



May 2026

OEC Current

The Otsego Electric Monthly Newsletter

www.otsegoec.coop



OTSEGO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. BOX 128
HARTWICK, NY 13348

OFFICE HOURS:

7:30 - 4:00
MONDAY - FRIDAY

PHONE: 607-293-6622

AFTER HOURS &
OUTAGES: 1-866-591-3192

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Save-the-Date: Annual Meeting

We hope you will save the date of August 19th for our upcoming Annual Meeting! This year's meeting will be held at Cooperstown Central School on Wednesday, August 19th.

Each year, this event allows us time to reflect on the previous year, discuss decisions for the Co-op for the future and vote on topics as necessary.

Our event will kick-off with our Member Mingle, allowing members to mingle among themselves, while also meeting with local vendors and organizations! We will have local live music available and of course, we will have Brooks Chicken BBQ dinners to enjoy as well!

We will have more information to come soon. Dinners will be by RESERVATION ONLY and we will notify members when we are ready to begin accepting your reservations. We truly hope to see you there!



2026 NRECA Legislative Conference

In April, Otsego Electric participated in the NRECA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. We joined cooperative leaders from across the country to engage with policymakers and congressional representatives to discuss issues that impact our rural communities, our members, and our cooperative.

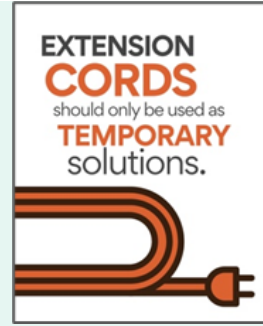
Each year, we invite student applicants from the local area to apply for the opportunity to serve as our student delegate on this trip. This year, we were proud to select Bailey Wilcox, a student at Laurens Central School, to represent OEC and her community. Bailey gained invaluable firsthand experience in the legislative process and observed the behind-the-scenes work that our cooperative undertakes to advocate for our members.

Bailey, along with fellow New York State delegates, got a chance to explore many sights throughout the city, including the Ford Theatre, World War II Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial, Washington Monument, Library of Congress, U.S. Capitol, and more!

The students also had the chance to connect with each other, forge new friendships, and network with Co-op leaders from the four New York cooperatives represented. These interactions provided valuable insights into the industry, its processes, and fostered lifelong connections.



OEC Safety Corner



In May, we recognize National Electrical Safety Month to raise awareness about reducing electricity related fires, injuries and fatalities. Here are a few important safety tips to keep in mind:

- Never use electrical equipment near water.
- Check all light bulbs to ensure the wattage is safe and suitable for the fixture.
- Extension cords are for temporary use only; never run them under rugs, through walls or across doorways.
- Do not plug too many devices into a single outlet or power strip.



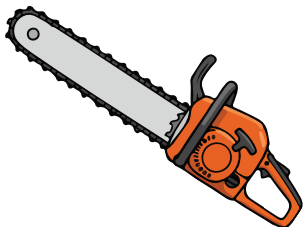
Right-of-way-Crew

Update from our Right-of-Way Crew

Our dedicated brush crew will be working in various areas starting now throughout the summer to ensure our lines remain safe and well-maintained. They will be working on roads including Raymond Fish, County Highway 16, Robinson Road, Thayer Road, Angel Hill Road, Brady Road and Eckert Road.

Regular trimming is essential to keep our power lines clear and safe from potential hazards. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we perform this important work.

As always please be mindful when driving and watch for all kinds of crews working on the roads! Paying attention and maintaining a safe speed can help keep roadside utility and construction crews safe!



NYAPP Annual Conference

In April, Otsego Electric leadership attended the NYAPP (New York Association of Public Power) Annual Meeting. NYAPP's mission is to promote the interests of its members and their customers—our members in this case—by advocating for policies and initiatives that benefit public power entities across New York State. Key focus areas include Low-Cost Energy, Reliable Energy Solutions, oversight of the energy market and NYISO processes to ensure reasonable energy and transmission costs, and legislative involvement.

During the event, representatives from NYAPP member organizations heard from speakers representing NYISO, NYAPP, local municipalities, and other cooperatives. Attendees also participated in round-table discussions addressing statewide topics and challenges.

Engaging in these events is essential for our cooperative and our communities, as it helps ensure our voices are heard regarding the obstacles we face and the ways we can best serve our membership.



SPRING SAVINGS WORD SEARCH

Are you ready to *spring* into energy savings? When we actively try to reduce our energy use at home, we save on bills and help our community. Read the efficiency tips below, then search for (and circle) the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

Spring Energy Tips:

Unplug chargers, gaming systems and other devices. Electronics can consume **energy** when they're plugged in, even if you're not using them.

Open curtains and blinds during the day to use **natural light** instead of lamps and other home lighting.

Dress for the weather. When it's chilly, grab a **jacket** instead of turning up the **thermostat**. When it's warm, instead of turning on the A/C, open **windows** or turn on fans to circulate air.

Turn off **lights** when you're leaving the room for more than five minutes.



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Electrical Safety

We frequently focus on teaching children about fire safety, public safety, and water safety, but how often do we remember to emphasize electrical safety? Activities like the one shown here can help kids learn about electricity, energy efficiency, and the importance of electrical safety — all of which are crucial. Engage your kids or students with our Energy Explorers activities to foster their understanding and promote safe practices around electricity!



Administrative Professionals Day

Last month, we celebrated Administrative Professionals Day to thank the individuals who work behind the scenes and assist our members each day to keep things running smoothly! Thank you for holding our office together!