



Watt's Going On

Greg McFarland, General Manager/CEO
gregm@jacelec.com

As many of you know, the solar array at Jackson Electric Cooperative has been online since the beginning of December. If you haven't done so, stop by and view its output on the monitor inside the office or do so from the comfort of your home by going to our website, www.jacelec.com, and click on the solar array output tab.

This 10 kW solar array, proudly stamped "Made in

the USA," is owned by all the members of Jackson Electric Cooperative. The array is a tool to educate anyone interested in learning about solar installation and inter-connecting to the grid. If you have an interest in learning about our solar experience, please feel free to contact me.

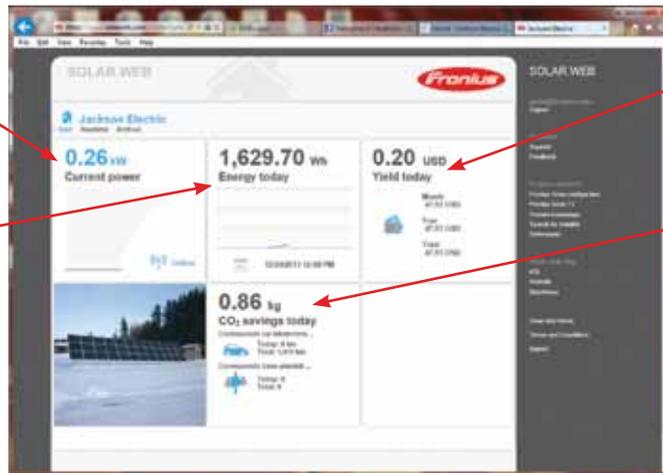
Below is a screen shot of what you will see if you go to the website linked to the output of the solar array. When you first arrive at the site, the numbers and verbiage may be a bit intimidating to some. To help you better understand what you are viewing, we've added brief explanations to each segment of information.

Again, this is your solar array — *Your Energy. Your Cooperative. Your Future.* Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Safety always! ■

Current power – kW: kW, or kilowatts, is the measure of the array's output. In this case, the array is generating enough electricity to operate a 0.26 kW (260 watt) load.

Energy today – Wh: Wh, or watt-hours, is a measure of electrical energy equivalent to a power consumption of one watt for one hour. 1,000 Wh = 1 kilowatt-hour (kWh). According to this screen shot, the system has generated 1.63 kWh. If you click on the graph, you can view historical data.



Yield today – USD: This is the monetary value of the system's output. In this instance, it's showing 20 cents.

CO2 savings today – kg: This is how many kilograms of carbon dioxide (CO2) are avoided by generating with this solar array.

To learn more about kW and kWh, please read "Ask Your Cooperative" on the facing page.



Plan to Attend Your Annual Meeting!

Tuesday, March 11

7:00 p.m.
Lunda Theatre, Black River Falls

Watch next month's magazine issue for more details!

March magazine issue will be your official annual meeting report.

Graduating High School Seniors – Scholarships Available



Jackson Electric Cooperative is offering a \$750 scholarship to each of the following high schools:

- Alma Center- Humbird-Merrillan
- Black River Falls
- Blair-Taylor
- Melrose-Mindoro
- Neillsville
- Osseo-Fairchild
- Sparta
- Whitehall

Please contact your high school guidance counselor for more information on this scholarship. Scholarship recipient is selected by the respective high school.

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Home-schooled, private school, and open-enrolled students:

A \$750 scholarship is also available to students in this category. Scholarship applications can be downloaded at www.jacelec.com/public_relations/scholarships or from our office.

Purchase for Energy Efficiency—Get a Rebate

Jackson Electric Cooperative offers rebates to members who purchase Energy Star qualified lighting and ap-

pliances and energy efficient electric heat pumps. To receive your rebate, contact our office for an application

form or go to www.jackelec.com/programs/rebates_and_incentives to download a form. Please submit to our office your completed and signed rebate application within 60 days following your invoice date with the Energy Star label (if applicable) and paid receipt.

Incentives are also available for an existing home performance assessment and new homes that are built to exceed the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code minimum energy standards. For more information on either of those programs, please contact Jackson Electric Cooperative. ■

ENERGY STAR Lighting

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs less than 60 watts – not 60 watt incandescent equivalent)	\$1 per bulb (not to exceed the cost of the bulb)
CFL (greater than or equal to 60 watts – not 60 watt incandescent equivalent)	\$3 per bulb
CFL or LED Fixture (hardwired)	\$5 per fixture
LED Lamp (min. 5 watts)	\$3 per lamp
LED Technology Security Lighting (min. 15 watts)	\$15

Other commercial and residential lighting rebates may be available. Please see website or contact our office for more information.

Energy Efficient Residential Heating and Cooling and Heat Pump Water Heater

Ground Source Heat Pump	\$500 per ton
Air Source Heat Pump	\$250 per ton
ECM Blower Motor (new furnace)	\$35 per unit
Heat Pump Water Heater (efficiency rating must be 2.00 or greater)	\$300 per unit

ENERGY STAR Appliances

Clothes Washer	\$25
Dehumidifier	\$25
Refrigerator	\$25
Room Air Conditioner	\$25

If you're planning to build a house and need electric service installed, please contact Scott at Jackson Electric Cooperative to schedule an appointment to discuss your electric service needs. We can also help you with electric heating and cooling options and Energy Star rebates and incentives.

Jackson Electric Cooperative is partnering with other utilities to teach you how to make your home more energy efficient at the

Better Homes Expo Saturday, February 15

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
WWTC's Lunda Center
LaCrosse, Wis.
ecw.org/betterhomesexpo

Ask Your Cooperative

Steve Meyer, Member Services Director



Q: The solar array at Jackson Electric has been generating electricity for a couple of months now. When I go to the website, the output is in kilowatts. What is the difference between a kilowatt (kW) and a kilowatt-hour (kWh)?

A: What electric utilities are tracking and billing for are kWhs. This can be confusing when some people in our industry say kilowatts when they mean kilowatt-hours. Although very related, a kW is not the same as a kWh. Let's say you are operating a 1,000-watt heater. One-thousand watts is 1 kW. For each hour your 1,000-watt (1 kW) heater is operating, it consumes 1 kWh of electricity.

To put this another way, a kW is the unit of measure for the size of the

load plugged into the electrical system. Electric meters track this load over time, and the total is in kWhs.

In the case of a generator or our solar array, the unit of measure for the output is also watts or kW. A solar array or a generator producing 9 kW or 9,000-watts is generating enough electricity to operate a 9 kW load. Again, after you've operated that 9 kW load for one hour, you have used 9 kWh of electrical energy.

If you have a question to ask Jackson Electric Cooperative, please submit to our office at P.O. Box 546, Black River Falls, WI 54615 or email cblaken@jackelec.com and put in the subject line "Magazine Question." ■

Jackson Electric Cooperative

2013 YEAR IN REVIEW



Employees continue to generously give monetary donations to local organizations that serve the well-being of the community.



Above: The Hwy. 121 project was complete in December with new power poles and the replacement of aged overhead line. Right: Contracted right-of-way clearing continues so that reliable power can be distributed to members. Below: Power poles are delivered for the Hwy. 121 overhead line replacement project. Eighty-nine poles were replaced for that project.



Above: Power lines were lowered across Lake Arbutus so that nesting ospreys would not be harmed. Below: Linemen Jesse Hansen and Steve Tenner assisted neighboring electric cooperative Pierce Pepin restore power to their members following an unusual May snowstorm.



Left: President Gary Woods welcomes past board member Tom Peasley to the annual meeting. Right: The electronics and white goods recycling drive continues to be a success. More than a semi trailer of unwanted electronics and white goods was collected.





Above: Jackson Electric Cooperative promoted renewable energy resources at the annual Green LifeXpo in Black River Falls. Below: Youth Ambassadors raised more than \$1,600 for the Friends Sharing Food organization. The cooperative matched that for a total donation of \$3,334.10.



Above: More than 500 members enjoyed a beautiful August afternoon at the annual member appreciation picnic. Left: Ben Bella, safety and compliance, talked with students about electrical safety at Black River Falls Community Safety Day. Below: Linemen Steve Bucholz and Dan McKeivitt talked with fourth-grade students about electrical safety during the Black River Falls FFA Food for America program.



Below: A 10 kW solar array, located at Jackson Electric Cooperative, was interconnected to the grid in December. This array is owned by the members of the cooperative and will be used as an educational tool to teach the community about solar energy.



Jackson Electric Cooperative continues to support area youth by purchasing livestock and dairy baskets at the Jackson County Fair.




Jackson
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Greg McFarland,
General Manager/CEO

Box 546, Black River Falls, WI 54615
(715) 284-5385 • (800) 370-4607
www.jackelec.com

Outage Only Number:
(855) 222-DARK (3275)

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