

Privacy Policy

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc. Internet Privacy Policy

This Privacy Policy describes the fair information practices that govern the collection, maintenance, use, and disclosure of personal information on the Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“OEC” hereafter) website, www.otsegoec.coop, and any OEC-controlled websites.

Terms and Conditions

By accessing and using the OEC website, any of its pages, or any of its content, you agree with, and agree to be bound by and subject to: (i) all terms and conditions set forth herein; (ii) all provisions of the Legal Disclaimer that is also posted on the OEC website, and which is incorporated herein; and (iii) all applicable laws and regulations. If you do not agree, do not access or use this website.

Collection Practices

OEC maintains web logs that automatically record basic information about visitors, like most other websites. This information may include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Internet domain from which visitors access our website.
- IP address. An IP address is automatically assigned to you when you surf the web. In some cases, these addresses may be individually identifiable. However, even when an IP address is identifiable, it usually takes additional effort to link a particular IP address to a specific individual. For many users, an IP address cannot be linked to a specific individual.
- Type of browser and operating system used to access our website.
- Date and time of access.
- Pages visited.
- Address of the website (if any) from which you linked to OEC’s website. OEC normally only uses web log information in aggregate form to enable OEC to make the website more useful. OEC wants to know which features are popular and how visitors locate the site. Web logs may be used to identify visitors who seek to damage the website, use the website in unauthorized ways, or interfere with operations. Information about users who try to engage in any unapproved activities may be shared with law enforcement agencies. OEC does not collect any personal information about a routine visitor unless the visitor voluntarily provides it to the Cooperative.

E-mail and Web Forms

If you use the OEC website to send us e-mail, register for a conference or meeting, ask for information, subscribe to a publication, or if you provide personal information through this website in any other way, OEC collects and may maintain the information that you provide. Your information may be shared among OEC staff and support services as necessary to respond to your request. Once information reaches the correct office, it will be used in the same manner as comparable information collected in other ways.

Security and Data Quality

OEC maintains its website and its information with technical, administrative, and physical safeguards to protect against loss, unauthorized access, destruction, misuse, modification, and improper disclosure. The Cooperative is committed to maintaining accurate, timely, relevant, and appropriate information about our users. No computer system can ever be fully protected against every possible hazard. Otsego provides reasonable and appropriate security to protect against foreseeable hazards. Otsego requires that employees who have access to personally identifiable information from the website read this privacy statement and follow it. Any employee who fails to comply with these rules may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Routine e-mail sent to OEC through this website or otherwise is not necessarily secure against interception. If your communication contains personal information that you consider sensitive, you may not want to use e-mail. You should never send your social security number or anyone else's over the internet.

Cookies

(a) What Are Cookies?

A cookie is an element of data that a website can send to your browser. It is not a computer program, and it does not read data residing on your device, nor does it instruct your device to perform any step or function. When you visit a website, that site's computer asks your computer for permission to store this file on your device. Each website can send its own cookie to your browser if your browser's preferences allow it, but (to protect your privacy) your browser only permits a website to access the cookies it has already sent to you, not the cookies sent to you by other sites. Browsers are usually set to accept cookies. However, if you would prefer not to receive cookies, you may alter the configuration of your browser to refuse cookies. If you choose to have your browser refuse cookies, it is possible that some areas of our site will not function as effectively.

(b) How Do We Use the Information We Collect from Cookies?

As you visit and browse our website, the site uses cookies to differentiate you from other users. We may also use cookies to prevent you from having to log in more than is necessary for security.

Cookies, in conjunction with our web server's log files, allow us to calculate and track information, such as (for example only and not an exhaustive list) the aggregate number of people visiting our website and which parts of the site are most popular. This information helps us gather feedback to constantly improve our website and better serve our members and website users.

Uses and Disclosures

The Cooperative uses its website to provide services and information to its members, its employees, and members of the public. General personal information collected through the website may be used from time to time by outside auditors, consultants, and others hired by OEC to assist in carrying out financial, management, or other activities.

Legal Process - OEC could be required to disclose personal information in response to valid legal process, such as a search warrant, subpoena, or court order. Any record keeper faces this possibility. Disclosures may also be appropriate to protect Otsego Electric's legal rights or during emergencies if physical safety is believed to be at risk. Otsego Electric believes that these events are unlikely, but they are possible. The Cooperative will, if appropriate, take reasonable steps to limit the scope of any of these disclosures, but shall in no event be liable for damages of any kind resulting from compliance with any such legal process, including but not limited to direct, indirect, consequential, economic, special, loss of profit, punitive, and/or any other manner or type of damages, even if the likelihood of such damages is known to or foreseeable to the Cooperative. The Cooperative is also not required nor may it be compelled to contest or legally challenge any duly authorized legal process on any basis other than to verify its validity.

Publications Lists - OEC does not sell, rent, or otherwise share lists of subscribers to its publications.

Conferences/Meetings - Otsego Electric may provide online registration for Otsego Electric services, meetings or conferences. If you register for a conference online, your registration information will be used by Otsego Electric employees and support organizations to facilitate your attendance at the conference.

Links to Other Sites

Some of the sites listed as links herein are not under the control of Otsego Electric. Therefore, Otsego

Electric makes no representations whatsoever concerning the content of those sites. The fact that OEC has provided a link to a site is NOT an endorsement, authorization, sponsorship, or affiliation by the Cooperative with respect to such site, its owners, or its providers. Otsego is providing these links only as a convenience to you. There are risks in using any information, software, or products found on the Internet and Otsego Electric cautions you to make sure that you completely understand these risks before retrieving, using, relying upon, or purchasing anything via the Internet.

No Warranty

Otsego Electric makes no representations about the suitability, for any purpose, of this site, any content of this site, or third party information or links on this site. This site, all content on the site, and any third party information or links on this site, are provided "as is" and without any warranty of any kind, either express or implied. **REGARDING THIS WEBSITE, ALL OF ITS CONTENTS, AND ANY THIRD PARTY CONTENT AND LINKS ON THIS SITE, OTSEGO ELECTRIC HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO EXPRESS AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES, WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, TITLE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT, AND FREEDOM FROM COMPUTER VIRUS OR OTHER INFIRMITY, CORRUPTION, LINE, OR SYSTEM FAILURE OR INTRUSION.** Otsego Electric makes no warranty or representation as to the accuracy, completeness or currency of the content in OEC's website or that of any of the linked websites. It is your responsibility to verify any information before relying on it.

Limited Liability

In no event shall Otsego Electric or any of its affiliates and/or subsidiaries be liable for any direct, indirect, special, consequential, loss of profits, punitive, or any other manner or type of damages whatsoever, that arise from or relate to the use of this site, or any content hereof or links herein, including but not limited to, loss of use, data, or profits; computer virus or other infirmity, corruption, line or system failure or intrusion.

Indemnification

You agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Otsego Electric from and against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from your violation or breach of these terms and conditions, any service agreement, any third party's rights, including but not limited to, copyrights, proprietary and privacy rights, or any applicable federal, state or local law, regulation or ordinance. Your obligations under this section will survive the termination of any of these terms and conditions, any applicable service agreement, or any services.

Modification of Site and/or Statement

Otsego Electric may change the terms of this Privacy Policy, or change or modify the content of, or withdraw access to this site, at any time without notice. Visitors should check this Policy on each visit to, or use of this site.

Questions, Access, and Disputes

Should you have any questions about this Privacy Policy, you may send an e-mail to memberservices@Otsegoec.coop or send regular mail to: Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO box 128, Hartwick, NY 13348.

(dated January 8, 2018)