



A BUSY SUMMER SEASON AHEAD

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

Summer is one of the busiest seasons at the cooperative and this summer will be no different. We welcomed three new members to our board as we said thank you to Directors Jim Wildner, Lee Jensen, and Tom Zwiefelhofer after they reached their term limits. The cooperative also ramps up our construction of new power lines and maintenance/brushing of our existing lines in the summer months. We install close to 150 new electric services in a typical summer and safely handle any storm-related outages that come in. We will also be doing a random member survey this summer to hear feedback from our members on what we can do to make your cooperative even stronger. At our annual meeting we also announced a new program designed to give our members a chance to learn more about their Cooperative and the energy industry. ***The Power Connection: Conversations with your Cooperative*** will be kicking off in the fall of 2024. Look for more information on our website and in future publications.

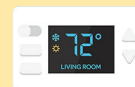
Summer energy use is also top of mind as well this summer. The energy you consume is about 70% of the cost to run the cooperative each year, and our peak demand in the summer months accounts for a large portion of that cost.

Working for You

As a member-owner of Dunn Energy Cooperative, you can have an impact on our overall cost of energy. As we mentioned last month, our cost of power is determined by what time of day you use energy and what your peak demand is during certain critical hours during the year, especially in the summer. You can learn more about energy use and demand peak on the subsequent pages. Limiting energy use during peak demand times and shifting energy consumption to off-peak times of the day can definitely help the cooperative and, in turn, you, the member-owner. The more we can manage our power costs, the easier it is to deliver on our mission of safely providing you energy that is reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible.

Summer also starts with June Dairy Month. THANK YOU to all our hard-working current and former farmers for working tirelessly to take care of the land and feed the world. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. I encourage all our members to take in a local June Dairy Month event near you. Maybe I'll see you there!

Easy Ways to do the Summer Shift

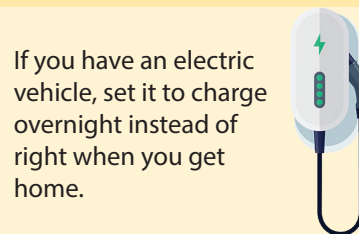


Set your thermostat to 3-5 degrees warmer than you usually keep it during the day. Closing curtains and shades will help the home feel cooler, longer. A ceiling fan or table fan throughout the afternoon will help circulate air.

Put off using large appliances (like your clothes washer, dryer, and dishwasher) until after 8 p.m.



When you do use the dishwasher, open the door to let dishes air dry instead of using the heat option.



If you have an electric vehicle, set it to charge overnight instead of right when you get home.

Pepin County Town and Country Dairy Breakfast: June 8 from 6:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. at the Koller Farm between Durand and Rock Falls.

Dunn County June Dairy Brunch: June 29 from 9 a.m. - Noon at the Gilbertson Farm near Elk Mound.



WHAT EXACTLY IS THE SUMMER SHIFT?

Over the years you've probably heard us talk about "The Summer Shift," when we ask you to move non-essential energy use outside of a specific set of hours. Why do we do this? To begin with, most of the energy across our system is used (or peaks) when people are getting home and settling in for the evening. A four-year study of the Dunn Energy Cooperative electricity load shows that the maximum system load for the cooling season is the hour from 7–7:59

If we can lower the peak of our system demand, with members moving their non-essential energy use outside of those three specific hours, we can reduce our wholesale power bill.

p.m. with the hour before (6–6:59 p.m.) and the hour after (8–8:59 p.m.) coming in a close second. You can see that reflected in the graph below. Why does this matter?

Dunn Energy Cooperative is billed by our power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, not only on

the energy you use, but also the demand created during peak hours during the year. If we can lower the peak of our system demand, with members moving their non-essential energy use outside of those three specific hours, we can possibly reduce our wholesale power bill. By doing this, the cooperative saves money, which reduces pressure on rates.

You may be wondering how your energy use impacts this peak in our demand for power. Let's look at a typical evening in an average home.

5 p.m. – Family starts arriving home from work and school activities; lights and TV get turned on.

5–6 p.m. – Supper starts up: refrigerator compressor starts running because the doors open and close a few times, stovetop or oven are turned on, microwave gets used, and the A/C starts up with all the activity in the house.

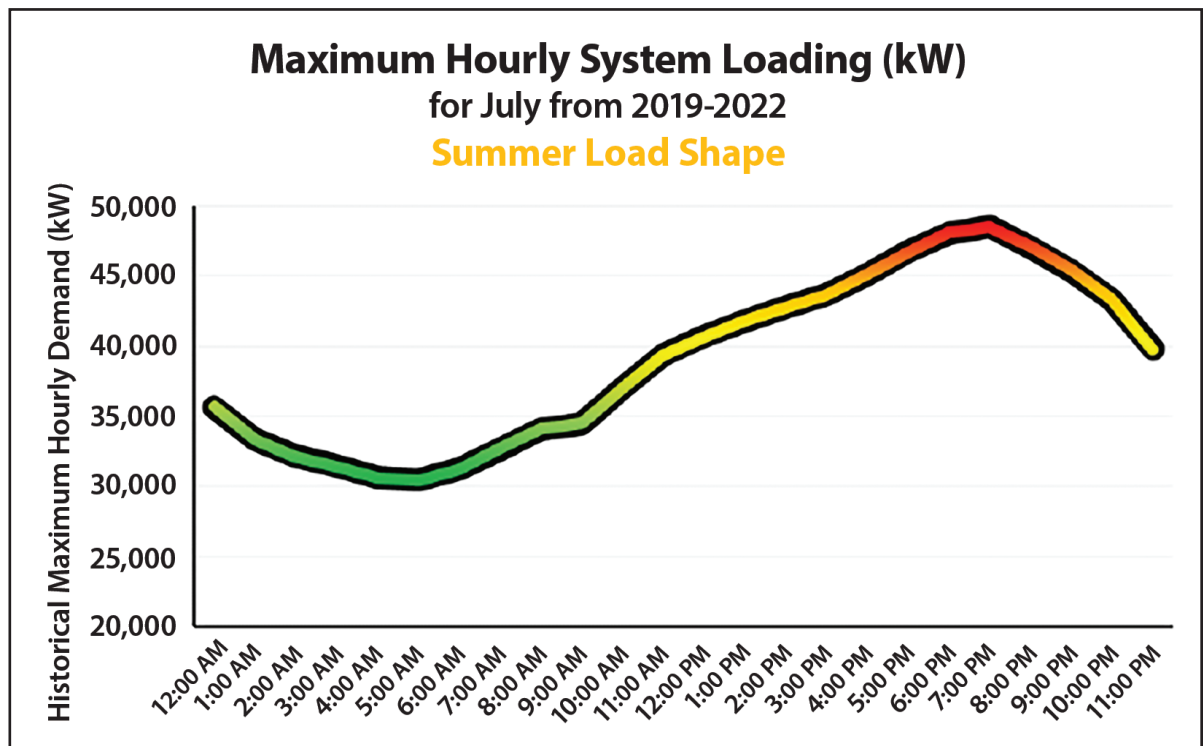
6–7 p.m. – Dinner is finished, dishwasher is loaded and started, and kids head to their rooms for homework (more lights are turned on).

7–8 p.m. – After-activity showers are taken and the water heater kicks on, exhaust fans are running, clothes are thrown in the washing machine, clothes left in the dryer from this morning are fluffed, and you might as well vacuum the floor while you're tidying up.

8–9 p.m. – The evening starts quieting down—clothes are folded with the next load getting put in the dryer and lights are turned off one by one. (140020919)

You can see how energy use is stacked up (washer, dryer, water heater, fans, air conditioning all running at once). When

This is a graphic depiction of the maximum hour loading for July over the course of a 4-year study. It shows that the peak demand for energy is typically during the 7 p.m. hour. This is also indicative of the peak demand in June and August.





this happens, this creates your home's peak demand, the singular point in the day when your demand for energy is at its highest. Now, we know not every home is like this, but based on academic research, we know that something to this effect is happening on our system, because we can see the increase in request for power that creates the Dunn Energy system-wide peak demand.

If every member unstacked their energy use, that peak in our system demand would flatten, bringing down the amount Dunn Energy is billed that month, which ultimately benefits the membership in the long run.

However, when you hear us talk about the Summer Shift, we're most likely going to ask members to move energy usage outside of a larger set

of hours than just our three highest. We'll typically ask for you to shift energy outside of the hours between 2 p.m. – 8 p.m. We ask for that larger window due to the fact that purchasing energy when grid usage is high costs more. By grid, we're talking more than just the Dunn Energy system. We're talking about the whole midwestern

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UNDERSTANDING DEMAND

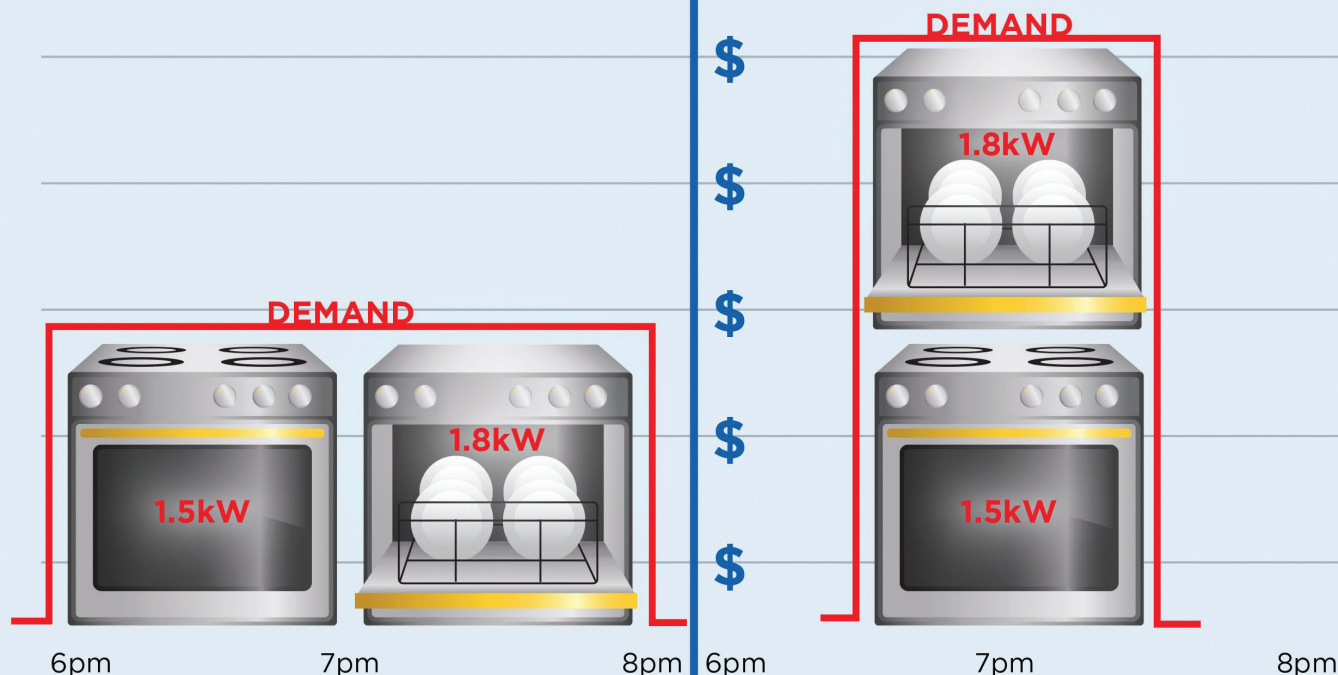
As more appliances in your home run at the same time, your demand for power increases. The members in the following example use the same amount of energy to run their appliances, but each member is putting a different demand on the electric grid.



Megan cooks her food for one hour, then runs the dishwasher the next hour.



Jason runs the dishwasher during the same hour he cooks his food.



Megan:
Energy: 3.3 KWh
Demand 1.8 kW

Average Appliance Use (60 min runtime)
Range: 1500 Watts = 1.5kWh/1.5kW
Dishwasher: 1800 Watts = 1.8kWh/1.8kW

Jason:
Energy: 3.3 KWh
Demand 3.3 kW

Summer Shift

Continued from previous page

electrical grid. As a part of MISO, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, our energy use and demand are tied with electric utilities from Canada to Louisiana. So, the larger window for shifting usage helps reduce demand across a greater portion of the Midwest, not just on our system.

The easiest way for us to help our members do the Summer Shift is by encouraging you to enroll central air conditioning units in the load management program. There is no cost to enroll. Our energy specialist will install a controller near the unit that then receives a signal when demand is high and the system needs to shed load. These controls are from 2–6 p.m. on high energy demand days and the air conditioner will cycle on and off for 15 minutes at a time. This reduces demand and will also reduce your energy consumption, saving you money.

So next time you hear us on the radio or see a social media post asking for you to do The Summer Shift, you know why, and you can do your part to help your cooperative use energy wisely.—*Jolene Fisher*

Hidden Account Numbers

If you find your account number hidden in the pages of this magazine and you call and tell us before the next issue is mailed, we'll put a **\$50 credit** on your electric bill. Happy hunting!

Last month's winners were Kris & Becky Nelson and Ann Hartle.

HOW TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

With the summer storm season upon us, we'd like to take this opportunity to remind our members of the ways they can get a hold of us in the event of an outage, planned or otherwise.

As always, you can **call us at 800-924-0630**. During business hours, this will reach our office. Outside of business hours, this will reach our call center. (4571005)

If you use our SmartHub app on your phone or tablet, you can simply **use the Report an Issue/Inquiry function** to report your outage. It automatically adds your information to our dispatching system.

You can also **text us your outage**. This function, however, is something you need to sign up for before an outage happens. It would be beneficial to set this up now if it's something you might be interested in. In order to sign up, go to dunnenergy.com and navigate to our Outage & Storm Center. Here you will click the orange button sign up. You will have to accept the Terms and Conditions and then input your account number and phone number. In order for this option to work, Dunn Energy Cooperative must have your cell phone number on file. You can check to see if we do by looking at the bottom third of your electric bill. There is a space that confirms the contact information on file. If you do not see your cell phone number there, you will have to make that change with the office.

Dunn Energy would also like to remind members that because of the wide variety of circumstances in which power outages occur, we cannot guarantee restoration times. If you or your farm or business have critically important equipment that requires electrical power for operations (i.e., you work from home, rely on medical equipment, or have sensitive livestock), it is your responsibility to have a back-up power source (i.e., generator) available to you.

Jesse Singerhouse, Manager

N5725 600th St., P.O. Box 220, Menomonie, WI 54751
715-232-6240
www.dunnenergy.com

Jolene Fisher, Editor



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