

# THE POWER OF LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Community Minded

Community Proud

Community Owned



September 2015

## Celebrate Public Power Week October 4th-10th



### Focus on Energy is now offering discounts on LED's!

What would you say if I told you that you could cut your lighting energy consumption by 80%, save a great deal of money on your monthly utility bill, and not have to worry about changing a light bulb in your home for the next 15-20 years? With LED bulbs, this is possible.

To start saving just visit a participating retailer in our area to receive an instant discount of up to \$4.00 per ENERGY STAR® qualified LED bulb.

Visit [focusonenergy.com/lighting](http://focusonenergy.com/lighting) for more details.

Public Power Week is an annual national event coordinated by the American Public Power Association in Washington, D.C. The association represents not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities that power homes, businesses and streets in nearly 2,000 towns and cities, serving 48 million Americans. With no divided loyalties, these utilities are focused on a single mission — providing reliable electricity at a reasonable price, while protecting the environment. Learn more about public power at [www.PublicPower.org](http://www.PublicPower.org).

### Neighbor Helping Neighbor

At Rice Lake Utilities we believe there is no greater honor than to be able to help our neighbors and our community. As part of Public Power week we have a huge favor to ask of our customers! Please help us help our neighbor the We Share Food Pantry by donating some of the items listed below during Public Power Week (Oct 4th-10th). To show our appreciation, everyone bringing in a donation will receive a thank you gift from Rice Lake Utilities. We will also have refreshments and a chance to win some great prizes during our week long event. We hope you all can make it!

### Please consider donating the following items:

#### Personal Care Items

Deodorant  
Shampoo  
Bath soap  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Hair care products

#### Baby Products

Diapers  
Wipes  
Formula  
Baby food

#### Most Desired Food Items

Canned fruits  
Vegetables  
Boxed or canned dinners  
Cereal  
Tuna  
Peanut Butter  
Canned soup  
Pasta and sauce  
Pancake mix and syrup  
Juice

#### Paper Products

Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
Kleenex

#### Detergents

Laundry soap  
Dish soap

#### Pet Food

*"A community can only develop when individuals remember how dependent we all are on one another and reach out to those around them".  
Princess Diana*

The We Share Food Pantry has provided non-profit services to the greater Rice Lake area since 1983. They provide a nutritionally balanced emergency five-day nonperishable food supply for people who are in need and are referred from various local agencies.

The We Share Food Pantry is located at 400 W. Coleman St. which is directly west of the Rice Lake Utilities office. The hours are Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## WELL WELL WELL....

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has approved the Hilltop Booster Station site as a location for a new well. This new well will be named well #6. Well #6 will be a replacement for well #4 which is located at Narrows Park. The Narrows Park well was completed in 1969 by Keys Well Drilling Company and has produced high quality water for over 29 years. However in the last fifteen years the amount of manganese in the water has become an aesthetic issue (*manganese is a naturally occurring element of ground water*) which has prompted Rice Lake Utilities to begin the process of well abandonment. While the levels of manganese are not a health risk they do pose other problems, like the staining of laundry, dishes and fixtures. In deep wells, where oxygen content is low, the manganese-bearing water is clear and colorless. Water from the tap may be clear, but when exposed to air manganese is oxidized and changes from a colorless, dissolved form to a colored, solid form.



The first step in developing the new well will be to construct a test well site at the new location. If the test well proves fruitful, construction will begin. We are proud to say only American iron and steel will be used on the construction of this project. We have also applied for and will be receiving, a Safe Drinking Water Loan grant to help with the construction of the new well. Water rates are not being affected by this project due to proper planning and saving. Stay tuned for further updates!

## History of Rice Lake Utilities Wells and Towers

Rice Lake Utilities gets its water from four deep ground water wells located throughout the city. These four wells have a combined pumping capacity of 3,872,000 gallons per day and depths ranging from 309' to 450'. The first well, which is now abandoned, was drilled in 1892. The four other active wells were drilled in 1918 (reconstructed in 1974) 1926 (reconstructed in 1991), 1969 (scheduled for abandonment) and 1990.



Rice Lake Utilities also has three water towers that service the city. The first one (pictured above) was built in 1925 and has a capacity to hold 150,000 gallons of water. The remaining two were both built in 1967 and have a holding capacity of 250,000 gallons of water per tower.



**Important announcement to read  
before you winterize your  
substract meter.**

Rice Lake Utilities will be reading all substract meters the first week of October. For our consumer/owners who have a grandfathered outside sub-meter on a hose - please place the sub-meter(s) by your electrical meter to obtain a credit for outdoor watering.



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