

2012 YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS APPLICATION

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ SEX _____ GRADE ENTERING IN FALL _____

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL _____

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

HAVE YOU EVER ATTENDED THE YOUTH CONGRESS BEFORE? _____

CURRENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES YOU ARE IN AT SCHOOL:

GOALS YOU HOPE TO PURSUE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL:

REASON(S) YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS:

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:

nwsime@cvecoop.com or

**Member Services – Nicole Whipp Sime
Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 575
Cornell, WI 54732**

Note: All applications must be received by JUNE 1, 2012.

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**Sponsors 2012 Youth Leadership Congress
July 11-13, 2012
UW-River Falls Campus**

If...

- ◆ **You're a high school student in your sophomore year**
- ◆ **You're looking for a unique & exciting educational experience – all expenses paid**
- ◆ **You're interested in learning more about cooperatives**
- ◆ **You like to meet new friends**
- ◆ **You know what it takes to be a leader**
- ◆ **You like to have fun**
- ◆ **You want to sample life on a college campus**

Then...

- ◆ **Contact your school's Guidance Counselor or Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative for more details.**

**Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative
cvcoop.com
715-239-6800**

Applications must be received by June 1, 2012



2012 Youth Leadership Congress
July 11–13, 2012
UW-River Falls

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, July 11th

- 11:15 a.m.** **Arrival and registration**
-1:15 p.m. Check into residence hall
- 1:30 p.m.** **Orientation Session**
- Welcome by the Youth Board
 - Welcome to Campus,
 - Campus and Residential Hall Policies
 - Youth Leadership Congress Mixer
 - Essay Contest
 - What is the Youth Board? Are you interested in serving?
 - Let's Cooperate
- 2:45 p.m.** **District Meetings**
- 4:00 p.m.** **Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World**
Dr. David Trechter, UW-River Falls
- 5:15 p.m.** **Dinner**
- 6:45 p.m.** **Team Building**
- 8:30 p.m.** **Fun Session**
AJ the Animated Illusionist
- 9:30 p.m.** **Recreational Activities** – Outdoor volleyball and basketball
- 11:15 p.m.** **Back in Residence Halls**
- 11:45 p.m.** **Lights Out**
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Thursday, July 12th

- 7:00 a.m.** **Breakfast**
- 8:15 a.m.** **District Meetings, AGS Classrooms**
- District 1
 - District 2
 - District 3
 - District 4
 - District 5
 - District 6
- 9:05 a.m.** **Hotline Demonstration**
The Dunn Energy Cooperative Demo Team
- 10:00 a.m.** **Roosevelt's Economic Engine: Rural Electrification**
Performed by Jay Nesseth, Load Management Technician, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services

Thursday, July 12th (continued)

10:30 a.m. **Learning Sessions -- Select one session for each time period**

Session I 10:30–11:05 a.m.

Session II 11:15–11:50 a.m.

Session Options:

- ❖ Your Role in Politics
- ❖ Alternative Energy Sources – Our Future?, Share Brandt, WECA Manager and Vice President, Cooperative Network/WECA
- ❖ Careers in Electric Cooperatives, Ron Blado, Member Services Manager, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services
- ❖ Effective Communications, Keith Wohlfert, Communication Coordinator, Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative
- ❖ Youth Board Candidate Interviews

11:50 a.m. **Visit Campus Bookstore**

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:30 p.m. **Breakthrough Leadership**
Craig Hillier, CSP, Winning Edge Seminars, Lakeville

4:45 p.m. **District Meetings**

5:40 p.m. **Free Time**

6:45 p.m. **Etiquette Dinner**

8:30p.m. **Dance**
D.J. – Showtime Entertainment

11:30 p.m. **Unwind Time**

12:00 a.m. **Lights Out**

Friday, July 13th

7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:15 a.m. **Youth Board Election**

9:00 a.m. **SOS Players**

10:20 a.m. **Personal Excellence**
Keith Nord, Wayzata, Minn.

11:30 a.m. **Closing Session**

- Reflections
- Youth Board Farewells
- Introduction of New Youth Board Members
- Closing Comments

11:50 a.m. **Box Lunch and Departure**
Check out of Residence Hall

WECA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS
Summer 2012 (a three day program)
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Target Audience

150 high school students

Conference Objectives

The purpose of this conference is to:

- Introduce the business structure of cooperative business;
- Examine the scope of electric cooperatives and how they affect everyday life;
- Demonstrate the power and value of cooperation;
- Help identify and develop leadership skills;
- Provide a forum for teenagers to discuss issues and solutions important to them;
- Meet and learn to work with people from our state;
- Provide an opportunity for students to experience college life.

Conference Outcomes

As a result of participating in this conference, students will:

- Understand the basic business structure of electric cooperatives, how and why electric cooperatives operate, and how electric cooperatives are different from utility companies;
- Realize that cooperatives are part of their everyday life and that members are an integral and important component of the co-ops' success;
- Have hands-on experiences using the power of cooperation to develop solutions to real-life challenges and issues.

How Outcomes are Achieved

Students participate in a variety of activities to reach the expected outcomes, including:

- Working through a campaign and election process to be elected to the WECA Youth Board. Six students are elected to the Youth Board annually by their peers. Students announce their candidacy, campaign, demonstrate their knowledge, of electric cooperatives, and then face election to the Youth Board by all participants.
- Participating in problem-solving discussions facilitated by Youth Leaders. Students identify issues real to their lives and then use the cooperative problem-solving techniques they are taught to develop potential solutions. (The issues and/or case studies change from year to year to match current teenage issues.)
- Meet with co-op leaders to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of managers and directors, the issues facing co-ops, and career opportunities.

- Participating in unique learning experiences, presented by locally and nationally known experts (i.e., Craig Hillier), that are designed to help teens identify and develop leadership skills, better understand themselves and others, and learn more about electric cooperatives.

How Outcomes are Evaluated

Several methods are utilized to evaluate the conference, including:

- Each student participant and adult advisor completes a written evaluation.
- Students meet informally throughout the conference with adult advisors to get input.
- Students write essays as part of the essay contest. Approximately one-third of all students participate in the contest.
- Youth Board members meet soon after the conference to review and critique the experience.

Other Basic Information about the Youth Leadership Congress

- Students are selected to attend the conference and are sponsored by their local electric cooperative.
- The conference agenda is developed with input from the Youth Board.
- Youth Board Members have the opportunity to attend the NRECA National Youth Tour sponsored annually in June.
- Students live on a college campus for the three days of the conference. They experience a typical college environment complete with learning from college professors and living in residence halls.