



**Dunn Energy
Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



POWER ON

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

Our mission at Dunn Energy Cooperative is to provide safe, reliable energy and superior service to benefit our members and community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, safe and reliable energy has taken on an even greater importance. With members working from home and children doing online school, having reliable power is critical. Even though we temporarily closed our office to the public, our staff has continued to work on responding to your needs, processing payments, responding to outages, and working on reliability projects for the future.

As I write this on May 8, we plan to open our office to members on June 1. We've put some precautions in place at the office and we kindly ask our members to only visit the office if needed. Please try to use the technology in place to pay your bill or get your questions answered. While we love to see our members, it is safer for everyone to limit people in our building.

We also plan to hold our annual meeting on Saturday, June 27. While we don't know what that will look like exactly, or what restrictions might still be in place, we do plan to hold some type of meeting that day. Watch for more information on our website or Facebook page as we get closer to that time.

Rest assured, Dunn Energy will continue to do everything we can to keep the power on each and every day. (2973002)

Power to You

The second part of our mission (above) is to deliver superior service to our members and the community. This is what makes cooperatives so special. Our work is done to benefit the members in our community who use energy from the cooperative. As we begin to move forward from COVID-19 we know that Dunn Energy will have a part to

play in helping our members and local economy recover. The virus isn't going away and its ramifications aren't ending anytime soon. We have to find the best way to move forward one day at a time.

Since June is National Dairy Month and the farm economy has been hit hard by the effects of COVID-19, many electric cooperatives across the state are partnering



with Kwik Trip to offer one free gallon of milk to each of our members. Look for the coupon on page 17 of this issue. Then take it to a local Kwik Trip store to redeem. We hope the gallon of milk helps your family and also helps our local dairy industry.

We are here to work with our members, both large and small, to help strengthen our local economy. We have a small business loan program in place that can help our members get their business running again. We also have a budget billing and payment arrangement program that members can use to help get through these challenging times.

As we begin to move forward, every person and business in our community has a shared responsibility to keep each other safe and to get our economy working again. If we all share in those efforts good things will happen. You have my commitment that Dunn Energy Cooperative will work hard to keep the power on and bring the power to you.



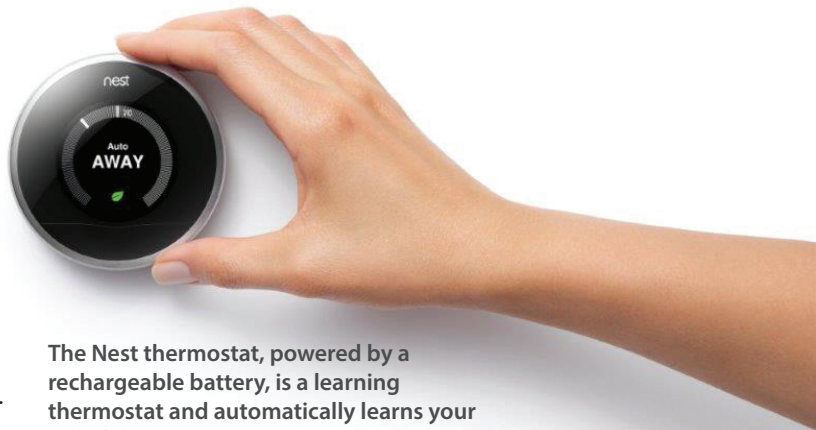
SMART THERMOSTAT OPTIONS

A comparison of the market's smartest and most popular

Heating and cooling costs account for around half of a user's energy bill, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. So when it comes to reducing energy use and cutting home energy costs, the most impact can be made by programming the thermostat. The right thermostat settings could yield energy savings of 8–15%, and new technology is making it easier than ever to achieve those settings.

Smart thermostats are Wi-Fi enabled and may be controlled remotely through a tablet, smartphone, or voice control. Some models use multiple sensors to monitor temperatures in various parts of the home for more balanced heating or cooling, track user temperature preferences and use the data to optimize your heating and cooling schedule, and some are designed for complex multi-stage systems that will control heating, cooling, dehumidifier, and ventilation systems.

If you're interested in controlling your thermostat with your voice or an app, or in being hands-off and letting it learn your habits, you should consider a smart thermostat. To narrow your choices, factor in smart features, price, and attributes that matter most to you, such as color, size, or style, and make sure the chosen product supports your HVAC system.



The Nest thermostat, powered by a rechargeable battery, is a learning thermostat and automatically learns your schedule. —Source: Nest

The Nest 3rd Generation Learning Thermostat and Ecobee4 are the most popular and sophisticated devices in this category. Both devices are usually priced around \$250, but consumers can easily recoup their money in energy cost savings.

There are many similarities between the two thermostats. Both can be adjusted via computer, tablet, smartphone, Google Assistant, or Amazon Alexa device (the Ecobee4 even has a built-in Alexa-enabled speaker). And both thermostats can interact with other smart devices and utilize geofencing—using your phone's GPS to determine if you're home, then automatically adjusting the temperature. Nest's geofencing works with multiple phones, while Ecobee supports just one phone. Ecobee makes up for this with its more sophisticated sensors.

The Nest and Ecobee offer for purchase, remote sensors that allow the thermostat to take readings from any room throughout your home and adjust the temperature accordingly. This can be an advantage if your thermostat is located near a draft or in direct sunlight. The Ecobee's sensors go one step further with occupancy sensing, which notices if there is movement in the house, in order to override geofencing if the primary phone user leaves the house and someone is still there.

While many of the features are similar, there are a few that are notably different and can help you determine which is right for you. (2437002)

Nest, powered by a rechargeable battery, is a learning thermostat and automatically learns your schedule. When you begin using Nest, it makes a few assumptions and creates a baseline for its schedule. As you adjust the temperature up or down, Nest records it, and after a week, learns your schedule and the temperature settings you prefer. From then, it continues to learn and respond to your adjustments. Nest also records 10 days of energy use data that shows you a visual of the times your system turned on and off during those 10 days. Nest also sends a monthly email report that includes a summary of your energy use compared to previous months and other Nest users.

Ecobee must be hardwire installed, utilizes a touchscreen,

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and can analyze HVAC data for 18 months. All temperature and motion data from the thermostat and sensors is recorded, and can be accessed online by the owner to help you monitor total energy use, how the weather influences your use, and how your home efficiency compares to other users in your area.

The two thermostats also can connect with various energy devices in your home. Ecobee recognizes dehumidifiers and ventilators, and Nest recognizes heat pumps and auxiliary heat.

For those looking for a smart thermostat with fewer bells and whistles, the Honeywell Lyric T5+ is one of the market's most popular, priced around \$135. While it can't sense your presence or learn your schedule, it does have the geofencing feature and can interact with other smart-home devices, such as turning on lights when you arrive or leave home.

Whichever fits your lifestyle and preferences, a smart thermostat is a good investment that can help you save energy and money in a more convenient way than ever.



Smart thermostats, like the Ecobee model shown here, are Wi-Fi connected and can be controlled through your smartphone, tablet or voice.—Source: Ecobee

MARK JUNE DAIRY MONTH WITH A FREE GALLON OF MILK

June Dairy Month is a time to pay tribute to the dairy industry, a key contributor to our state's economy. Wisconsin is home to more than 7,000 dairy farms—more than any other state—and 57 percent of those operate on electric co-op lines.

This year, dairy farmers need more than just thanks and good wishes for June Dairy Month. The coronavirus pandemic has hit our state's farmers hard. With schools closing and restaurants limited to carry-out and delivery services only, dairy farmers have temporarily lost a huge market for the milk they produce. Some have had to dump large quantities of milk.

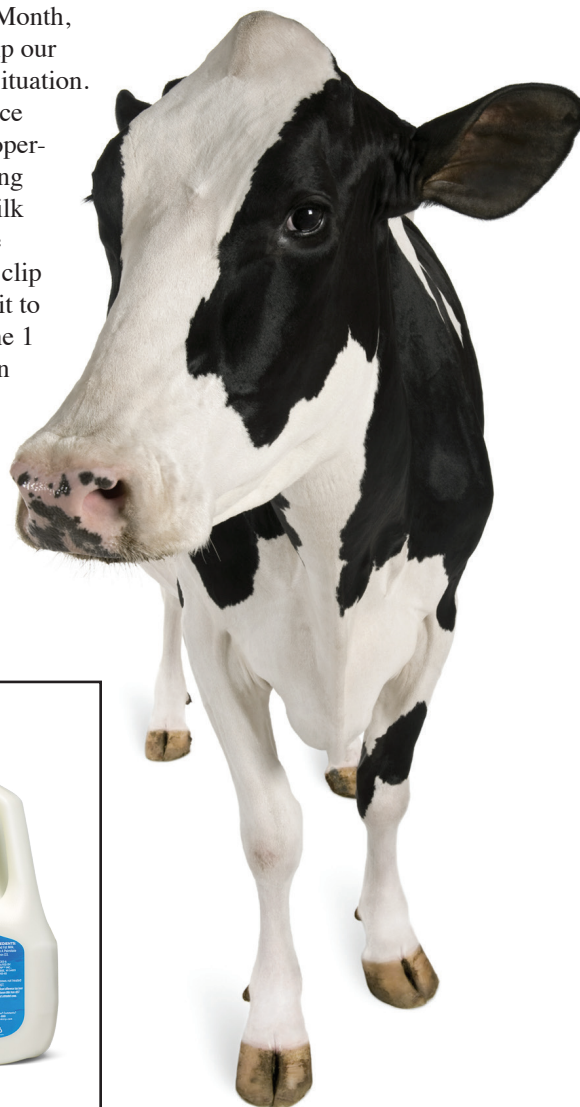
Ironically, at the same time dairy farmers have been forced to dump good milk, many families have been struggling to pay for groceries thanks to pan-

demic-caused furloughs and job lay-offs.

So this year for June Dairy Month, we're taking action to try to help our members on both sides of this situation.

Through our statewide service agency, Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association, we are offering a coupon for a free gallon of milk to all our members, redeemable at any Kwik Trip store. Simply clip out the coupon below and take it to Kwik Trip at any time from June 1 through July 16 for a free gallon of your choice of non-fat, 1%, or 2% milk.

And when you get back home and pour yourself and your family a cool glass of delicious, wholesome milk, raise a toast to your local dairy farmers who produced it.



MY CO-OP

FREE

One Gallon Jug
Nature's Touch® Milk
Skim, 1% or 2%

Limit one coupon offer per customer, per visit. Original coupon must be presented to the cashier at the time of purchase. Excludes Orange Juice and Chocolate Milk. Coupon may not be combined with any other offers. No cash value. Good at all Kwik Trip Stores. **Valid June 1 - July 16, 2020**



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Dunn Energy Cooperative

MILK GALLON GIVEAWAY





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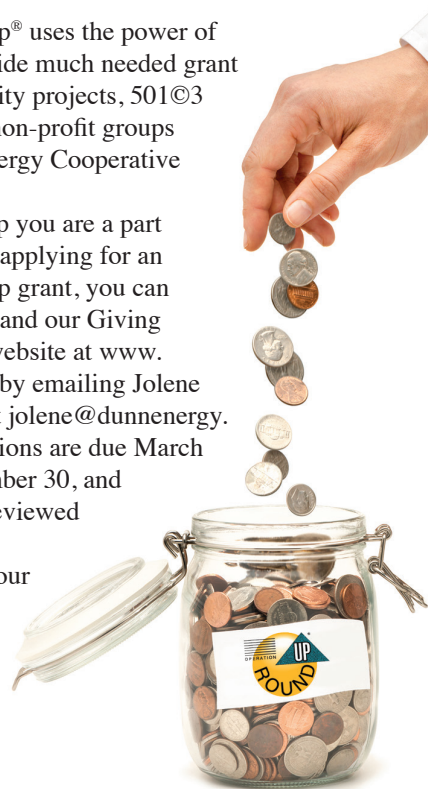
With the time you save, get outdoors and take a hike.

OPERATION ROUND UP The Power of Change

Operation Round Up® uses the power of cooperation to provide much needed grant dollars for community projects, 501©3 organizations, and non-profit groups within the Dunn Energy Cooperative service territory.

If you, or a group you are a part of, are interested in applying for an Operation Round Up grant, you can find the application and our Giving Guidelines on our website at www.dunnenenergy.com or by emailing Jolene for an application at jolene@dunnenenergy.com. Grant applications are due March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 and reviewed shortly thereafter.

Thank you for your interest. Let's show the community the Power of Change!



Hidden Account Numbers

The incentive to find your account number has increased! If you find your account number hidden in the pages of this magazine and you call and tell us before the next issue is mailed, we'll put a \$50 credit on your electric bill. Happy hunting!

Last month's winners were Kevin Stearns and Connie Curtis.

Jesse Singerhouse, Manager

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Jolene Neisius, Editor



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