

Barron Electric Cooperative  
November 2026  
Photo by Jacqie Swanson

# News FOR YOU...



## Give a Little, Get a Little: Don't Miss Out on Rebates This Year!

The season of giving is here! And if you're shopping for something shiny and new for yourself or your home, we may have just the rebate for you.

From energy-efficient appliances to heating and cooling equipment and water heaters, Barron Electric Cooperative offers rebates to help make those upgrades a little easier on your wallet. It's a gift that keeps on giving through energy savings!

Planning an energy-efficient upgrade? Don't let your rebate slip through the cracks! Applications for 2026 rebates are due Friday, December 11. Scan the QR code below to get started. Check back in 2027 to see what's new.

## 2026 Rebates due Friday, December 11



# Celebrating Community & Paying It Back



October brought beautiful fall colors, cooler days, and a reminder of what makes our community special: the people who make it home. It's also the perfect time for Barron Electric Cooperative to celebrate Cooperative Month by giving back and connecting with the members we're proud to serve.

This year, we enjoyed seeing more than 1,400 members and community members at our Cooperative Month Kick-Off events in Barron and Spooner! From sharing a meal to catching up with familiar faces and meeting new ones, these gatherings offered a chance to celebrate the cooperative spirit that brings us together.



A highlight of this year's events was returning \$1.7 million to our members through cashback credits, also known as capital credits. As a member-owned cooperative, Barron Electric operates differently from investor-owned utilities. Instead of profits going to outside shareholders, any margins remaining after expenses and financial obligations can be allocated back to members through cashback credits.

So, what exactly are cashback credits? Each year, the cooperative's margins are allocated to members based on their electric use. When the cooperative's financial condition allows, those allocated credits are returned to members. It's one of the unique benefits of being part of a cooperative — when we do well, our members share in that success!



But Cooperative Month is about more than dollars and cents. It's about the people behind every meter and the connections that make our communities strong. Our kick-off events gave us a chance to visit with members, thank them for their support, and enjoy time together before winter arrives. We're grateful to everyone who joined us, as well as the community partners and sponsors who helped make these gatherings possible.

As the seasons change, we're reminded that the heart of our cooperative has always been — and will always be — our members. Thank you for being part of it!



# Holiday Cooking: Ways to Save in the Kitchen

From the Thanksgiving feast to the first holiday parade, fall football games, and favorite family recipes, the holidays are filled with traditions that bring us together. Whether you're hosting a full house, traveling to visit loved ones, or spending a cozy day at home, these little moments often become our favorite memories.

But we know the holidays can also come with extra expenses. Special ingredients, a fuller grocery cart, home heating, and travel costs can all add up quickly.

As a small way of saying thanks to our members this season, Barron Electric Cooperative is sharing a few simple ways to save energy in the kitchen without missing out on the traditions that make this time of year special.

**Keep the oven door closed.** Use the oven light to check on your food instead of opening the door and letting heat escape.

**Make the most of your oven.** When possible, cook multiple dishes at the same temperature together. For smaller meals, consider a microwave, toaster oven, air fryer or slow cooker instead of heating a full-size oven.

**Keep lids on pots and pans.** Covered cookware heats food faster and helps you use less energy. Once liquids boil, you may also be able to lower the burner setting.

**Let the cooking do some of the warming.** Your oven and stovetop can add heat to your kitchen. If your home feels warmer than usual, consider lowering your thermostat a degree or two while everyone stays comfortable.

**Run full loads.** Wait until your dishwasher is full before running it, and use the air-dry setting if available to save energy.

Small changes can help you use energy wisely while keeping the focus on what matters most: good food, favorite traditions, and time with loved ones.

From our cooperative family to yours, thank you for being a member of Barron Electric Cooperative. We wish you a warm, safe, and happy holiday season!



HAPPY  
Thanksgiving

Our Office  
will be closed  
Thursday, November 26 &  
Friday, November 27.



Email your winter photo to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto: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 November 15 to: [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto: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.

## \*Condensed Board Minutes August 26, 2026



Mark Bowers represents District 9, which includes the following townships: Chetek, Dallas, Sioux Creek, Dovre, Sampson, and Sand Creek.

- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #105966 through #106092 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$1,135,515 with capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$34,771. Total receipts in the office \$2,235,969; total receipts by wire and ACH \$1,685,963; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire \$4,244,118; transfer of funds was made for payroll \$252,166 and the power bill was paid on 08/26/2026 in the amount of \$2,835,216.
- A membership list of 44 was presented and approved without objection.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of July in the amount of \$148,843.21 was presented for approval and included new services \$42,272.72, change jobs \$45,968.97, Other Work Order Projects \$60,601.52 and 1 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 55,458.54 consumer hours off, which is 17.07% below 2025 hours of 66,870.64.
- Overtime year-to-date is 1,847.00 hours, which is 15.26% below 2025 hours of 2,179.50. \* *View full board minutes on SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com).*

## In the Rearview Mirror: A Bipartisan Conversation on Our Energy Future



Although Election Day is now in the rearview mirror, the conversations that help shape our communities remain important. Before the election, Barron Electric Cooperative hosted a bipartisan legislative forum, bringing together candidates from all parties

within our service territory to discuss issues affecting the electric industry and the communities we serve.

The forum focused on topics facing the electric industry, with time for questions on other issues important to attendees. Barron Electric employees and representatives from other cooperatives served by the candidates were invited to participate, creating an opportunity for open dialogue, shared perspectives, and informed decision-making ahead of the election.

As a member-owned cooperative, we believe in the power of every voice. Our members elect the Board of Directors who help guide our cooperative, making participation and informed choices an important part of who we are. That same spirit of engagement makes conversations with our elected leaders and those seeking office valuable to our industry and our communities.

No matter the election results, staying engaged and working together helps us build a stronger future for our members and the communities we call home.

## 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](mailto:nrobertson@barronelectric.com)

Barron Electric is an equal  
opportunity provider.

