

News FOR YOU...



1. BE CAREFUL WITH CAMPFIRES

Build fires in designated areas. Keep small and never leave unattended. Make sure your fire is completely out before you leave.



2. AVOID HOT VEHICLES ON DRY GRASS

Heat from engines and exhausts can ignite dry vegetation. Park on gravel or pavement when possible.



3. USE EQUIPMENT SAFELY

Use outdoor equipment responsibly. Keep sparks away from dry grass and brush. Follow all safety instructions and maintain equipment properly.



4. KNOW BEFORE YOU BURN

Check local regulations and fire restrictions before burning. When in doubt, don't burn.



5. KEEP NATURE BEAUTIFUL

Pack out all trash and be fire aware. Protect our forests for future generations and for everyone who calls this home.



**BE FIRE SMART.
PROTECT OUR HOME.**

TOGETHER, WE CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES.

Wildfire Prevention: Yesterday's Message Still Matters Today

A few weeks ago if you looked outside, you probably would've noticed hazy skies and smelled the smoke drifting into our area from wildfires burning across Canada and other parts of North America. Even when the fires are hundreds of miles away, the smoke reminds us how quickly wildfires can grow and how far-reaching their impacts can be.

While many of today's large wildfires are fueled by drought, extreme heat, and changing weather conditions, one thing has remained constant over the decades: preventing human-caused fires is something we can all help with.

In celebration of our 90 years as a cooperative, we took some time to reflect on our history. As we were looking through past editions of *The Lamplighter*, the original newsletter for Barron Electric Cooperative, we found several wildfire prevention advertisements. Although the artwork and slogans reflect another era, the message is just as important today as it was then.

Whether it's fully extinguishing a campfire, properly disposing of smoking materials, avoiding parking hot vehicles on dry grass, or following local burning restrictions, small actions can prevent devastating fires. Many wildfires are started accidentally, making awareness and personal responsibility our first line of defense.

(Continued on Page 2)

Wildfire Prevention *(Continued from Page 1)*

The vintage advertisements featured in this issue remind us that caring for our forests has always been a community effort. Generations before us understood that protecting our woodlands, wildlife, homes, and neighbors depended on everyone doing their part.

As we continue through the heart of wildfire season, let's honor that tradition. Take a few extra moments to practice wildfire safety, stay informed about local fire conditions, and encourage family and friends to do the same. Together, we can help protect the places we love for future generations.

Sometimes the best advice isn't new at all—it has simply stood the test of time.



From the Lamplighter Archives

The wildfire prevention advertisements featured here first appeared in *The Lamplighter* decades ago. While the illustrations may be vintage, their message remains just as relevant today. These reminders from the 1950s show that protecting our forests has long been a shared community responsibility—one that continues today.

BARRON
Electric
COOPERATIVE
1434 State Hwy 25, Barron

BLOOD DRIVE
Friday, August 14, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



From Our History to Their Future



This year has been one of celebration and reflection. As our nation commemorates 250 years of American history, we are reminded of the vision, determination, and community spirit that helped shape the United States. Here at the cooperative, we're celebrating another important milestone—90 years of serving our members and investing in the communities we call home. One of the ways we continue that investment is through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour.

Each year, students who participate in the Youth Leadership Conference earn the opportunity through Barron Electric Cooperative for an unforgettable week-long trip to Washington, D.C. the following year. Sponsored by their cooperative, these young leaders travel with other Wisconsin youth and join hundreds of students from across the country to explore our nation's capital, learn about our government, and discover the cooperative difference. This year's trip carried even greater significance as students experienced our nation's capital during America's 250th anniversary celebration. Walking through historic landmarks, visiting memorials and museums, and standing in places where history was made offered a powerful reminder of the people and principles that continue to shape our country.

But Youth Tour is about more than history. Throughout the week, students build friendships with peers from nearly every state, exchange ideas, and gain a deeper understanding of how electric cooperatives serve their communities. They learn that cooperatives are more than utility providers—they are organizations built by local people, governed by local members, and committed to improving the quality of life for generations to come.



Pictured are students Sienna Steines and Franklin Eldred on NRECA's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

That commitment has guided our cooperative for the past 90 years. Since our founding, we've believed that investing in young people is one of the best ways to strengthen our communities. The leaders of tomorrow are sitting in today's classrooms, and experiences like the Youth Tour help them develop the knowledge, confidence, and connections they'll carry into the future.

As we celebrate 250 years of our nation and 90 years of our cooperative, we're proud to support programs that honor our history while preparing the next generation to write the chapters still to come.

WIN A \$50 BILL CREDIT IN OUR PHOTO CONTEST!



Email your fall photo to memberservices@barronelectric.com for a chance to win a \$50 credit on your electric bill.

Criteria includes:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape) and be high resolution, 300 dpi or higher.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail photo by August 15 to: memberservices@barronelectric.com. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric permission to use your photo in publications and our website.

News FOR YOU...

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Published for the members of Barron Electric. If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please e-mail nrobertson@barronelectric.com

Barron Electric is an equal opportunity provider.



*Condensed Board Minutes

May 27, 2026

Bill Effertz serves on Barron Electric's Board of Directors representing District 8, which includes the following townships: Crystal Lake, Almena, Clayton, Turtle Lake, Arland, Clear Lake, Vance Creek, Prairie Farm, New Haven, and Sheridan.

- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #105684 through #105795 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$519,222 with capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$27,220. Total receipts in the office \$2,127,983; total receipts by wire and ACH \$2,275,303; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$3,854,556; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$236,952 and the power bill was paid on 05/27/2026 in the amount of \$2,203,509.
- A membership list of 57 was presented and approved with the following changes in membership districts to move from District 2: Galloway to District 1 and Buchman to District 3.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of April in the amount of \$102,880.16 was presented for approval and included new services (\$382.84); change jobs \$4,582.19, Other Work Order Projects \$98,680.81 and 6 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 8,354.09 consumer hours off, which is 57.6% below 2025 hours of 19,704.24.
- Overtime year-to-date is 677.75 hours, which is 2.59% below 2025 hours of 695.75.

* View full board minutes on SmartHub at barronelectric.com.

SAVE TODAY.

WIN TOMORROW.



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR

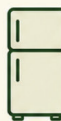
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One winner will be drawn quarterly.
Bill credit will appear on your statement.

August 2026 News for You