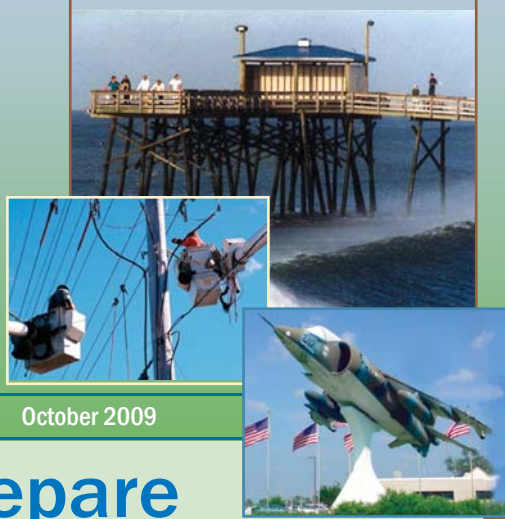


# MEMBER News

From Cedar Island to Cedar Point  
and many places in between



A newsletter for members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

October 2009

## It's not too early to prepare for the winter heating season

One of the best ways to minimize winter heating costs is to be proactive while the weather is still moderate.

### Heating System Check

Have a professional check your heating system to ensure it is operating at peak efficiency. *(Turn in your receipt for a chance to win \$100 cash. See Page 24.)*

For those with heat pumps, this should include an inspection of the coils to determine if they need to be cleaned, and all systems should have the ductwork inspected.

### Finding and Fixing Leaks

Test your windows and doors for air-tightness. Do a

visual inspection to identify obvious leaks first. If you can see daylight around your windows and doors, these problems should be addressed immediately.



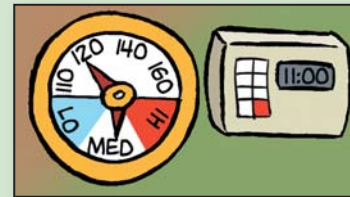
Then concentrate on finding smaller air leaks by taking your hand, a candle, or a fine tissue and moving it around your windows and doors.

Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows with air leaks. You can do it yourself, and it is cheap.

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

### Thermostat Settings

Once cold weather arrives, keep in mind that you can



save money by learning to use your thermostat correctly. It's a mistake to think you can warm your house faster by setting your thermostat higher. If you move the thermostat several degrees higher all at once, it can activate the heat strips in a heat pump, which will cost you more.

### Water Heater Efficiency

Electric water heating accounts for nearly 15% of your monthly electric bill, but you can reduce that cost with an electric water heater efficiency kit from CCEC.

The kit, which is valued at more than \$50, includes a water heater blanket, pipe insulation, an Earth Massage water-efficient shower head and faucet aerators.

We are selling these kits for \$16 each to our members. With all components properly installed, the kits can save you money and energy. The kits are available at our offices in Newport, Havelock and Harkers Island.

### on the web

Want to track your energy use in real time? You can with a PowerCost Monitor, available to members at a discount. Go to:

[www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)



carteret-craven electric cooperative

## Cooperative model serves members for 150-plus years

Sustainability... empowerment... concern for community. These are among today's most popular business values. But these values are nothing new to the nation's more than 900 electric cooperatives that provide reliable and technologically advanced service to 42 million Americans while maintaining a unique consumer-focused approach to business.

At Carteret-Craven and at electric co-ops across the nation, concepts like sustainability,



**Lisa Galizia**  
Communications Director

community involvement and democratic control are more than just buzzwords. They are basic to how we do business, and how we will always do business.

From the outside, many co-ops look like any other business, since a co-op provides products and services like conventional businesses do. But it's what goes on behind the scenes that makes it different.

Beyond providing reliable, safe and affordable electricity, we have a commitment to our communities and the people we serve," said CCEC Communications Director Lisa Galizia. "The Co-op Connections™ card you received with this newsletter is just one of many ways we strive to bring your benefits beyond quality electric service."

A cooperative exists to serve its members, but what makes co-ops unique is that the members are also the owners, they are not owned by Wall Street investors. Surplus revenue is distributed to member-owners in the form of Capital Credits (which appeared as a credit on your bill last month), rather than to outside investors. This year, CCEC returned more than \$1 million to its members and former members.



And, while stock company governance is closed to all but the largest shareholders, cooperative governance is open and democratic. You have a say in the business decisions

your cooperative makes.

A conservative estimate of total co-op membership – not just electric cooperatives – is 130 million, or more than a third of all Americans. Former congressman and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association CEO Glenn English calls that a “force to be reckoned with when we decide to come together.”

For all these reasons — their grassroots focus, their democratic governance, and their member focus, — cooperatives are truly a better way to do business.

October is National Cooperative Month. To learn more about this unique and successful business model, go to [www.go.coop](http://www.go.coop).

### Cooperative <sup>7</sup> Principles

Cooperatives around the world generally operate according to the same core principles and values, adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance in 1995. The International Cooperative Alliance is a global membership association of co-ops and co-op support organizations.


Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in England in 1844.

1. Voluntary, Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy & Independence
5. Education, Training & Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for the Community

## 'Together We Save'


New interactive Web site helps you find ways to cut energy use and save money

CCEC and 679 other Touchstone Energy® co-ops nationwide have launched a new Web site — [www.togetherwesave.com](http://www.togetherwesave.com) — to help members examine ways they can reduce energy consumption. The calculators are based on a 3,000-square foot home in the middle of the United States. While they do not provide individual dollar-for-dollar savings accuracy, the interactive activities **do** show how reducing energy use can reduce costs. The site shows savings from taking simple steps, such as replacing incandescent light bulbs with CFLs, to more significant changes, such as purchasing new energy efficient appliances or adding insulation. It also provides step-by-step video guides for a variety of energy efficiency makeover projects.



**ONE  
SMALL  
CHANGE  
X 38,500.**

Flip a switch. Screw in a CFL. Actually program your programmable thermostat. It all pays off. For all 38,500 of us. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).

 **Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**TOGETHERWESAVE.COM**

## Extend your outdoor time with a Safeguard Light

As the hours of daylight get shorter, you can extend your day with an automatic Safeguard Light from the cooperative.

Safeguard Lights cost only pennies a day. They are the most affordable way to welcome visitors, work or play outside after dark and protect your property throughout the year.

With a Safeguard Light, you will be ready to



continue enjoying time outdoors when Daylight Saving Time ends on November 1. Plus, you add security to your

home and property.

The basic light is a 100-watt high-pressure sodium mounted at 25 feet on a wooden pole.

Charges listed below include installation, maintenance, and operation of lights including electricity for illumination. Taxes are not included in these prices.

Sign up now for service. As reliable as daybreak, your Safeguard Light will turn itself on at dusk and off at dawn. You don't have to worry about a thing.

Call us today at 252-247-3107 or 1-800-682-2217. You can also make your request through the cooperative's Web site at:

[www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)

Basic Safeguard Light	Initial Charge	Monthly Cost	Contract
Light Attached to Existing Pole	\$0	\$ 9.90	1 year
Light and New Pole	\$50	\$12.65	1 year
Light with Underground Wiring	\$100	\$15.90	2 years

# Energy Star tax-free weekend and cooperative Incentive can help you save on new appliances



If you are in the market for new appliances and other energy-efficiency items, you can save by purchasing them during North Carolina's sales tax holiday Nov. 6-8.

Specific Energy Star-qualified appliances, such as washing machines, freezers and refrigerators, air conditioners and other items will be exempt from the state's 7.75 percent sales tax on that weekend.

An "Energy Star qualified product" is defined as a product that meet the energy efficiency guidelines developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Energy and is authorized to carry the Energy Star label.

The Energy Star-qualified appliances that can be purchased tax-free include:

- ★ Clothes washers
- ★ Refrigerators and freezers
- ★ Central air and room air conditioners
- ★ Ceiling fans
- ★ Dehumidifiers
- ★ Programmable thermostats

For details, go to the N.C. Department of Revenue's Web site at [www.dornrc.com](http://www.dornrc.com).

## Earn chances to win \$100 from CCEC

In addition to the tax-free holiday, CCEC members who buy the following Energy Star-qualified appliances in 2009 are eligible for \$100 cash drawings:

- ★ Clothes washers
- ★ Refrigerators and freezers
- ★ Dishwashers
- ★ Programmable thermostat
- ★ High-efficiency air-source heat pumps
- ★ Geothermal heat pumps

Also included are heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system tune-ups performed by a qualified professional. These purchases and tune-ups must have been completed in 2009. Members are allowed one entry for each qualifying appliance purchase or HVAC tune-up.

A \$100 award will be drawn for every 30 entries, up to a total of 25 awards.

Forms are available online at [www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop). They must be filled out completely, with copies of receipts attached, and mailed or dropped by one of our offices in Newport, Havelock or Harkers Island by 5 p.m. on Nov. 30.

The drawings will be held Dec. 4, 2009.

## 'I'm free!'

### Who doesn't want a simpler life?

- With Automatic Bank Draft & Equalizer Payment, paying your electric bill can be worry-free.
- Your account will be drafted the same amount, the same date each month.

To learn more, call 252.247.3107 or go to [www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)



carteret-craven electric cooperative



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#### On the Web

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