

90th Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin Annual Conference



May 15 – 17, 2019
Lake Lawn Resort – Delavan

Host
Utility

City of
ELKHORN[™]
Electric Department

Make plans to be part of this 90-year tradition – bringing together municipal utility leaders to swap ideas, learn new information, ask one another questions and strengthen public power in Wisconsin



This year's Conference takes place at the picturesque **Lake Lawn Resort**, located near Lake Geneva in Walworth County along two miles of Delavan Lake's shoreline. First opened more than 140 years ago, the secluded, full-service resort and historic grounds offer guests comfortable accommodations, a wide array of amenities and exceptional customer service.

Who should attend:

- Municipal utility leaders and employees
- Mayors and City/Village administrators
- City Council/Utility Commission members
- Aspiring utility leaders
- Utility suppliers

Why attend:

- Networking
- Information sharing
- Professional development
- Educational and engaging topics
- Exciting speakers
- Recreational time
- Awards presentation

Choice of:

3 Pre-Conference Workshops

and

8 Breakout Sessions

Featured Speakers



Sue Kelly
President and CEO
American Public Power Association



Rebecca Valcq
Chairperson
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



Pat Richter
Retired Director of Athletics
University of Wisconsin



MEUW 90th Annual Conference

Agenda At-A-Glance

Wednesday, May 15

Noon to 5:00 p.m. Registration

— Lunch on your own —

12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Pre-Conference Workshops

3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Host Utility Tours

4:00 p.m. Hotel Check-in Available

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception



— Dinner on your own —

Thursday, May 16

6:00 to 7:45 a.m. Sunrise Exercise

7:00 to 8:15 a.m. Registration

7:00 to 8:15 a.m. Networking Breakfast

8:15 a.m. Opening Session

9:00 a.m. General Sessions A and B

10:00 a.m. Networking Break

10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Breakout Session A

11:15 a.m. to Noon Breakout Session B

Noon to 12:45 p.m. Networking Luncheon

1:00 p.m. "Red Ink to Roses" Presentation by Pat Richter

2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Recreational Activities

— Dinner on your own —

8:30 to 10:00 p.m. Bonfire and Social Time

Friday, May 17

7:00 to 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet

8:15 a.m. Awards Ceremony

8:30 a.m. Association Annual Business Meeting

10:00 a.m. Adjourn and Hotel Check-out

Pre-Conference Workshops

Master the Art of Listening

Listening is a critical skill for navigating relationships. In this highly interactive session, participants will learn how to use improvisation skills to connect, communicate, collaborate, and truly listen. Improv skills allow us to be in the present moment to practice reflective listening, while encouraging others to do the same. When we're listening to each other, we are tuned into each other's needs and qualifications. Listening as a skill means not having our own agendas to drive conversations that will lead to deeper connections.

- Learn the fundamental rules of improv and apply them to diverse business settings—internally and externally
- Apply reflective listening (also known as "Yes, and") to eliminate any assumptions
- Acquire the art of being in the moment with improv skills
- Manage the unexpected in a professional, confident, and helpful manner

Shaping MEUW's New "Leadership Academy"

Employees entering today's workforce are increasingly focused on professional development and growth, with a strong desire to see a path from individual contribution to leadership. Municipal utilities that expect to attract and retain talented leaders must offer training opportunities that go beyond the traditional lectures and classroom discussions and offer more experiential learning opportunities to enable future leaders to hone their skills. Consistent with our mission to "strengthen" community-owned utilities, MEUW is developing a new "Leadership Academy" to assist the next generation of public power leaders in Wisconsin, and we need your input.

In addition to MEUW's popular and long-standing Management Training Program, our new Academy will be a series of multi-day seminars with a focus on small group projects and "experiences" designed to challenge attendees. The goal of these seminars will be to promote collaboration and the development of new skills that will benefit the public power community when applied day-to-day. Participants in this workshop will be asked for their insights and personal leadership experiences to help identify the core components that will become essential elements of MEUW's Leadership Academy. Space in this session is limited.

Ideal workshop participants are those who have a solid leadership track record, are interested in improving their own leadership skills, and are willing to help shape the Academy.

Engaging Future Workers with Youth Apprenticeship

Building a pipeline of future lineworkers is one of the biggest challenges utilities face. Learn how other industries have found success in partnering with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program. YA integrates school-based and work-based learning to focus students on employability and occupational skills. This workshop will provide a foundational understanding of YA programs and how public power utilities can get started.

Break-out Sessions

Mutual Aid

Emergency mutual aid is important to the operations of public power utilities. These agreements among utilities help to ensure timely restoration during widespread power outages often caused by natural disasters. MEUW is proud of its role helping to coordinate the response and to assist in locating crews that can provide safe and timely support. Understanding the mutual aid process helps to ensure assistance is well organized and can be available when needed. MEUW Manager of Safety Service Mike Czuprynko and Electric Utility Safety and Training Coordinator Mark Zielsdorf will review the current processes and update members on MEUW's efforts to ensure mutual aid operates smoothly.

AMI

Automated metering continues to evolve and is helping to transform utilities' operations and customer service. While some municipal utilities have years of experience with AMI technologies, others are still exploring the possibilities. This session will focus on the status of utilities' AMI projects and lessons learned so far, along with a discussion of emerging trends and the latest innovations and uses for AMI.

Technology Trends

We don't know exactly what the future holds, but we do know that technological trends in other industries will impact public power utilities. APPA President and CEO Sue Kelly will share learnings about how public power is keeping pace with industry trends, and what strategies foster success and sustainability in these fast-changing times.

Open Meetings

Wisconsin has a long tradition of promoting open government, and state laws recognize Wisconsinites' right to know how state, regional and local governments conduct their business. This session will provide a refresher on rules for open meetings, including a discussion of social media's impact on transparency.

Energy Efficiency

Through its programs and incentives, Focus on Energy has been helping Wisconsinites embrace energy efficiency and renewable resources for years. Municipal utilities have partnered with Focus on Energy to help their customers implement projects and access resources that control Wisconsin's growing demand for electricity. Representatives from Focus on Energy will lead a session to highlight utility collaboration approaches and discuss opportunities to foster even greater collaboration with municipal utilities.

Transmission

The state of transmission is very different today than it was in 2001 when Wisconsin led the way by forming the nation's first transmission-only utility – American Transmission Company. Thomas Dagenais, ATC's Manager of Reliability Planning, will lead a discussion about major projects underway at ATC and what the company's long-term strategic plan means for municipalities and customers.

Public Power

Public power utilities are different by choice. The not-for-profit business model offers unique opportunities and challenges that community-owned utilities must embrace and celebrate. In today's fast-paced society, fewer and fewer people know their utility provider and fewer still understand why the public power model is a benefit to those who are fortunate to receive service from a utility owned by their community. The public power story is one that needs to be told, and MEUW is taking steps to develop a program that will help our municipal employees and governing board members share the message and be more informed about the advantages of public power. MEUW Board of Directors President Paul Hermanson and MEUW Executive Director Tim Heinrich will share details about the new program and collect feedback from session attendees to help with a successful launch later in 2019.

Emergency Response

Utility leaders understand the importance of being prepared for the unexpected. In today's always-on breaking-news environment, every community must be prepared – not only to respond to the emergency but also to effectively manage the messaging and handle the media who arrive to cover it. This session will explore the ins and outs of emergency preparedness, with perspective from those who have experienced and responded to the unexpected.

Break-out session topics and presenters are subject to change; the schedule and content of presentations will be finalized by May 1.

Conference Location

The 90th Annual Conference will be held at Lake Lawn Resort – 2400 Geneva Street in Delavan, Wis.

Lake Lawn's accommodations feature spacious and well-appointed guest rooms with complimentary Wi-Fi and a private balcony or patio. The resort offers three on-site restaurants, an 18-hole championship golf course, boat and water sport rentals, two outdoor swimming pools, an indoor swimming pool, a 170-slip marina, a fitness center and an onsite spa offering facials, massages and salon services.

Group rate: \$99.99 nightly (king/queen single/double occupancy)

Check-in: 4 p.m. | Check-out: 11 a.m.

Complimentary self-parking

Reservations: 1-800-338-5253 | Group Code: MEUW

Reservation Cut-off Date: April 14

All rooms are subject to a \$16 per day resort fee plus applicable sales tax. The cut-off date to receive the MEUW group rate is April 14, 2019. If rooms remain in the MEUW's block after the cut-off date, the group rate will be honored. If not, you may be charged a higher rate. The room block may sell out before April 14, so early reservations are encouraged.

Lake Lawn Resort is offering the MEUW group rate to enable conference attendees to arrive early or extend their stay. The group rate will be honored for three nights before and three nights after the conference; other fees may apply.

Cancelled reservations that are not resold may become a financial liability for MEUW, so please make your reservations thoughtfully.

Sunrise Exercise

The sun rises at 5:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, May 16. Get a jumpstart on your day and join your fellow conference attendees at 6 a.m. for

some morning exercise – a brisk walk along the lakefront, a fun run or a quick bike ride (rentals available for nominal charge). Make plans now (and bring your workout wear) and then sign up during registration check-in.



L A K E L A W N
RESORT™

Recreational Activities

The agenda includes time on Thursday afternoon to relax and have fun with your colleagues.

Lake Lawn Resort offers a variety of recreational activities, including golf, biking, tennis, shuffleboard, horseshoes, miniature golf and boat rides.

Shuttle buses will be available for a shopping excursion to nearby Lake Geneva.

Attendees will have a chance to sign up for organized activities or be spontaneous.

Advance reservations are required for the golf outing and boat ride; additional fees apply.



You'll want to stick around until Friday morning – to enjoy a full buffet-style breakfast and the **Awards Ceremony** where MEUW will honor members for their safety performance and present individual awards for service to public power and the association.



The City of Elkhorn Electric Department is pleased to offer conference attendees the opportunity to visit and tour its Utility Field Operations Center, which is a short 10-minute drive from Lake Lawn Resort. Details will be available at registration on Wednesday.

Register online at

MEUW.org

Registration Fee:

“Early Bird” Rate – \$265 per person
(through May 1)

\$295 per person (May 2 to 15)

Cancellations are subject to MEUW Policy

Conference Sponsors

GOLD SPONSORS



BRONZE SPONSORS

