

Scott Gald

From: Tim Heinrich <theinrich@meuw.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2026 2:42 PM
To: Scott Gald
Subject: Details about the banner ...

We have one last special award to present today.

As mentioned a short time ago, we launched the MEUW Safety Achievement Award in 1999 to recognize its member utilities for their commitment to keeping workers safe year after year. Utilities are placed into categories based on the total number of hours worked, receiving annual recognition based on the most incident-free records. In the 27 years MEUW has presented honors, 72 of the state's 81 municipal utilities have been recognized for their safety record.

Today, we are beginning a new effort to recognize municipal electric companies that have earned the honor 25 times. The annual recognition celebrates the most recent success in safety. We believe it's also important to acknowledge and celebrate the enduring commitment of utility employees, management, and the local utility governing board and recognize those who are doing their part to develop an environment and a culture that supports and values safe operations.

We're unveiling the new **"Work It Safe" recognition** for 25-time recipients of MEUW's Safety Achievement Award. The name of the award is a nod to our own Randy Larson, who has regularly used "Work it Safe" as a mantra to urge utility workers to keep safety top of mind during his long career developing and training electric journeymen linemen.

Our intent is to present this recognition for years to come, celebrating our member utilities for their dedication to safety excellence as they achieve the 25-year milestone.

And because we know that the trophies we give out often get displayed in conference rooms and away from public view, the "Work It Safe" recognition comes in the form of a large 6-foot banner that can be hung from the rafters in the garage or elsewhere as a highly visible and continuous reminder of the reward that comes when you "Work It Safe."

Three municipal utility communities — Arcadia, Eagle River, and Richland Center — are in the first group to be honored. With the trophies they earned for 2025 performance, each of these utilities has now received a total of 25 trophies since the Safety Achievement Award was created in 1999.

It's also worth noting, Eagle River Light & Water is the only municipal electric utility in Wisconsin to receive the award every year since its inception.

I'd like to invite representatives of Arcadia, Eagle River, and Richland Center to the stage to receive a certificate and their banner.