



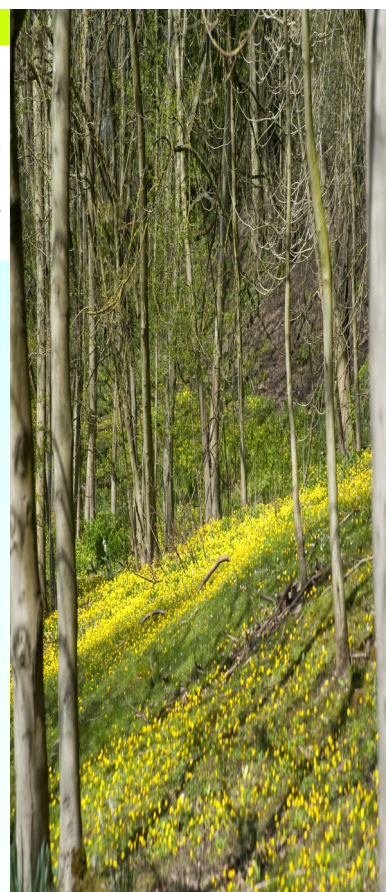
# COOPERATIVE NEWS

## No Matter How Long the Winter, Spring is Sure to Follow

While the title of this article is actually a proverb, it begs repeating again and again. When the icy cold winds of March blow in like a lion, spring can seem like a world away, but soon the daffodils and hyacinths will pop through the earth and color and warmth will return.

You see, everything in life is ever-changing, cyclical, and predictably unpredictable. And while we may not be able to tell exactly what the future holds, we can assure you that no matter which governmental leader is in office, which team wins the World Series, or how much a gallon of gasoline costs, Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative will remain the steady constant in your lives. We've weathered every storm, both figuratively and literally, since 1942 to continuously power your homes, businesses, and farms and we take that commitment very seriously.

Collectively your Board of Directors has 139 years of experience so no matter what comes down the pike, we will continue to work with our state and federal leaders and fellow cooperatives to come up with solutions that not only benefit the environment, but keep prices affordable and service reliable.



### Notes & Information

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Normal Office Hours are as follows:

7:30am-4pm, Monday-Friday

Office Location: 6630 State Rt 20

Bouckville, NY 13310

Call (315) 893-1851 **24 hours a day** for assistance with power outages and/or emergencies

### Your Board of Directors

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Rudy Brouillette, President

John Lehr, Vice President

Dan Saulsgiver, Secretary/  
Treasurer

Seth Howard

James Nassimos

Kurt Peavey

ALWAYS  
CALL  
BEFORE YOU  
DIG



## Call 811 Before You Dig!

It's that time of year again! Time to begin spring-time projects that have been taking up space in your brain all winter long. But before you pull out the shovel or fire up the excavator, remember to call 811 or visit <https://udignity.org/>. This will save you a headache in the long

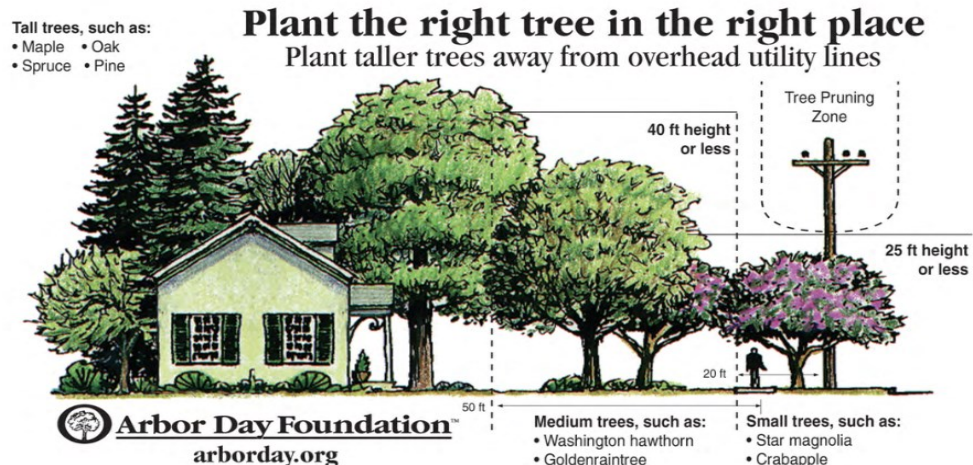
run if you can avoid utility interruptions, costly repairs, environmental damage, or even bodily injury.

If you're digging to install a new mailbox or swing set, landscaping, planting trees or removing tree roots or stumps, whatever the reason, make the call at least 48 hours before you plan to begin but no more than 10 days beforehand.

*Your map location number, found on your billing statement, may be found somewhere in this newsletter! If you find it, contact our office by May 1st and your account will be credited \$10!*

## Arbor Day is April 26!

Remember the blackout in August of 2003 that left 45 million Americans and 10 million Canadians without power? That was caused by a tree limb that fell on a transmission line in Ohio. So when we say vegetation management is important, we aren't exaggerating! But trees are important too and we like to encourage tree planting, as long as its done in the right area! A general rule of thumb is to assume there is a 20 foot right of way on either side of your utility pole. Plant taller trees like maples, oaks, pines and spruce away from power lines where smaller trees like lilacs or apple trees can be planted closer. Do your part to keep the power on and the trees in the right place!



## The 3rd Annual Photo Contest Now Open

The 3rd Annual Member Photo Contest is open, but this year it comes with a twist; its also an art contest too! Maybe photography isn't your thing, but other forms of art are...we'd love to see what you can do! Any two-dimensional works of art may be entered as long as they are the original work of the entrant and they represent life in Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative's service territory. Members and children of members may enter from now until July 31, 2024. Entry forms can be found on our website at <https://oneida-madison.coop/photo-contest-2024> or in the office.

Photograph by Heidi Griffith, 2023 Photo Contest Winner



## 3RD ANNUAL MEMBER PHOTO (AND ART!) CONTEST

Oneida-Madison Electric Co-op is looking for entries for our 2024 photo/art contest. Winners will be featured in our 2025 calendar!

The contest is open until July 31, 2024. We are looking for original photos and/or artwork (drawings, paintings, etc.) that represents life in our service area. Entrants must be Oneida-Madison Co-op members or children of Co-op members. All photos or artwork must be the original work of the entrant.



ENTRY FORMS  
AVAILABLE ON OUR  
WEBSITE:  
ONEIDA-  
MADISON.COOP

HAVE YOUR PHOTO  
FEATURED IN OUR  
2025 CALENDAR!

CALENDARS WILL  
BE AVAILABLE AT  
OUR ANNUAL  
MEETING!

ANY OMEC MEMBER  
OR CHILD OF A  
MEMBER MAY  
ENTER!

ONEIDA-MADISON  
ELECTRIC CO-OP

6630 State Rt. 20  
P.O. Box 27  
Bouckville, NY 13310

315-893-1851

oneida-madison.coop

## Save the Date

The office will be closed for the following holidays:

### Good Friday

Friday, March 29

### Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th

As always, in the case of an **outage** or **emergency** please call 315-893-1851

24 hours/day,  
365 days/year

For the most up-to-date information regarding news, outages, contests, and more, like and follow us on Facebook!



## National Lineworker Appreciation Day

### Linework By the Numbers

**10**– Being a lineworker is the 10th most dangerous job in the United States

**1760**– the number of members OMEC serves.

**4**– the number of lineworkers OMEC employs.

**263.99**– miles of line in OMEC territory.

**4,978**– number of poles in OMEC territory.

**30**– approximate weight in pounds that lineworkers wear in equipment and tools while working.

**115,000**– number of lineworkers in the United States

In 2013, National Lineworker Appreciation Day was brought before the United States Senate to become an annually recognized holiday on April 18th by Senators Johnny Isakson (Rep-GA) and Michael Bennet (Dem-CO).

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), worried about having April 18th fall on the Easter holiday and/or a weekend and not being able to honor lineworkers appropriately, have observed the holiday on the second Monday in April each year instead.

No matter which day you choose to celebrate it, it is an undisputed fact that lineworkers deserve recognition all year round, not just one day per year. Remember, our fellas go out in all weather conditions, all times of the day or night, at all times of the year, to make sure power is restored as quickly and safely as possible.

If you happen to see Barry, Dylan, Ethan, or James, give them a high-five, a wave, a thank you, a handshake! They keep us (and you) in business!



Pictured above: First Class Lineman, Dylan Clark (upper left), and Line Apprentice, Ethan Johnson (bottom right).

## Medical Necessity Registry Form on Back Page

In an effort to update our records to be the most accurate as possible, we've included a copy of our Medical Necessity Registry form on the back page of this newsletter. If you or someone in your household relies on life-sustaining electrical equipment such as oxygen concentrators, dialysis machines, nutrition pumps, etc. please fill out the form and mail it back to us, drop it off at our convenient drop box on the front of the building, available 24/7, or stop by the office during our regular hours.

This is for our information so that we may notify you well in advance of a **planned outage** so that other arrangements may be made for the person depending on that medical equipment.

This form can also be found on our website at <https://oneida-madison.coop/medical-necessity-registry-form> or you can request one be mailed to you by calling us at 315-893-1851. Please help us help you!

*If you or a loved one relies on life-sustaining electrical equipment, please fill out the Medical Necessity Registry form found on the last page of this newsletter and return it to us as soon as possible! Thank you!*



## *At Home With Hazel*

*These scones are easy to make but beautiful to present, making them a perfect addition to your Easter brunch!*

### **Ham and Cheese Scones**

#### *Ingredients*

2.5 C all-purpose flour  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp ground black pepper  
1 Tbsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp baking soda  
1/3 C light brown sugar, packed  
1/2 C unsalted butter, very cold, cut into tiny pieces  
1 large egg, room temperature  
1/2 C plain, full-fat yogurt  
2 Tbsp whole milk  
4 oz sharp cheddar, shredded\*- see notes  
4 oz ham, diced\*- see notes  
1/3 C scallions, chopped\*- see notes



#### *Instructions*

1. Preheat oven to 400°. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside.
2. In a large bowl add flour, salt, pepper, baking powder, baking soda, and brown sugar; mix well to combine. Cut butter into small cubes and quickly work into mixture using your hands until it resembles a coarse meal. Set aside.
3. In a small bowl, whisk egg, yogurt, and milk, beating well to combine.
4. Add liquid mixture to dry ingredients, using a fork to stir until everything is just moistened.
5. Add cheese, ham, and scallions, gently folding into the dough with a spatula.
6. Pour the dough out onto a clean, floured work surface and shape the dough into an 8-inch circle. Cut the dough into 8 wedges and carefully transfer to the prepared sheet.
7. Bake for 18-20 minutes or until the tops are lightly golden brown.
8. Cool for 5 minutes, then serve warm.

#### *Notes*

1. Add a little extra ham, cheese, and scallions to the top of each scone before baking to achieve the colorful look in the picture above.
2. These scones are best eaten the day they are baked, but they can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for 3-4 days or freeze the baked scones for up to 2 months.
3. Get creative with your ingredients– try different cheeses like gruyere or Swiss, add in diced and cooked asparagus or ramps instead of scallions, and add crab instead of ham or omit the ham altogether if you're looking for a vegetarian option!



**Oneida-Madison  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Medical Necessity Registry Program

Registry of residential service locations where people rely on life-sustaining electrical equipment. When planned outages or service interruptions for nonpayment are scheduled, we will attempt advanced notice so preparations can be made.

This registry does **NOT** guarantee priority electric service restoration in the event of an unplanned outage, nor are registered members exempt from their financial responsibilities, or from termination of service in accordance with OMEC policies.

Some examples of life-sustaining electrical equipment include, but are not limited to, ventilators, oxygen concentrators, dialysis equipment, IV/nutrition pumps, CPAP/BIPAP machines, and defibrillators.

To register, please fill out the following and return to Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 27, Bouckville, NY 13310

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### **Medical Necessity Registry**

Name of Account Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Service Location \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Impaired Individual (if other than account holder) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Account Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Medical Device \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understood OMEC's information on the Medical Necessity Registry Program and certify that the information provided on this application is correct. I understand the information may also be used to determine whether I am eligible for additional notices relating to my electric service. I agree to be contacted by telephone at the phone numbers listed above with respect to the Medical Necessity Program. Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative, Inc. is not liable for delayed or undelivered notifications.

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Member Signature

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Date