, if you have any questions or are interested in being enrolled.

## New Employee

We would like to welcome new employee Kevin Hitt to our vegetation management crew. Kevin currently lives in Oneonta with his wife and two children. Kevin brings many years of experience to the crew and we are looking forward to having him join the OEC Team.



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 **Dig|Safely. New York**  
before you dig at **811** or  
**1-800-962-7962**

## Board of Directors

**Gary Potter**  
*President*

Charles Arnold  
*Vice President*

Wendell Saunders  
*Treasurer*

Steve Child  
*Secretary*

Fred Braun, Jr.  
*Director*

Edward Clarke  
*Director*

Amy Parr  
*Director*

**Timothy R. Johnson**  
*CEO*

**www.otsegoec.coop**

**www.oeconnect.coop**

## **Board Appoints Nominating Committee**

*An independent group of Otsego Electric Cooperative Members form a nominating committee each year. They meet within 75 days of the Cooperative's Annual Member's Meeting. There will be an election of two new board members this year at the Cooperative Annual Meeting on August 21, 2019. If you are a co-op member and are interested in becoming an Otsego Electric Cooperative Board Member, petitions will need to be in by May 31, 2019.*

### **\*\*\*Nominating Committee Notice\*\*\***

*All members are hereby notified that, as set forth in the bylaws of Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc., the Board of Directors appoints a Nominating Committee every year. The Nominating Committee will meet during the month of June to review petitions and select the list of nominees for open director seats.*

Article 4, Section 3 of the bylaws follows:

NOMINATIONS. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than thirty days nor more than seventy-five days before the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations and elections consisting of five members who shall be selected from different sections of the project area so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the Board of Directors may serve on such committee. The committee, keeping in mind the principle of equitable representation, shall review, certify and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least twenty days before the meeting a list of nominations for directors. Any fifteen or more members acting together shall make nominations by petition not less than seventy-five days prior to the meeting. In the event adequate nominations are not received and certified, the nominations and elections committee will have the authority to appoint nominees. The Secretary shall be responsible for mailing with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of directors to be elected and the names and addresses of the certified candidates.

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Members has been scheduled on August 21, 2019. Elections for two board seats will occur at the 2019 Annual Meeting. We will announce the Annual Meeting location soon. *If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, petitions are available at the Cooperative office or at our website at [www.otsegoelectric.coop](http://www.otsegoelectric.coop).*

*Petitions must be submitted on or before Thursday, May 31, 2019.*

## **Patronage Capital Checks**

If you received a Patronage Capital Credit check from Otsego Electric Cooperative or OECBlue in 2018 and have not cashed it yet, please contact the office so we can re-issue it. We have several checks that were issued and not returned or cashed and now they are stale dated. We would like to see that you get them as this money belongs to you.

## **Be Wary of Advertisement**

We have noticed a lot of signs appearing on our utility poles lately advertising internet service. These are not our signs and they should not be attached to our electric poles. If you see signs attached to our poles, please let us know and we will remove them when we are in the area.