

MEMBER

*From Cedar Island to Cedar Point
and many places in between*

News



A newsletter for members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

November 2008

Operation RoundUP®

Co-op members give back to their communities

CCEC prides itself on its commitment to community, and much of the credit goes to the cooperative's members and their participation in Operation RoundUP®.

Through the program, members volunteer to have their monthly electric bills rounded up to the nearest dollar. The monthly individual contribution could be as much as 99 cents or as little as a penny. A single donation of several pennies every month may not make much difference. However, a collective, cooperative effort of CCEC's members to pool their pennies has had tremendous positive impact on our communities and residents.

With the strength and sound principles found in co-ops, the donations are collected and placed in the care of Carteret-Craven Electric Foundation Board of Directors, which is made up of CCEC members from across the cooperative's service territory.

The board is entrusted to invest the dollars to accomplish a very simple mission that has remained true these many years -- to improve the quality of life for our

members in our communities.

Since inception, the foundation has funded many worthy requests, including scholarships for more than 35 high school seniors and community college students and more than 215 Bright Ideas Grants for public school educators... the American Cancer Society... Children's Miracle Network... NC Burn Center... Broad Street Clinic... Carteret County Domestic Violence Program... several senior citizens projects, including emergency generation for a senior center to provide power during storm events for those individuals with health conditions... transportation for the physically challenged... Duke Hospital's children's pediatric cancer program... the local Habitat for Humanity... heating and cooling assistance through the Havelock-Cherry Point Ministerial Outreach and departments of social services... Hope Mission Soup Kitchen & Outreach... Project Christmas Cheer... volunteer fire department safety equipment and many more programs too numerous to mention.

The foundation board meets monthly to review grant applications. For more information contact Sarah Grider at (252) 247-3107.



on the web

Want to curb your power consumption? Check out "Your Guide to Home Energy Savings" online at:

www.carteretcravenelectric.coop



America has an energy challenge. We must balance climate change reforms with sensible, economically sound energy policy that will take us through the next few decades. Now is the time to have a candid conversation with your elected officials. Start the dialogue today at: www.ourenergy.coop

carteret-craven electric cooperative

Save energy, help reduce carbon emissions by taking ENERGY STAR 'Change the World' pledge

CCEC has joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "Change the World, Start with ENERGY STAR" campaign to encourage its members to reduce energy use in their home.

The national initiative encourages individual



Lisa Galizia

Director of Communications

actions that can make a big difference in reducing energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions. The cooperative wants its members to take the ENERGY STAR

Pledge by visiting www.energystar.gov/changetheworld. The ENERGY STAR Pledge encourages you to:

- ▲ Change light bulbs to those that have earned the ENERGY STAR.
- ▲ Use a programmable thermostat to save energy while asleep or away from home.
- ▲ Enable power management settings on computers and monitors so they go into "sleep mode" when away or not in use.
- ▲ Make your next electronics, office products or appliances purchase an ENERGY STAR-qualified product.
- ▲ Make sure your home is well sealed and insulated.

"We want to do our part to reduce our country's greenhouse gas emissions and help our members save energy dollars," said CCEC Director of Communications Lisa Galizia. "We hope to spread the word about the difference that individuals in our community can make by taking energy-saving steps in the workplace and at home."

If every American household took the actions in the pledge, we would save more than 110 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, more than \$18 billion in annual energy costs, and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to more than 18 million cars.

"We are delighted to work with Carteret-Craven and others across the country," said Kathleen Hogan, Director of the Climate Protection Partnerships Division at EPA. "Together, we can all make a difference, save energy and protect our environment through easy everyday actions. You can start by taking simple steps like changing a light or looking for the ENERGY STAR label when you purchase new products."

CCEC members are encouraged to take advantage of a N.C. sales tax holiday on energy-efficient items Nov. 7-9. Specific ENERGY STAR qualified appliances, such as washing machines, freezers and refrigerators, air conditioners and other items will be exempt from the state's 6.75 percent sales tax.

To save even more, CCEC members can make their purchases at Tideland Appliances at 800 Highway 70 East in New Bern and get a 3 percent discount on energy-saving home appliances. To qualify for the discount, just take your most recent CCEC electric bill with you when you shop.





Conservation challenge

Pine Knoll Shores Mayor Joan Lamson exchanges a regular light bulb with a CFL at her home. CCEC Vice President of Marketing & External Affairs Gary Zajac and the mayor discussed the town's new energy conservation campaign that challenges all residents to help achieve a town-wide 10 percent reduction in energy consumption by July 31, 2009.

Cook safely this holiday season

Don't let carelessness or inattention ruin your Thanksgiving holiday meal. Cooking-related fires peak on Thanksgiving. This holiday season, add these kitchen safety ingredients to your recipes for safe and happy meals.

Supervision is key. Never leave cooking food on the stove top unattended.

Get in the zone. Keep children and pets away from the cooking area and turn panhandles in, but away from hot burners. Keep the cooking area clear of anything that can burn – towels, pot holders, food packaging, etc.

Roll 'em up. Wear short or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can catch fire.

Keep a cool head. For a range-top fire, put on an oven mitt and smother the flames by turning off the burner and carefully sliding a lid onto the pan, leaving it in place until well cooled. Don't use water or flour on a grease fire.

Use the right tools. A multi-purpose fire extinguisher is great for grease fire, but make sure you know how to use it to avoid spreading the fire.

Prevent flame spread. For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flame spread.

Quick Takes

LOWER WINTER RATES GO IN EFFECT

Members will see a lower "non-summer" energy charge on their bills beginning this month. The winter rate for residential customers is 8.43¢ per kWh, down 1.07¢ per kWh from the summer rate.

The Wholesale Power & Fuel Cost Adjustment (WPFCA), however, is still in effect. It is .012¢ per kWh.

The seasonal rate change more accurately reflects the prices the cooperative pays for wholesale power. In this area, electricity costs more in the summer when demand is high and less in winter when costs decrease.



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

CCEC's offices will be closed for the holidays on the following dates:

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28

Christmas

Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26



SAFEGUARD LIGHTS

As the hours of daylight get shorter, you can extend your day with a Safeguard Light that turns on at dusk and off at dawn.

A Safeguard Light is a good way to help protect your property, too.

To get your light, call (252) 247-3107 or 1-800-682-2217 or make yourrequest via our Web site at:

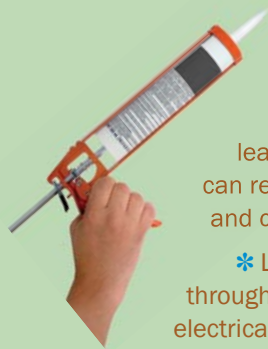
www.carteretcravenelectric.coop

Steps you can take to maximize winter heating dollars

While we don't know what the winter will bring, there are measures you can take now to lower your energy use and save yourself the worry when cold weather arrives.

- * Have a professional check out your heating system to ensure it is operating at peak efficiency.

- * Test windows and doors for air-tightness. If you can see daylight around your windows and doors these are critical areas that should be addressed immediately. Find smaller air leaks by taking your hand, a candle, or a fine tissue and moving it around your windows and doors



to detect air movement in and out of your home. Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows with air leaks. This small investment can result in cutting annual heating and cooling costs by up to 10%.

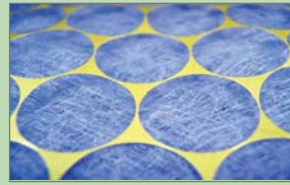
- * Look for other air leaks through openings where plumbing or electrical wiring goes through walls, floors and ceilings. Check for drafts from electrical outlets, around ceiling fixtures and at attic openings. Seal cracks or holes.

Once cold weather arrives, you can save money by following these tips:

- * Cover your window air conditioner with inexpensive, specially designed covers to keep cold air from leaking in through the unit.

- * Keep your fireplace damper closed when the fireplace isn't in use.

- * Clean or replace filters on heat pumps and furnaces once a month or as needed. Clean warm-



air registers, baseboard heaters and radiators once a month. Make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting or drapes.

- * Use kitchen, bath and other ventilating fans wisely; in just one hour, these fans can pull out a houseful of warmed air. Turn fans off as soon as you're done.

- * Keep draperies and shades open on south-facing windows during the heating season to allow sunlight to enter your home. Close them at night.

- * Dress appropriately: wearing warm clothing (sweaters, sweatshirts, and long pants) when inside during winter months will allow you to be more comfortable at a lower thermostat setting.

Learning to use your thermostat correctly can make the difference between high bills or lower costs this winter as well. It's a mistake to think you can warm your house faster by setting your thermostat higher. Moving your thermostat several degrees higher at once can activate the heat strips in your heat pump, and they cost more to operate.



Daylight Saving Time ends

Don't forget to change your clocks when Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 2.

While you are turning back your clocks, why not check and change batteries in smoke and carbon dioxide detectors at the same time? You can use the time change each season as a reminder to make sure those devices are working properly.



carteret-craven electric cooperative



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