

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

May 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



We are excited to announce our upcoming Annual Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, August 20th at Laurens Central School! This event serves as a valuable opportunity for us to come together as a cooperative community, reflect on our year's achievements and chart the course for the future.

Registration will begin with a "Member Mingle" Session at 5:00 P.M. During this time we encourage you to enjoy live local music and a variety of local vendors. The Annual Meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. Brooks BBQ Chicken will be serving a dinner by RESERVATION ONLY, limited to 4 dinners per family at discounted rate of \$10 per dinner. Additional dinners may be purchased for \$25 each.

More information to follow. We hope to see you there!

BILL PAY OPTIONS, ENERGY-USE MONITORING, OUTAGE REPORTING, NOTIFICATIONS AND MORE!

Stay Informed and In Control with SmartHub!

SmartHub is Otsego Electric's web and mobile account management app that allows members to:

- View and pay your bill or set up Autopay
- Monitor your daily and monthly electric usage
- Report service issues and outages
- Sign up for email and text notifications for outage updates, billing and more!



Why Wait?

SmartHub is free, secure and easy to use. Get started with SmartHub today! Visit otsegoec.coop or call 607-293-6622 to learn more or for assistance getting started. Empower your energy usage with SmartHub!

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

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Fast-Growing Demand for Electricity

When the Rural Electric Cooperatives were first established, members were thrilled by the simple joy of illuminating their homes with a few light bulbs. As time has gone on, our lives have transformed dramatically, and the number of electrical devices in our homes has exploded beyond what we could have ever imagined. Across our service territory and throughout the United States, electricity consumption has surged. Households continuously demand more power, partly due to the abundance of electronic devices, while the expansion of data centers and large warehouse facilities has further increased the strain on our electrical systems as a whole. As the nation shifts its focus toward cleaner energy sources, traditional power generators, like coal and nuclear, have faced closures or extensive costs to follow new policies. Many of these reliable power sources are now in transition, grappling with the challenge of adopting greener technologies while still meeting the growing demand for electricity. With the rise of demand, comes the rise of costs for these sources to produce the necessary energy to supply all of us.

This rising demand for electricity, along with supply chain delays and escalating costs, it places us at a pivotal moment in energy management. As we navigate these challenges, our hope is to keep our members informed and educated on what is going on as well as how it may affect our membership and cooperative. Each element of this puzzle—whether it's heightened demand, changing energy policies, or supply constraints—affects the cost of providing safe and reliable electricity.

Tree Trimming

Members in the Otego and West Laurens Area will have routine right-of-way clearing occurring in their area for the next couple of months. Our right-of-way clearing helps to improve reliability and safety on our system and is part of our routine maintenance. If you have questions regarding the work near your property, please contact our office at 607-293-6622.



Third-Party Notification

Members are able to designate, in writing, a third party individual to receive a copy of all billings and disconnect notices, provided that such third party indicated in writing a willingness to receive these notices. If this is something you need for your account, please contact the office to receive a copy of the necessary paperwork!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Turn your suds into savings. Lower your energy use in the laundry room by washing clothes with cold water whenever possible, as heating water accounts for most of the energy used in a laundry cycle. Wash full loads to make the most of energy savings, and use high-efficiency detergent designed for cold washes. For drying cycles, clean the lint filter before each load to improve airflow and use dryer balls to reduce drying time.

