



**Price Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



By William L. Caynor
Sr., Price Electric CEO

YOUR VERY OWN SOLAR GARDEN

It's here, your very own garden of solar. Sounds nice, but what does a garden of solar look like? Well, I would compare it to your family's vegetable garden, only it's harvesting generated electrons and pushing them into the distribution grid system to be

consumed. These electrons generate electricity from the photovoltaic cells (solar panels), which are harnessing the energy produced by the sun. It's a garden harvest that can only be seen as it's registered on an electric meter. The energy comes from the infinite power of the sun and aids in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by producing energy with no emissions.

Your solar garden is a 108.8KW array, consisting of 272 solar panels surrounded by fencing covering a geographic area of less than an acre. The uniqueness of this solar array to others in the state is the panels, as they are bifacial as opposed to the typical monofacial. This essentially means that it produces power on both sides of the panel instead of just the one side, which increases the total generation output. These 272 panels are capable of producing 400 watts per panel. Given an annual estimated production of 180,667 kWhs, the total production would be equivalent to energizing 20 year-round residents, or 83 seasonal members, or as in this case, one member service center in full operation.

You will probably recall that your Cooperative does have a 2.5 MW utility-scale solar array interconnected to the Crane Chase substation on Short Cut Road, which at the time of its construction, was one of the largest utility-scale solar projects in the state. However, a solar garden is different than a utility-scale project. A solar garden allows subscribers to benefit from the generation, whereas utility-scale is a larger project that does not offer individual subscriberships. Congratulations, as your solar garden project will be the first in the region.

This is a great opportunity for those of you interested in the possibilities of solar generation but who don't wish to pay the expense for a solar array at your home, or mount one to your roof, or don't want to remove trees that you want to keep. Those wishing to subscribe to a project

to minimize your carbon footprint, considering climate change and the conservation and preservation of our environment, this could be the project for you. A 400-watt panel subscribership will be available as of February 1, 2021. Members can subscribe to as many as two panels and receive an energy credit for generation, credited to their monthly electric bill.

The generation from this array will reduce the energy purchased and required to travel the long transmission corridor to make its arrival in the Northwoods. These transmission lines have a cost associated too, and as long as the sun is shining, this array will be producing energy

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for you. It must be noted that solar generation without some form of storage will be lost if not consumed. In this case, your Member Service Center will be the principal end user.

Some of you have contacted the office or answered our survey last year expressing an interest in this project. Have no fear as we will be contacting you, but feel free to contact us first if you like. We look forward to the conversation and are proud to offer you something we have never been able to offer before.

One safety question that has been asked I would like to pass on for awareness. Does the sun reflection on the panels hinder aircraft flying over? The answer is no. The solar panels are not meant to reflect, but rather, absorb. In fact, the panels have the reflective qualities of dirt.

Please stop by and take a gander at your new solar garden located on the eastern side of the Member Service Center on Springs Drive. We are thrilled to provide an opportunity that can harness the sun, reduce emission pollutants, afford potential bill relief, and push energy into the distribution system to reduce demand (Kilowatts) while consuming much of it at your member service center in the form of Kilowatt-hours.

If you are interested in learning more about your solar garden or subscribing to a solar panel, please contact the office at 715-339-2155.

See page 16 for photos of PEC's solar garden construction progress!

PEC MEMBER SOLAR GARDEN COMES TOGETHER

The land east of the PEC Member Service Center was cleared for the solar garden in early November, 2020. Construction of the array began on November 19. All panels were in place by December 14.



Interested in subscribing to a solar panel?
Contact the office at 715-339-2155.

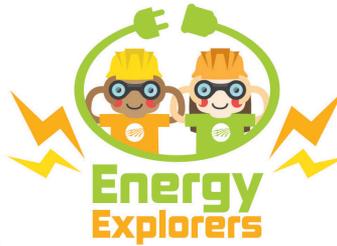
KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES NOW AVAILABLE!

The Keeping the Lights On plate recognizes the work of Wisconsin utility workers. It is available to any Wisconsin driver for an issuance fee of \$15. Please visit <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/dmv/vehicles/title-plates/utl.aspx> for more information.



2021 ENERGY EFFICIENCY CALENDAR

There are so many ways you can save energy! Saving energy helps reduce your family's monthly bills – and it helps our environment. Change your energy use habits by following the monthly tips below. Keep this calendar on your refrigerator to remind family members to be energy efficient throughout the year.



JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
<p>Turn off ceiling fans when you leave a room.</p>	<p>Instead of turning up the heat, put on an extra layer of clothing or stay cozy under a blanket.</p>	<p>Turn off lights when you leave a room.</p>	<p>Ask an adult to help you plant a tree to help shade your home in the summer.</p>
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
<p>Decorate your backyard or porch with solar-powered lights.</p>	<p>Take short showers instead of baths.</p>	<p>Dry heavy linens outside on a clothesline instead of using the dryer.</p>	<p>Ask an adult to help you schedule a reminder to change the A/C filter every 60-90 days.</p>
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>Turn off running water while brushing your teeth.</p>	<p>Unplug energy vampires, like chargers, gaming consoles and cable/satellite boxes.</p>	<p>Remind family members to use cold water when washing clothes.</p>	<p>Decorate your home with energy-saving LED holiday lights.</p>

CHECK OUT YOUR BILL FOR A \$25 CREDIT

Don't forget—the PEC bill you receive in January (for December's electric usage) will include a \$25 bill credit.



This is PEC's way of assisting our members during these unprecedented times.

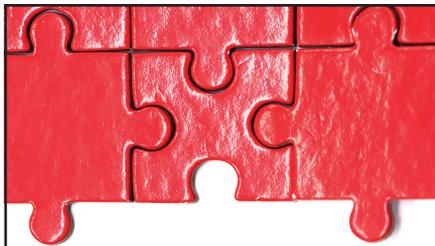
One \$25 credit will be issued per membership. Members with more than one account will receive a credit on one account.

PEC'S 2021 REBATES ARE HERE!

If your holidays included new appliances, lighting, or other energy efficient items, don't forget Price Electric's rebate program! PEC continues to offer rebates on many products that improve energy efficiency. Visit www.price-electric.com or call PEC for more information on available rebates.

A complete listing of rebates will be featured in February's issue of this publication.





Price Electric Puzzler

How closely are you reading your issue of *WEC News*? Answer the questions below for your chance to receive a \$25 bill credit!

Drop off or mail your answer to Price Electric or email your answer to info@price-electric.com. A winner will be drawn from all correct entries on January 31.



What is the amount of bill credit that PEC members will receive on this month's bill?

Answer

Name

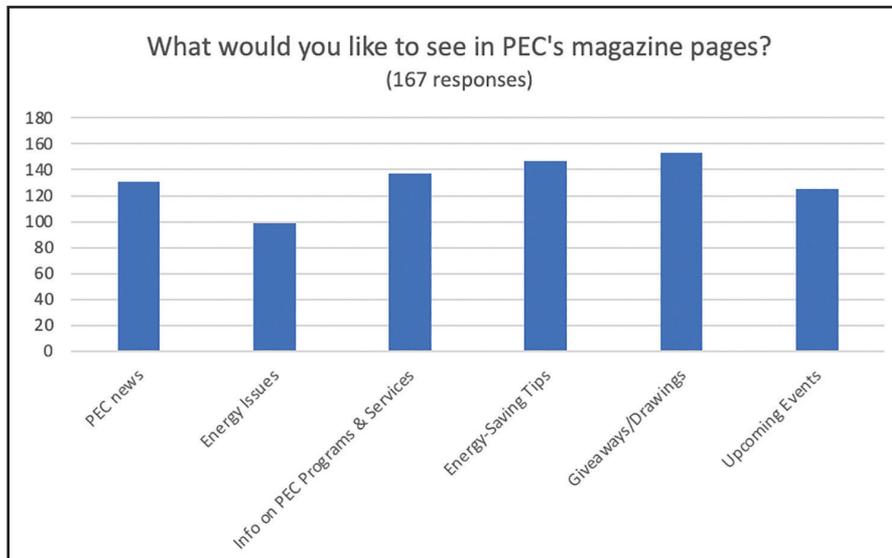
Account Number

Phone

Please return to Price Electric Cooperative,
W6803 Springs Drive, P.O. Box 110,
Phillips, WI, 54555

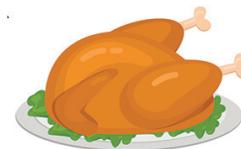
NOVEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to all members who responded to our survey in November's magazine. The survey results are below. The winners of the \$25 bill credit were James and Brittany Allen.



Congratulations

to the winners of Price Electric's annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drawing:



Margaret Page

Bob & Kathy LaPointe

Keith Chafer

Robert Kraiss

Leona Will

Doug & Patti Nutt

Robert & Mary Robl

Jeffrey & Janet Spaulding

Laurie Zondlo

We hope all of our members had a wonderful holiday season!

Congratulations to David & Jeanie Korntved, the winners of the Game Day Snack Basket Drawing in November's *WEC News* magazine!

ElectricSense Store Closing

The ElectricSense online store provided through Dairyland Power Cooperative will be closing effective January 5, 2020. We apologize for any inconvenience.

William L. Caynor Sr., President/CEO

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www.price-electric.com

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Theresa Raleigh, Editor



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