



May is National Electrical Safety Month

DCEC is committed to electrical safety excellence—for all our members and employees.

Since May is National electrical safety month DCEC would like to share with our members some safety tips that could be very beneficial in saving a life or preventing an electrical related injury.

We want to talk about two types of electrical safety. The first being electrical safety with our electric distribution facilities, which simply consist of the poles and wires as well as meter sockets and transformers that are essential in providing electric service to each and every one of us. We must remember that the electricity that serves our homes and businesses comes to us through some type of wire that carries the electricity either overhead with poles or, underground with either high voltage wires to a pad mount transformer or, secondary voltage from either the pad-mount transformer to our homes or, from the bottom of a pole with a transformer to our homes.

When we talk about high voltage, the Cooperative operates our

distribution system with two different voltages. Depending on where you are situated on the Cooperative system your high voltage (primary voltage) can be either 7200 Volts or 14,400 Volts while the secondary voltage will always be the same at 120/240 Volts. Both of these voltages can cause serious injury or a fatality should we come in contact with them.

It is very important that the Cooperative maintain our distribution facilities. This means replacing poles and wire due to age and condition, making necessary repairs when needed and maintaining our Right of Ways by clearing the trees on an eight year cycle. All these things are necessary for reliability and equally important for the safety of our members and the general public.

Here are some safety tips when it comes to our distribution system:

- Familiarize yourself and family

members about where the power lines are on your property and how the lines are coming into your home. Report anything that looks out of place like trees on or near a wire, loose wires, or leaning, cracked or broken poles.

- Always report a power outage. Don't assume that someone has reported it as it could be only your house without power.
- In the event your power goes off. Carefully survey your property by looking out the windows to see if it's safe to go outside and check for a down wire or anything that could've caused the power outage.

**Never ever touch a downed line!
Just because you don't have power doesn't mean the line on the ground or a low hanging wire doesn't still have electricity going through it. Report anything like this to the Cooperative ASAP!**

Continued on Page 8...



DCEC Office Closing Reminder:

DCEC's office will be closed on **Monday, May 27, 2019 for Memorial Day.** DCEC staff asks our members to remember our fallen heroes who have served.

June is National Dairy Month



Bovina native Molly Brannen has owned dairy cows in one form or another since she was eight years old when she got her first calf for 4-H. By the time she graduated high school, she had a herd of twenty-two. While she was in college, she found various area farmers to take in her herd, so when she graduated from SUNY Cobleskill, she still had her beloved cows. Within two weeks of graduation, she was milking her cows on her own farm. She farmed in Bovina for a few years and spent a few years farming in Stamford.

In 2008, she came back to Bovina to operate a dairy farm with her three children on Pink Street. Her farm had been the Inman farm for many years and had historically been known as the D. Lyle Thompson farm in the 19th century. Her farm currently has eighty four head. She has help from her three children, when their school activities and summer jobs allow, and from her husband, Kurt Spangenberg, who is a teacher and is available in the summer. For years she has had help from long-time Bovina native Mac McPherson. Molly also sings the praises of her parents, Dick and Carol Brannan, who have helped and encouraged her over the years in her love of dairy farming.

Molly's move to her current farm made her a member of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative. Being a member of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative is a big plus for her. She appreciates how the Cooperative has never forgotten its dairy roots. Molly noted that the cooperative "knows the value of this area's agricultural heritage and is trying to preserve it." Already a fan of the Cooperative, she was very pleased when the

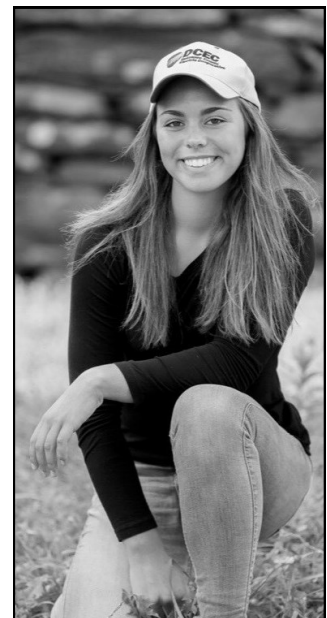
dairy rate was implemented last year.

Molly's daughter, Anna Post, was the DCEC student delegate last year. It has had a major impact on her. She is hoping to use the skills she has gained in helping to advocate for family dairy farms.

Seven years ago, Molly transitioned into organic farming and joined another cooperative, the Organic Valley Co-op.

Dairying is a challenging way to make a living. While Molly occasionally wonders why she continues dairying, she sticks with it because, as she put it, "I love it." She particularly loves her cows and enjoys their varying personalities. She also loves Bovina and is happy to be contributing to Bovina's agricultural heritage. Molly says that she "looks forward to continuing to farm Bovina and using the land for the benefit of the cattle and implementing stewardship."

by Ray LaFever



Anna Post



Are You Interested in Being on DCEC's Fixed Budget?

Members interested in being on DCEC's fixed budget plan must contact the office by the end of June in order to be enrolled. Members can also elect to be on a variable budget plan, which you can sign up for at any time throughout the year as long as you have 12 consecutive months of usage. For more information on the budget plans please contact the office.



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Providing our rural members with:

- ✦ Low-cost Electricity
- ✦ High System Reliability
- ✦ Community/Member Service

Wholesale Electric Contract

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) board of trustees has approved a contract extension for affordable hydropower for the Delaware County Electric Cooperative (DCEC) through Sept. 1, 2040. Mark Schneider, CEO and General Manager of DCEC, was one of the lead negotiators on behalf of the 51 consumer owned electric utilities. Mr. Schneider stated that the contract represents a majority of the wholesale energy purchased by DCEC. The contract extension benefits price stability, which allows DCEC to effectively project future power costs and continued access to the Industrial Economic Development Power (IEDP) program. The IEDP program has been successful over multiple decades, helping businesses grow and stay in DCEC’s service territory. DCEC will partner with NYPA to meet the Cooperative’s obligations under the New York State Clean Energy Standard. Under the agreement, consumer-owned utilities will establish a dedicated fund to be used for energy-efficiency, renewable energy and other related projects. One such example is a community scale solar project adjacent to our Delhi Substation scheduled for 2020. “NYPA assists the cooperative in undertaking projects bigger than it could on its own,” Schneider said. Another example, is the Energy Efficiency Program beginning on May 1st, see additional information about this program on page 6 and 7.



M. Schneider DCEC, K. Hayes NYPA, and D. Leathers Jamestown Board of Public Utilities

Board Appoints Nominating Committee

Each year, an independent committee of DCEC members works to recruit members interested in running for the DCEC board at the Cooperative’s Annual Meeting. This year members will elect directors at the 2019 Annual Meeting scheduled for September 20th. The Committee kicked off their work on April 4th, and they will need to submit official nominations by June 20th. Members interested in learning more about being a director or becoming a candidate, should contact members of the Nominating Committee or the DCEC office or visit www.dce.coop/content/interested-becoming-dcec-director

All candidates will be expected to submit a letter to the Nominating Committee presenting their credentials and qualifications and explaining why they are interested in serving on the DCEC Board of Directors.

The director positions that are up for election in 2019 include two open seats for the Central Region: Towns of Bovina, Delhi, Franklin, Hamden, Kortright and Meredith.

Incumbents:

- Steve Oles
- Steve Burnett



Members of the 2019 Nominating Committee discuss the nominations process. C. Hauser, K. Apthorpe, J. Carroll, A. Phraner, L. Van Valkenberg, and T. Wagner.

2019 Nominating Committee	
Region	Member
Central	John J. Lynch Jr.
Central	Troy Tucker
Central	Kurt Apthorpe
Northern	Thomas Courtenay-Clack
Northern	Christine Hauser
Northern	Joseph Carroll
Southern	Amber Phraner
Southern	Jason Mondore
Southern	Lynne Van Valkenberg
Southern	Tammy Wagner

Today's Electric Power System – How It Works

Ever thought about what happens behind the scenes in the power system when you flip a switch to turn on the lights or another electric appliance or “load” in your home, farm or business? The instant that you do so, the power demanded by that light or any other appliance (plus losses) has to be generated, transmitted, distributed and delivered to your location by the electric power system and it is done so at nearly the speed of light. Which, by the way, is the maximum speed limit known at this time.

This balance between loads and generators must be maintained so that the nominal system frequency of 60 Hertz remains essentially stable at all times in order to avoid large scale power system disturbances. Such disturbances may cause widespread loss of service or a “blackout.” Too much load with respect to operating generation causes the frequency to drop. Conversely, too little load with respect to operating generation causes the frequency to rise. The power system’s rotating machinery’s inertia serves to aid in maintaining frequency stability along with the electrical load itself.

For nearly the past 80 years or so, and to a significant extent today, electric power has been generated in large, central station plants where economies of scale and lower cost fuels were most effectively converted from the raw energy form into the more refined electrical energy form. In the case of DCEC, the primary energy for approximately 90% of the electrical energy delivered to members, annually, is hydroelectric power produced at the New York Power Authority (“NYPA”) generating station located on the Niagara River in western New York. For the New York state system in general, other sources that are used to produce electric power in addition to hydroelectric power include natural gas, nuclear fission reactions, fuel oil, coal and landfill generated bio-gas. All of these sources release thermal energy that is in turn converted to electric power.

Other sources here in New York which produce electric power directly without an intermediate thermal conversion include wind power and solar power. In recent years, these renewable wind and solar sources have exhibited a growing share of the source market here in New York. This is a trend that is expected to continue.

Once the electric power has been generated at the plant level (13.8 kV to 22 kV), it is transformed to higher voltages (46 kV to 765 kV) for efficient longer distance transmission to substation facilities throughout New York. At these substations, power is again transformed this time to a lower voltage level (12.47 kV and 24.9 kV in the case of DCEC) for safe distribution within communities and to rural consumers alike. There is one last voltage transformation required at the consumer’s location to the “secondary” level which is less than 600 volts. This is

needed to allow for safe delivery of the electric power, whether it be to a residence, farm, factory or business.

All along the way from the generating plant to the consumer, control and protection devices keep a safe watch over the system. These devices serve to automatically limit damage to the system during system trouble or faults by isolating the faulted part of the system components away from the healthy operating system so that service continuity may be maintained for the most part. Perhaps best described as “silent sentinels,” such devices include circuit breakers, protection relays, reclosers and fuses.

Special applications of these protection and control devices also serve to enhance system stability throughout the state to help avoid large scale power system blackouts such as those that occurred here in New York on November 9, 1965 and more recently on August 14, 2003.

The modern electric power system has been described as an extremely complex “machine”. Indeed, it was rated by the American scientific and engineering community as the most important development of the 20th century.

Well, that was then and this is now. What has it done for me lately? Good question. The power system continues to soldier on, mostly taken for granted until some segment of it fails, resulting in a service interruption. One thing is for certain, the power system continues to evolve.

Local or “dispersed” sources of generation such as “behind the meter” solar photovoltaic (“PV”) generation is growing in its contribution to providing electrical energy production for New York. Additionally, “utility” scale PV systems, interconnected at the distribution level, rather than at some large central station location, are gaining in source share as well. In these cases, the electrical energy is essentially locally generated and consumed, simultaneously. However, the control and the stability of these dispersed sources requires thoughtful and careful planning that will serve to prevent disruptions in service or other power quality related problems for consumers.

Given the simultaneous need for production and consumption of electric power, one might ask: What about energy storage? Well, that topic has been under consideration for nearly 150 years. From the very beginning of the electric power industry, storage devices, such as batteries, have played a role. That role has changed with time and this subject is again receiving renewed attention in earnest with the growing development of the electric vehicle and increasing numbers of dispersed, intermittent renewable generation sources.

Large scale energy storage systems supporting stable operation of the electric power system have been effectively implemented with pumped storage hydro developments here in

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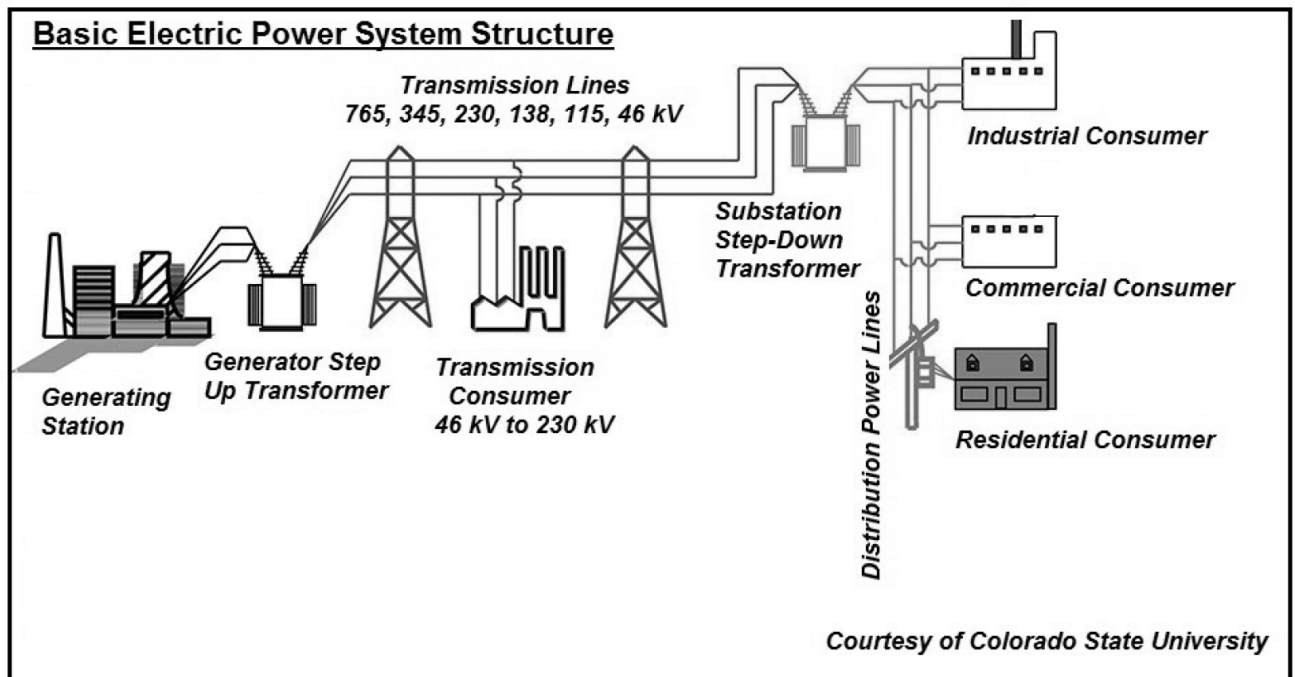
Today's Electric Power System – How It Works...Continued from Page 4...

New York for several decades. NYPA's nearby Blenheim-Gilboa plant being a prime and very large capacity example. Such plants are very useful for helping to meet the peak loading demands of New York, particularly during the hot summer months. This plant is also a useful contributor to the "blackstart" capabilities of the New York power system in the aftermath of a major blackout or other larger scale disturbance. Pumped storage plants can provide the "cranking power" to get things rotating again.

When thinking of energy storage, please recall that DCEC utilizes the energy stored in member's controlled electric water heaters to help reduce the cost of energy purchases by the Cooperative. Control of electric water heaters helps DCEC to control peak loading thereby reducing the monthly demand charges levied by NYPA. This activity also allows DCEC to more fully access lower cost hydro based energy from NYPA.

As with any service system, the power system will change in response to the demands that are placed upon it by its users, both generators and consumers. It's difficult to predict an exact form that will result, however, it's expected to continue to provide safe and reliable service now and into the future.

And, it's advisable not to forget the human component. The power system is to a large extent automated, but when trouble occurs, restoration often time requires power system personnel, whether at the plant, at the office or in the field to resolve the trouble and restore the system to the normal state. In the words of a long time DCEC employee now retired, Wayne Marshfield, "there's a lot going on."



Members Decide

At the Annual Meeting on Friday, September 20, 2019, DCEC will be teaming up with CoBank, one of our financial services partners to give three donations to three, 501(c)(3) charitable organizations to be selected by the members. 1st prize award will be \$1,000, 2nd prize is \$600 and lastly 3rd prize will be \$400. Nominations for charities should be sent by Co-op members to Alicia VanZandt by June 14th at alicia.vanzandt@dce.coop or by regular mail to the office of the Cooperative. To be nominated to receive a donation, a charity **MUST**:

- Be a 501(c)(3) organization.
- Have a significant presence within the DCEC service territory.
- Be able to attend the DCEC Membership meeting and educate Members on behalf of their organization.

Nominated charities will appear in the special edition of the Catskill Hi-Line, which you will receive with your August bill. Members will vote on the "winning" charities at the Annual Meeting. Many thanks to CoBank for their matching grants.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect species targeting Ash trees across the New York State. According to the NYSDEC 30 of the 62 counties in New York have confirmed infestation as of 2017. Nearly every tree infested with the EAB will die in 2-4 years. Signs of infestation include canopy dieback, yellowing or browning of leaves, D shaped exit holes from mature beetles, increased woodpecker activity and S shaped marks when bark falls off. Tree removal may be more costly if trees are already dead so action may be necessary. Consider harvesting ash trees sooner than later. For more information about harvesting of Ash trees please contact the Catskill Forest Association’s Forest Program Manager, John MacNaught at 845-586-3054 or cfa@catskillforest.org. You can also read about CFA’s Tree Saver Program at <https://catskillforest.org/invasive-species-program/>.

Energy Efficiency Rebates Save Members Money

The Cooperative is offering Energy Star appliance rebates to all members as part of the Cooperative’s commitment to a cleaner and more cost effective energy supply for our members.



Appliance	Energy Star Rebate
Refrigerator & Freezer Replacements	\$150
Clothes Washer/Dryer Replacements	\$150
Dishwasher Replacement	\$150
Window-mounted Air Conditioner Replacement	\$75

In order to qualify for the Energy Star rebate, the following conditions must be met:

- The appliance must be purchased after May 1, 2019.
- The appliance must be Energy Star rated as noted on the sales receipt or on the Energy Star informational tag.
- The member must complete the Energy Star rebate form at the end of this article, which is also available on the Cooperative’s website and in the office. The form may be submitted in person, by mail, by fax, or by e-mail to office@dce.coop.
- The receipt showing the date of purchase must be attached to the Energy Star rebate form.
- The old appliance must be removed from service and disposed in an environmentally responsible manner. The Cooperative may require proof of disposal.

This Energy Star rebate program is a continuation of the Cooperative’s long history of supporting and promoting energy efficiency, conservation, and clean energy production. The Cooperative’s programs have included home energy audits, member-owned solar and wind energy, fuel cell demonstration, community-scale wind energy and hydro energy research projects, and our current community-scale solar energy project in partnership with the New York Power Authority and the State University of New York at Delhi.

The focus of the Energy Star rebate program is to create cost savings for members while continuing to pursue the larger goals of efficiency and clean energy. According to DCEC Vice President Frank Winkler, “These programs have been designed to be accessible to all members regardless of their income. Every member needs working appliances, and these programs help people invest in appliances that work well and save energy. Then their monthly bills will be just a little bit lower for the life of the Energy Star appliance.”

In addition to the Energy Star rebate program, which is available to all members, the Cooperative is offering energy efficiency rebates to commercial members in service classes D, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, and 7, starting on May 1st. Commercial rebates are available for variable speed drives and NEMA premium efficiency motors. The program pays for up to 50% of equipment costs up to a maximum contribution of \$3,000 (rebate limit) or the average monthly bill for the member, whichever is lower. Energy efficiency rebates cover permanently installed equipment costs only, not labor and not portable equipment.

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Energy Efficiency Rebates Save Members Money...Continued from Page 6



DCEC President Steve Oles said about the program, “these rebate programs give every member the opportunity to participate in a more efficient and cleaner energy system while saving money. These programs embody the cooperative principles that motivated rural electric cooperatives for the last 75 years.”

For more information about these energy efficiency programs, please call the Cooperative’s office at 607-746-2341 or e-mail office@dce.coop.

The Cooperative anticipates rolling out a variety of energy efficiency programs designed to save members money over the next couple years. If you are interested in being a part of a Member Advisory Group to set the direction for future energy efficiency programs, please contact Mrs. Alicia VanZandt, Administrative

Assistant, at 607-746-9299 or alicia.vanzandt@dce.coop.

All rebate checks are subject to available funds. Please call the Co-op before making a purchase to confirm rebate funds availability. Please allow at least one week for DCEC to issue your rebate check. All rebate programs are subject to modifications or termination without notice.



DCEC Energy Star Rebate Application

Member Name: _____
(please print)

DCEC Account Number: _____
(found in the upper left portion of your monthly bill)

Type of Energy Star Appliance: _____
(refrigerator, freezer, clothes washer, dryer, dishwasher, window-mounted air conditioner)

Date Purchased: _____
(please attach receipt)

By signing my name below, I certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also attest that the old appliance, which this Energy Star appliance replaces, has been removed from service and disposed in an environmentally responsible manner.

Signature _____

Date _____



Faith Dianich from South Kortright was selected as DCEC's 2019 Student Delegate

DCEC announces the selection of Faith Dianich from South Kortright Central School as the 2019 Student Delegate. As a Student Delegate, Ms. Dianich was able to represent DCEC at the recent National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. which was April 28– May 1.

Each year, 11th grade sons and daughters of DCEC members are given the opportunity to apply and be considered to represent the Cooperative at this national event. Students are selected based on their academic achievement, involvement in extra-curricular activities, letters of recommendation, and service to the community. “We were very impressed with Ms. Dianich” says Steve Oles, DCEC Board President. “This is an excellent opportunity for Ms. Dianich to learn first-hand about the legislative process of our country and about the rural electric cooperative business model.” As a Youth Delegate, Ms. Dianich accompanied DCEC officials to Washington. She joined representatives from 900 other rural electric co-ops in meetings with Congressional leaders on Capitol Hill.

May is National Electrical Safety Month...Continued from Page 1...

- Contact the Cooperative if you are planning work on your home such as painting or anything in the vicinity of where the wires attach to your house. ***We will come out at no charge and cover our lines to make this safe.***
- Before doing any digging or any type of excavation on your property be sure to call 811 to have the property checked out to locate any underground facilities.
- Please call our office with any questions or concerns. We can be reached at 607-746-2341.

DCEC urges Members to know before you Dig! Don't make that judgment call, instead make two calls:

- ***Call Dig Safely New York, by dialing 811 before you dig***
- ***Call DCEC because secondary lines are not listed with Dig Safely New York***



**Know what's below.
Call 811 before you dig.**



The second type of electrical safety we want to talk about is simple safety tips for around the home. The electricity in our homes is similar to our distribution system in that it is made up of a main panel, (much like a substation) and many circuits with breakers and wires that provide electricity throughout our homes and other buildings. The breakers in the main panel are sized to the load that they will be protecting on each circuit. These breakers are designed to trip if they are over loaded or if a wire becomes loose and creates an arc. Here are some safety tips for around the house.

- Make sure all outlets and electric panels have the covers on them so that no wires are exposed.
- Outlets need to be protected from small children so that they don't try to stick anything in them and get a shock. These plastic covers can be purchased at any local hardware store and are a great peace of mind.
- Be sure to keep blow dryers, curling irons etc. away from sinks or bath tubs or anything with water. Bathrooms should be equipped with GFI (Ground Fault Interrupting) receptacles for protection in these types of environments. Electricity and water don't mix.
- When plugging in swimming pools be sure the pump is plugged into a properly sized GFI (Ground Fault Interrupting) receptacle.
- When using extension cords make sure they are in good condition and have no nicks or frays. If they do, dispose of them because they are hazardous.
- Remember when plugging in strings of lights it's important to follow instructions on the package as to how many you can string together as to not trip your circuit breakers or blow the fuses on the lights themselves.
- When using electric heaters be sure they are set up in a space away from any combustible materials. Nothing should be placed directly in front of them.
- If you have issues with any of the electric in your home it's important to call an electrician. You can also call the Cooperative with any issues and we would be happy to refer you to an electrician and assist them if needed.

As we find ourselves getting excited for spring, getting outdoors, starting new projects or finishing old ones, we hope that these tips are helpful and that we all stay safe!



*Held at the Courthouse
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Live Music provided
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For More Info:
[www.dce.coop/content/
family-fun-event](http://www.dce.coop/content/family-fun-event)
or call (607) 746-9299



**Aug. 3
2—5 pm**



Operations Update

Line crews are wrapping up make ready in Masonville, Tompkins, Hamden, and Davenport on behalf of Delhi Telephone, Margaretville Telephone and Spectrum. Crew have regular work planned on Clark Road and Randall Hill in the town of Masonville.

Right of way crews will be trimming trees and mowing in Hamden, Franklin and Delhi. Headed to Andes on Barkaboom Road and BWS Road 9.

Generlink Transfer Switches

*Plugs into 200 amp Meter Socket
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Accommodates 10,000 watt Generator*

Available for Purchase at our Office



*For More Information
or to Confirm Compatibility
Contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341.*

Headquarters Project Update

Plans for a safer, more efficient and more secure headquarters building for the Cooperative are taking shape. On February 28, 2019, the Cooperative took ownership of the former Kiff Company properties at 5 and 10 N. Depot Street. At the April meeting of the Delhi Village Planning Board, the Planning Board approved a boundary line adjustment to consolidate the properties into a single parcel, which will be known as 5 N. Depot Street. The Cooperative has entered into contracts with the architects and engineers of SEI Design Goup of Albany, NY and the construction management professionals of Schoolhouse Construction Services of Delhi, NY. The project team is now beginning schematic design activities. During the schematic design phase, the needs of members and employees are converted into a preliminary design and cost estimate. These preliminary designs and costs will be used by the board to assure that the project design will meet the Cooperative’s needs and stay within the Cooperative’s budget. Although the project schedule is subject to change, the board of directors is hopeful that construction can be completed in 2020.

**DCEC Annual Meeting
Friday, September 20, 2019**

The Annual Meeting is your opportunity to ask questions about your cooperative. We value your input and are always looking for ways to serve you better.

Event begins at 4:30 p.m. with a Brooks BBQ Dinner and the Business Meeting to follow.

Is Your Location Number in This Issue?



Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the “hidden location number” in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location you will receive a DCEC fleece sweatshirt! **Good luck!**

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership. This newsletter has articles submitted by CEO/ General Manager Mark Schneider, Engineering & Technology Manager Paul DeAndrea, Operations Manager Ryan Sullivan, Systems Coordinator Larry Soule, Billing Specialist Rosemary Alwine, and Administrative Assistant Alicia VanZandt.

The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

Board of Directors

- President.....Stephen Oles
- Vice President.....Frank Winkler
- Secretary.....Edward Pick Jr.
- Treasurer.....Paul Menke
- Director.....Steve Burnett
- Director.....Jeffrey Russell
- Director.....Laurie Wehmeyer
- CEO/General Manager.....Mark Schneider