

Estimated Reading Time (Average Reader): 2m 45s



[Sun Prairie Utilities employees participate in several events during the first week of October 2023.]

Utility Celebrates National Event Throughout Sun Prairie

SUN PRAIRIE, (Wis.) – Sun Prairie Utilities’ employees were out in the community volunteering and sponsoring several events in celebration of the nationally observed Public Power Week.

The locally-owned, not-for-profit municipal water and electric utility promoted the importance of public power systems and their purpose of supplying reliable electricity to residents through October 1-7, 2023.

To kick off the special week of events, Sun Prairie Utilities (SPU) sponsored a night at Sunshine Supper on Monday, Oct. 2. SPU purchased the food beforehand, and employees volunteered to prepare the meals. Organizers placed SPU staff and other volunteers in groups to help with efficiency. One group dished food into to-go boxes, another bagged the containers in plastic bags, and the third group took the bags to the cars waiting outside. Organizers said the meal was the 768th since Sunshine Supper first started.

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, Apprentice Lineworker Jake Dowden read "If I Were a Lineworker" to kids during the Sun Prairie Public Library's storytime. After the reading, children could explore a bucket truck and touch several of the lineworker's tools. Kid-sized hard hats and copies of the book were available for families to take home after the event.

"You could tell the kids loved the experience because their eyes lit up when they saw the bucket truck," said Cora Seibt, Sun Prairie Utilities Communications Coordinator. "These events are great ways to help educate children about their local utility and the people who keep their lights on and water running."

Several SPU employees also volunteered to hand out items at the SPU-sponsored Sun Prairie East and Watertown football game at the Bank of Sun Prairie Stadium on Thursday, Oct. 5. Staff provided pink glow sticks that went with the night's theme, "Pinkout," and conservation kits for customers who wanted to conserve electricity and water at home. Before kickoff, Customer Service Representative Sara Rodrigues and her son had the honor of joining the team captains on the field to do the coin toss.

The local utility also presented a \$1,143 check to Sunshine Place during Public Power Week, thanks to the 133 participants in their Summer Energy Challenge. SPU's donation equaled the value of participating customers' total savings, which was 12,403 kWh during the summer months of last year. The winner of the challenge recently received their prize and wished to remain anonymous.

In addition to events and sponsorships, SPU offered customers the opportunity to save cash on energy-saving items through October. SPU customers could use a special promotional code when checking out of Focus on Energy's Marketplace to get \$20 off their purchase. A drawing was also available for customers to win prizes ranging from smart outlets to air purifiers.

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