

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

June 2025



DEC Current

SAVE THE DATE

81ST ANNUAL MEETING

Join us on August 20, 2025

Laurens Central School

5:00 PM REGISTRATION
7:00 PM BUSINESS MEETING

607-293-6622 www.otsegoelectric.coop

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A Not-for-Profit Corporation



ANNUAL MEETING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER:

Wednesday, August 20th at Laurens Central School!

Registration & Member Mingle begin at 5:00 P.M. Enjoy live music and local vendors! The Annual Meeting begins promptly at 7:00 PM. Brooks BBQ Chicken Dinners will be served with **ADVANCED PURCHASE ONLY!** Complete coupon stub below and return **WITH** payment to our office today! Each household is limited to 4 dinners at a discounted rate of \$10 per dinner. Additional dinners may be purchased for \$25 each.

Each household membership attending the meeting will be entered for the amazing raffle drawings. We will draw 10 lucky winners from Early Registrations for a \$50.00 bill credit! Must be present to win!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

If you would like to order chicken or to pre-register, please call us and/or return the coupon located below along with the \$10.00 per dinner payment. Please make your check payable to Otsego Electric Cooperative. Please do not include this in your electric bill payment. No chicken tickets will be sold at the meeting.

81st Annual Meeting — Brooks' Chicken Bar-B-Q

\$10.00 Per Dinner

Enclosed Please Find \$ _____

Please Reserve _____ Tickets at \$10.00 Each

Name(s) _____



(Otsego Electric Cooperative Members and Family Only Please—limit 4 dinners at \$10 rate—all additional can be purchased for \$25)

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
1-844-963-2837

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

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

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www.otsegoec.coop

www.oconnect.coop

What does it mean when we say reduce use during peak times or ‘beat the peak’?

When we suggest not using large appliances during peak times, we are asking members to reduce electricity usage during periods of the highest demand. When we use less electricity during the highest peak times, it can ease the strain on the grid and help us keep your bills lower. At all times, there are teams analyzing energy use to determine if plants need to increase their production, to help keep the grid balanced. Typically, when the demand for electricity is higher, the price of the power also increases. Attempting to spread out the use of appliances and equipment, increasing energy efficiency in your home with weatherization improvements, utilizing LED lights, and using the delayed start or scheduling features on appliances to run during off-peak hours can make a large difference at your own home as well as for our system as a whole.

Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Want to beat the heat? Use appliances such as dishwashers, washing machines, and dryers during off peak times (middle of the day or night). This will also help eliminate additional heat production in the home. Many new appliances offer a “delayed start” feature so you can conveniently use them during off peak times. Additionally, using cold water to wash your clothes and even hanging them outside to dry will help reduce your energy use. Remember to unplug chargers and small appliances when not in use!

2025 Youth Legislative Tour

In April each year, OEC, and our selected youth representative, joins other New York State Cooperative representatives, in Washington to discuss and advocate on issues that impact rural electric cooperatives and our members.

The Annual Legislative Conference provides opportunities for co-ops to bring key energy issues and priorities to the political forefront. As we engage with policy makers and agency officials now and in the future, we’re focusing on enhancing grid reliability, addressing federal permitting and regulatory challenges, and ensuring access to federal funding opportunities to foster innovation and support for our local communities.

Each year, we open the application process to our Youth population to apply to attend the conference. This allows them to learn firsthand about the legislative process, and gives them opportunities to explore the nation’s capital. The selected student each year also receives a Scholarship.

This year, we were proud to select Elias MacLeish (pictured on left) as our Youth Representative!



Why Do My Lights Blink? Here’s What You Should Know

We often receive questions about why our members lights sometimes blink three times, and occasionally, people find this pattern a bit annoying. However, this blinking is actually a normal and intentional part of our system’s design. The Co-op uses oil circuit reclosers (OCRs) to help maintain electrical power, especially during storms. An OCR plays the role of an “automatic fuse replacement” in a way. For example, when a tree limb falls on the line and then falls to the ground, the line itself may remain undamaged. In such situations the OCR detects the disturbance, opens the circuit quickly, and then re-closes the circuit and the lights go back on again. It will do this up to three times, but if the tree limb remains on the electric line it will protect the equipment by safely keeping the power off and keeping the circuit open. The mechanical switching contacts inside the OCR enable this device to open and re-close, ensuring your power stays on when possible, while safeguarding the system. So, the blinking lights you see are actually a sign that our equipment is working as intended — actively maintaining the integrity and reliability of your electrical service.