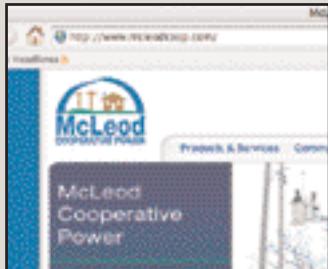


NEWS

April 2008

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Official publication of



www.mcleodcoop.com

Members gather for Annual Meeting

McLeod Celebrates 73rd Annual meeting The members of McLeod Cooperative Power Association gathered for the 73rd annual meeting of the Cooperative on Wednesday, April 2, 2008. About 450 members and guests were in attendance at the Pla-Mor Ballroom for the business meeting and the lunch that followed.

Three incumbent directors were each re-elected for another three-year term. Oria Brinkmeier of Lester Prairie, Dale Peters of Brownton, and Roger Karstens of Hutchinson were re-elected to serve Districts, 1, 2, and 3 respectively.

General Manager Kris Ingenthron updated members on environmental and legislative issues and how they will affect the future cost of power. Board President Doug Kirtz reported on our grassroots lobbying opportunity, Operation Round Up and progress at the Co-op in 2007. Office Manager Randall Ahrndt updated the members on the Co-op's finances. Board Vice-President Lester Ranzau reported on activities at Great River Energy.

Members were served a roast beef dinner following the close of the meeting. Attendance prizes were also awarded. The grand prize was a high definition color TV and DIRECTV system. The grand prize winner was Guy Burnison of Hutchinson.



Directors Oria Brinkmeier, Dale Peters and Roger Karstens were re-elected.

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Grand prize winner Guy Burnison (on left) of Hutchinson thanks Tucker Ingenthron for drawing out his name as the winner. Burnison won a high definition TV and a DIRECTV system.



March 31 storm caused power outages

A spring snow storm on March 31 caused numerous power outages in MCPA's service area. Cooperative employees worked through the night to restore power to member homes and farms that were knocked out by freezing rain and heavy snow. Line crews responded to 18 line section outages and five individual outages in McLeod County, 15 line section outages and three individual outages in Sibley County and two line section outages in Carver County.

Congratulations Leah Anderson of Buffalo Lake



She will be attending the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour in June, representing McLeod Cooperative Power and the co-ops of Minnesota. Leah is the daughter of Paul and Nancy Anderson. She attends Hutchinson High School.

Each applicant for the Washington Youth Tour answers short essay questions, which are reviewed by a panel of judges. The youth are able to share why they would like to be a delegate to the youth tour and explain their vision of "What is a cooperative?". Leah had some very concise answers that pleased the judges and gained her the one-week trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C.

Allocation notices on April bill statement

The amount of capital credits allocated to each member for 2007 is shown on the electric bill mailed in mid-April. It is based on margins allocated. MCPA allocations may be refunded to the member at some time in the future when capital credits for 2007 are retired.

The amount shown is not available to be deducted from the bill at this time. It is merely a notice of allocation. For many years the notice of allocation was mailed separately but due to high postage costs we are now economizing and listing it on your bill statement.

Manager's Message —

by Kris Ingenthron, McLeod Cooperative Power Association General Manager

Changing each and every day

Planning and preparing for upcoming challenges in the electric industry.



It is hard for me to believe that on April 16, 2008, I will have been here at McLeod Cooperative Power Association for one year. The past twelve months have been both challenging and rewarding. As the saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun." How true it is! Like any new employee, it takes a fair amount of time just getting familiar with the organization. Although I know that I have much more to learn, I feel very comfortable here at McLeod Cooperative.

As a member/owner, you can take great pride in your Cooperative, knowing that the board of directors and each employee is consistently doing the best job possible for you, the member. In 2007, McLeod Cooperative Power Association returned \$524,000 in capital credits to the membership. We continued to meet our financial requirements and were able to keep our expenses within the approved budget. The management and board of directors spent one and one-half days in September preparing a Strategic Plan for MCPA. During that time we identified five key initiatives that we will concentrate on in the next 18-24 months. These initiatives will

better prepare us for the future and the needs of your Cooperative.

Many cooperatives throughout the U.S. experienced weather-related problems such as ice storms, tornadoes, flooding, and even wildfires in the western U.S. We can be very thankful that MCPA did not experience such destruction to our system over this past year.

I am extremely pleased to report that MCPA did not experience a single lost time accident in 2007.

McLeod Cooperative Power Association employees worked a total of 64,355 hours in 2007. The Cooperative's last lost-time accident occurred on December 29, 2005. Since that time we have worked a total of 125,453.75 hours. This is a trend we are very proud of and hope to continue well into the future.

The electric utility business is changing each and every day and we have many challenges ahead of us as a Cooperative. Whether it is renewable energy,

climate change or reducing CO² emissions, everyone here at McLeod Cooperative Power Association is concerned with what this will ultimately cost the members of MCPA. At this year's Annual Meeting we will try to address these issues and explain the impact we can expect on our power costs. Each

I am extremely pleased to report that MCPA did not experience a single lost time accident in 2007.

one of us will need to contact our legislators and explain to them how important it is for us to seek long-term, practical and affordable remedies to our nation's energy challenges.

In closing, I would like to extend a sincere "Thank You" to the employees, board of directors and you, the members of McLeod Cooperative Power Association, on behalf of myself and my family. We have been welcomed into the community with open arms and you have made us feel like family. Soon after moving here, we realized that we did indeed make the right decision.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1
Oria Brinkmeier, *Lester Prairie*

District 2
Dale Peters, *Brownston*

District 3
Roger Karstens, *Hutchinson*

District 4
Curtis Rossow, *Buffalo Lake*

District 5
Allan Duesterhoeft, *Hutchinson*

District 6
Lester Ranzau,
Vice-President, *Glencoe*

District 7
Bill Polchow, *Silver Lake*

District 8
Doug Kirtz,
President, *Hector*

District 9
Gerald Roepke, *New Germany*

MCLEOD COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION NEWS

The McLeod Cooperative Power Association News is published monthly by
McLeod Cooperative Power Association
PO Box 70
1231 Ford Ave.
Glencoe, MN 55336
General Manager: Kris Ingenthron
Editor: Sue Pawelk

The McLeod Cooperative Power Association News is the official member publication of McLeod Cooperative Power Association and focuses on our members, programs and events. All member story ideas and comments are welcome. Send to Sue Pawelk, editor, at the above address.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

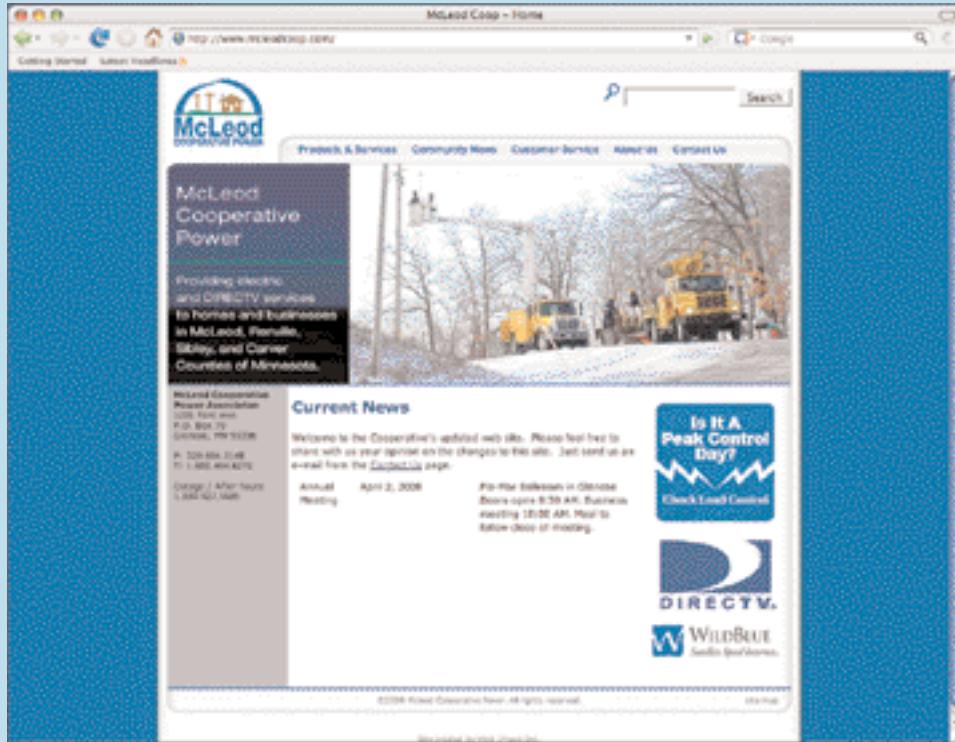
Phone: 320-864-3148
1-800-494-6272

24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685
Fax: 320-864-4850

Web site: www.mcleodcoop.com

Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166

Please visit www.mcleodcoop.com



Members may now see new features at McLeod Cooperative Power's web site. The site should be easier to navigate. It has more downloadable forms for your convenience. Members will soon have the ability to view their current electric bill and usage history. Best of all, members will now be able to go to the Co-op site at www.mcleodcoop.com to get urgent messages regarding events, outages and news pertinent to our Cooperative members.

The site will still have the same important features as before; checking to see if it is a load control day, coming events, rebate information, product and service details, and DIRECTV program packages. Have you visited www.mcleodcoop.com yet?

Sign up now! Coal Creek Tour is June 10-12

Reservations are now being accepted for this popular tour. It is both an education and fun trip to Bismarck, North Dakota. Tour participants will visit Coal Creek Generating Station, Falkirk Coal Mine, North Dakota Heritage Center, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and Headwaters Fort Mandan Visitors Center. Possible additions to this year's tour could be the new ethanol plant being constructed adjacent to the Coal Creek Generating Plant and a scenic tour of other generating facilities in the area.

Cost for adults is \$150 per person. Cost for students 10-18 years of age who share a room with their parents or grandparents is \$100 per person. This makes it an affordable mini-vacation. Motor coach transportation, accommodations at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and most meals are included. The hotel offers an indoor pool, water slide, hot tub and exercise room. The hotel is located across the street from a shopping mall. So there is plenty to do during free time.

The group leaves the Cooperative about 8 a.m. on Tuesday, June 10 and returns to Glencoe about 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 12. Members going on the tour need to be physically able to



climb stairs and do a substantial amount of walking. The tour is not suitable for children under 10 years of age.

If you have never been on this tour, we encourage you to sign up. If you have been on the tour before, we will accept your reservation. However, people who have never been to Coal Creek will be given preference. Call the Cooperative to make reservations with your VISA or Mastercard or return the completed form with your check. Call 1-800-494-6272 ext. 521 to sign up.

Please reserve _____ places for the Coal Creek Tour, June 10-12, 2008

Name and Age of Students: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Return to: *McLeod Cooperative Power Assn.*
1231 Ford Avenue, P.O. Box 70,
Glencoe, MN 55336.

Planning a remodel to add value to your home?



Upgrading your home's heating and cooling system could be your best investment.

With the recent downturn in the real estate market, more people are opting to stay where they are and remodel rather than "buy up." Once you've made that decision, the next thing to think about is what types of upgrades will yield the most value for the buck. Updating kitchens and baths usually results in a higher value for the home, say realtors. These days, the high cost of gas and oil have many home shoppers looking at a prospective home's heating and cooling systems as well.

A home that costs less money to heat and cool will save you money now, and will likely be more attractive to prospective home buyers when you are finally ready to sell. Here are a couple things to consider when making the decision to upgrade your system:

Size of your electrical panel.

The standard size of electrical panels being placed in new homes is usually 200-amps. With the increasing demand for electricity due to larger televisions and more electronic devices, etc., upgrading from a 100-amp service (particularly if you are still using fuses) to a 200-amp service is going to

improve the value of your home immediately. It will also give you more options for installing a money-saving heating and/or cooling system.

Can you switch to a dual fuel system?

Whether you have electric heat or a fossil fuel furnace, unless you are using a dual-fuel system you are paying more for your heat than you have to. A dual fuel system allows you to cut the amount you pay for heating in half or more, depending on your system. During times of peak energy use, the electric heat is "controlled" and the fossil fuel heat automatically comes on.

A dual fuel system saves money two ways: because you use less gas and oil, your costs are substantially lower, and because dual fuel systems qualify for our nearly half-price electric rate, your costs are further reduced. No matter how high fossil fuel or electric rates get, a dual fuel system will always save you money. If you currently use a fossil fuel furnace, it's relatively simple to switch to a dual fuel system.

Spring Projects

remember to call before you dig

GOPHER STATE ONE CALL



You may be planning a summer project now, such as building a deck or planting trees or shrubs. They're great summertime projects, but your rural electric Cooperative urges you to be careful. Many sites are on top of underground utility lines. Cutting an underground cable or pipeline can be very dangerous and costly, so call Gopher State One Call before you dig. It's the law!

Gopher State One Call is the clearinghouse to determine the location of all underground utility lines in Minnesota. After you call Gopher State, they notify underground utility operators with facilities in the area. Locators are dispatched to mark where these underground cables and pipelines are located.

But this all takes time, so be sure to call Gopher State One Call at 800-252-1166 at least 48 hours before you dig, excluding weekends, holidays and emergencies. Calls are taken between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Gopher State One Call will ask specific questions, so please have the following information available when you call:

- Type of work to be done.
- Location of the work site, including township, range, section and quarter section coordinates. This is the property's legal description.
- Estimated time needed to complete work.

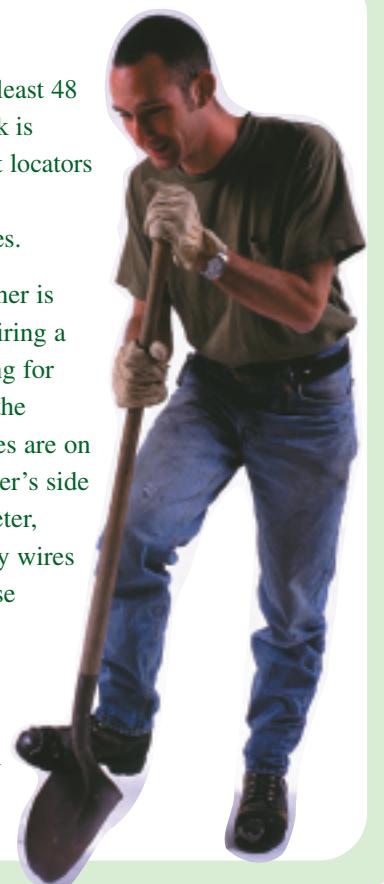
Property owners should understand their full responsibility when digging.

- The property owner or excavating company is responsible for calling Gopher State One Call at

800-252-1166 at least 48 hours before work is to be done so that locators can mark their company's utilities.

- The property owner is responsible for hiring a locator and paying for locating costs if the underground wires are on the property owner's side of the electric meter, such as secondary wires running to a house or buildings.

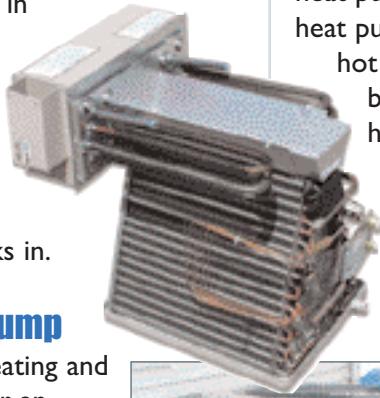
Remember, call 800-252-1166 before putting one shovel in the ground!



There are two ways to change your gas or oil furnace into a dual fuel system:

Install an electric plenum heater

Electricity is used to heat coils in the plenum heater and then that heat is transferred to the air as it enters your ductwork to the rest of your home. During periods of control, the plenum heater is turned off and the furnace kicks in.



Install an air source heat pump

For climates with moderate heating and cooling needs, heat pumps offer an energy-efficient alternative to furnaces and air conditioners. Like your refrigerator, heat pumps use electricity to move heat from one space to another. During the heating season, heat pumps move heat from the outdoors into your house; during the cooling season, heat pumps move heat from your house into the outdoors. Because they move heat rather than generate heat, heat pumps can provide up to four times the amount of energy they consume.



conditioners, resulting in less energy usage and more cooling comfort in summer months.

For homes without ducts, air-source heat pumps are also available in a ductless version called a mini-split heat pump. In addition, a special type of air-source heat pump called a "reverse cycle chiller" generates hot and cold water rather than air, allowing it to be used with radiant floor heating systems in heating mode.

While an air source heat pump is super efficient, there is a downside. For climates with very cold winters (like some Minnesota winters), the efficiency of most air-source heat pumps as a heat source drops dramatically. You can supplement your heat pump by adding a plenum heater when temps dip below 20 degrees.

Even taking this into account, a heat pump is one of the most efficient and cost-effective systems that can be installed easily and quickly to your existing system and pays back installation costs in about five years.

When adding value to your home, the best option is to speak one-on-one with your Cooperative's Energy Experts. They're not salesmen so they will give you an unbiased opinion of cost, efficiency and what the best option is for your situation. Give them a call.

Source: www.eere.energy.gov and *Cooperative Connections*, Mar. 2008

The most common type of heat pump is the air-source heat pump, which transfers heat between your house and the outside air. If you heat with electricity, a heat pump can trim the amount of electricity you use for heating by as much as 30%–40%. High-efficiency heat pumps also dehumidify better than standard central air

INDUSTRY

News

Nuclear energy could play larger roll in providing growing energy needs

Development of new nuclear power plants over the next decade will help the nation meet its growing demand for electricity with a reliable, carbon-free source of energy, a nuclear industry executive told the U.S. House of Representatives' Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. "It is extraordinarily challenging to imagine credible scenarios by which electricity production can double in the coming decades while significantly reducing the emission of greenhouse gases from electricity generation. To do so will take the successful implementation of a wide range of solutions including nuclear power," said Alex Flint, the Nuclear Energy Institute's senior vice president of governmental affairs.

Nuclear power plants operating in 31 states provide more than 70 percent of all U.S. electricity that comes from sources that do not emit greenhouse gases or controlled pollutants.

Energy Central News

Keep your air conditioner in tip-top shape

Why wait until the heat of summer to make sure your air conditioning system is working at peak efficiency? Consider doing it now, so every day you cool you'll also save money and energy. Each central air conditioning unit should be inspected, cleaned and tuned by a professional once every two years. A professional tune-up is worth every penny you spend.

The Technician Should

- Measure the refrigerant to see if it needs recharging. An undercharged unit lowers the efficiency of the system.
- Measure the airflow over the air conditioner's cooling coils. Correcting airflow rates can increase efficiency 5 to 10 percent.
- Clean and inspect the motor, compressor, air handler, ducts, coils and air filter.

What a Homeowner Can Do

- Keep the grass around the AC trimmed and make sure landscaping does not block the outdoor air conditioner components. Four to five feet of open air is needed to ensure proper airflow. Blocked AC units mean higher energy costs.
- Shade the outdoor AC unit. Air conditioners with proper shading can be up to 10 percent more efficient over a cooling season.

- Insulate ducts in unconditioned spaces. First, seal the duct joints and leaks with mastic tape or sealer. Wrap the ducts with low-cost, foil-faced R-8 rated fiberglass insulation and seal the insulation seams with regular duct tape. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, insulating ducts in the typical American home costs about \$250, but the improvement will pay for itself in energy savings in two and a half years.
- Clean dirt buildup on the indoor and outdoor coils of the central AC system. Dirty heat exchangers can impair performance by as much as 8 percent. Both indoor and outdoor coils can be cleaned with warm, soapy water, but need to be treated gently. Before performing any maintenance, be sure to consult the manufacturer's recommendations to answer any questions about an AC unit's care.

- Recirculate air. It is far more economical to recirculate and cool the indoor air than to draw in hot air from outside, cool it down and remove the moisture in it.
- Raise temperature settings. Each degree of temperature can represent up to 9% savings or added expense in cooling costs.
- Keep the unit fan on "AUTO." IT is not necessary to run the fan constantly when the air conditioner is turned on.
- Use ceiling fans. Moving air with ceiling fans can increase the comfort range.

More Information and Additional Resources

Info adapted from Iowa Energy Center, American Council on an Energy Efficient Economy's publication, Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings, 7th Edition, *Homemade Money* by Richard Heede and staff of the Rocky Mountain Institute, and Florida Power and Light, www.fpl.com.

Turning CO² into food

It cleans your teeth, makes your biscuits rise and kills odors in your fridge. Could baking soda also fight global warming? An Austin, TX startup business has set up shop to prove that it can. Skyonic Corp. is working with Luminant to turn carbon dioxide from smokestacks into sodium bicarbonate. The point is to dispose of carbon dioxide that coal plants produce.

The Skyonic Corp. mobile laboratory at Big Brown forces a stream of cooled flue gas through sodium hydroxide, converting the carbon dioxide into food-grade sodium bicarbonate. The Skyonic staff has even baked cookies with it. Along the way, the process strips out pollutants such as mercury, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide. And the sodium hydroxide production creates high-grade hydrogen and chlorine gases, which can be sold.

"This is a developing technology that presents a potential solution to greenhouse gas emissions," said Luminant spokesman Tom Kleckner. "We're researching solutions to the sequestration of greenhouse gases, without the compression and transportation issues other sequestration processes face."

Waco Tribune-Herald

With our satellite technology, the sky's the limit...



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- Dedicated instant on connection!



McLeod Cooperative Power Association

1231 Ford Ave. & Hwy. 22 in Glencoe
Phone: 320-864-3148
1-800-494-MCPA

How much could climate change legislation cost you?

The initial reaction by consumers is positive when they hear “Going Green,” “Fighting global warming” and endorsing legislation that adds a tax onto “Coal or any product with a carbon footprint.” However, when consumers find out just how much money climate change legislation could cost them for future energy, consumers may rethink their position to a more moderate view.

Utilities may have a big challenge to comply with new climate change legislation. Currently, numerous climate change bills are working through the U.S. Congress. A number of similar measures are expected to be debated in the state legislature in 2008.

The range of CO2 taxation in proposals in St. Paul and Washington, D.C. could significantly impact MCPA electric members. If some of the current climate change legislation is passed:

- A residential consumer using 1,000 kWh per month would have \$130 per year added to their energy bill if a \$10 per ton carbon tax were approved or \$650 per year added with a \$50 per ton carbon tax.
- A commercial customer using 200,000 kWh per month would experience a \$26,000 annual increase at \$10/ton carbon tax or a \$130,000 a year increase at \$50 per ton.

You can see quickly how this could economically affect the cost of doing business or just paying your home’s utility bills.

A study by the non-profit Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) says “intermediate” climate change legislation will cause price increases of 45 to 260 percent* by 2050, depending upon how successful the United States is in developing new generation technologies. The study also concludes nuclear power and clean coal technology (carbon capture) must play a larger role in this mix. Without an economic safety valve built in, any climate change legislation that raises rates by those levels would cause severe hardship on residents and the overall economy.

One thing is certain: based on the climate change legislation being proposed, if any of this passes, your electric rates will rise. Most agree that rates could rise significantly.

Minnesota law currently prohibits any new nuclear power plant permits. The Minnesota legislature last session approved regulations that would impose a stiff carbon tax on power from a new coal plant in South Dakota that would sell that electricity in Minnesota. Utilities are being forced to build natural gas fired peaking plants because the government is making it too difficult to use cheap fuels like nuclear and coal. Using natural gas to make electricity will probably lead to higher electricity rates and higher prices for natural gas home heating as supplies for the fuel get tighter. Consumers will bear the burden.

*Source: EPRI Journal Fall 2007

The perfect Mother’s or Father’s Day gift

Do you worry about...

your parents getting older?

mom or dad living alone?

The First Alert emergency pendant from McLeod Co-op Power may be just the thing they need to help you worry less while they live on their own. One press of the button will call the 24-hour medical dispatch center, which will send a family member, neighbor or police over to help. The pendant allows them to work outside in the garden or go to the mailbox, and still summon help if they need it. Emergency pendants are reasonably priced and make a perfect Mother’s Day or Father’s Day gift.

Call McLeod Co-op Power at 1-800-494-MCPA for more information.



Rebate amounts for ENERGY STAR® cooling units



Consumers purchasing new air conditioners or air source heat pumps (ASHP) will need to buy a high efficiency unit AND make sure it is installed by a registered contractor to receive a rebate from the Co-op.

The amount of the rebate is determined by the efficiency of the unit.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| SEER 13 | \$ 30 |
| SEER 14 | \$180 |
| SEER 15 | \$280 |
| SEER 16+ | \$330 |

To receive the rebate, your installing contracting firm must also be registered with the HVAC Reducation service. Most utilities in the state of Minnesota are requiring contractors to successfully complete a test to verify that they know how to properly complete a high efficiency installation. If they do not pass the test, they will receive training before being retested. Utilities want to provide consumers with some assurance that the

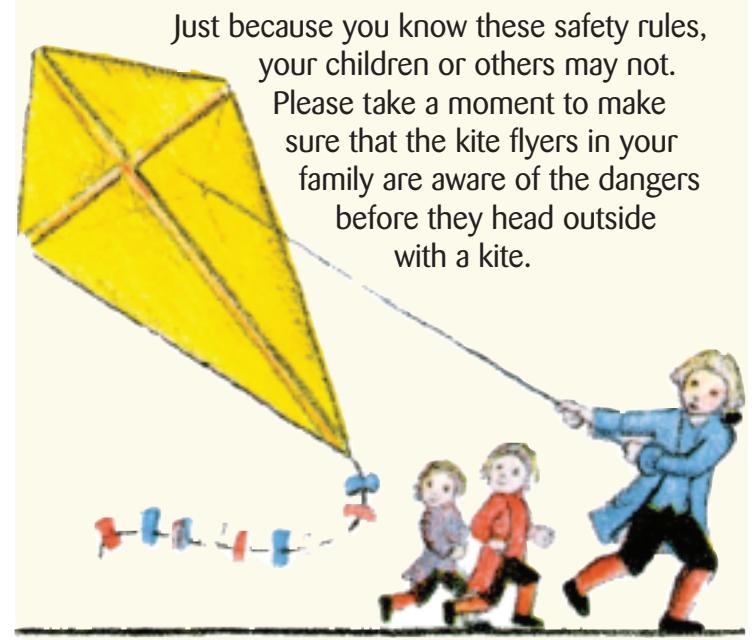
contractor installing their system knows how to properly install a cooling unit to meet its design SEER rating and that the contractor agrees to do installations according to these standards.

Rebates will only be paid to consumers, if their installing contractor is listed on the HVAC Reducation site. You can link there from McLeod Co-op Power's web site or go there directly at http://hvacreducation.net/gre/public_search.cfm

If you do not have internet access, you can also check with the energy experts at McLeod Co-op Power, to find out what local contractors have been certified as registered contractors under this program.

Keep away from power lines!

Whether you are young or old, kite flying is only safe when done far away from power lines. It is never safe to fly a kite where it is close enough to contact a line. And if a kite, or anything else, ever gets caught in a power line, never try to get it down yourself. Call the power company to come and do it for you.



Just because you know these safety rules, your children or others may not. Please take a moment to make sure that the kite flyers in your family are aware of the dangers before they head outside with a kite.

Are you prepared for an EXTREME PEAK DAY?

Do you have a "no-bake" menu planned for the next 95 degree day?

Will you be willing to conserve energy when we notify you that it is an EXTREME PEAK Day?

Cool Home



Recipe Book

Microwave, grill and salad recipes to keep your house COOL on peak summer days.



We hope all members keep energy conservation in mind on EXTREME PEAK DAYS between noon and 10 p.m. An EXTREME PEAK DAY is a day when humidity is high and the temperature reaches 95 degrees or higher. If the temperature reaches 100 degrees, or if we have a series of 95+ degree days in a row, that is a very critical time to conserve.

We are asking our members to voluntarily conserve between noon and 10 p.m. on those extreme days by:

- Doing laundry earlier in the day or after 10 p.m.
- Waiting until after 10 p.m. to start the dishwasher.
- Going out for dinner, cooking in the microwave or on the grill, instead of using the stove or oven.
- Turning off or unplugging the dehumidifier until after 10 p.m.

Doing these things will keep your house cooler. It will make it easier for your air conditioner to keep your house comfortable. Doing activities that add heat or humidity to your home on an extremely hot day requires your air conditioner to run longer and use more energy. And if you do not have central air conditioning, you will keep your home much cooler without those heat-producing activities. Plus, if we get enough members conserving on the hottest days of summer, it could

save McLeod Cooperative Power and its members significant dollars on the price we pay for peak day energy.

"Cool Home" recipe booklets are available free from the Cooperative. Just give us a call or drop us a note. We'd be happy to send you a free booklet with "no-bake" recipes for the grill and microwave and salads. There are also menu ideas to save energy, like bake a casserole today and put it in the freezer for that EXTREME PEAK DAY. Then unthaw and cook it in the microwave when you get home.

PHONE NOTIFICATION: The Cooperative will be trying to call members who average more than 800 kWh a month when it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. Members answering the phone will hear a recorded message asking for voluntary conservation because it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. If we get an answering machine, we will leave you the conservation message.

Our power supplier, Great River Energy, is able to supply us with plenty of energy to meet the power needs of all of our members, even on an extreme peak day. However, the price we may have to pay to deliver that energy during peak hours of the hottest summer days may be very high. It is the goal of McLeod Cooperative Power to keep rates as low as possible. Conservation from noon to 10 p.m., just on the most EXTREME PEAK DAYS, could help us do that. Thank you members for all your efforts to conserve during these times.

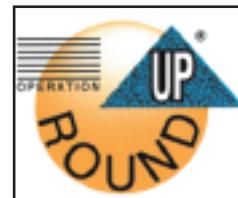


Local youth with disabilities benefit in numerous ways from horseback riding. Operation Round Up donation to Equul Access, near Hutchinson, will help purchase equipment for the program.



Group of clients and staff of Aveyron Homes, shown here after raking leaves in the park, will benefit with some funding for leisure time activities and games used in their group homes.

Operation Round Up donates \$3,500 to local groups



The members of McLeod Cooperative Power who generously round up their electric bills each month to the nearest dollar have helped to fund these area projects.

Recipients of \$500 were:

- **Tim Orth Memorial Foundation**
Assist children in west central MN who are facing substantial medical costs as a result of a serious accident or illness.
- **GFW Dollars for Scholars**
Scholarships for GWF (Gibbon- Fairfax-Winthrop) graduates.
- **McLeod County Chapter of the American Red Cross**
Project to purchase 14 new CPR manikins for health and safety programs.
- **Equul Access**
Therapeutic riding for disabled individuals. Requesting saddles and developmental products.
- **American Cancer Society of McLeod Co.**
Fund local programs, 800#, website.
- **Aveyron Homes, Inc.**
Leisure activities, games and crafts for disabled residents of Glencoe and Hutchinson group homes.

Recipients of \$250 were:

- **Arlington Historical Society**
Purchase a computer and library cataloging program for cataloging historic artifacts.
- **Hutchinson Area Compassionate Friends**
Purchase materials for grief library, hire speakers to assist families who have lost a child to death.

Marathon Water Heaters

The Marathon water heater has a lifetime anti-leak warranty, plus a six-year warranty on elements and thermostats. It is the highest efficiency, R-25 insulated electric water heater on the market, with a durable exterior tank that won't rust and no anode rods.

Available in 50-gallon, 85-gallon and 105-gallon capacities. For sale to electric members and the general public. Available at the Cooperative and through many local plumbers.

\$50 rebates when replacing an older tank with a Marathon. **Additional \$50** when you put the water heater on Storage Water Heating Program.



Members may begin donating to Operation Round Up® any time of the year



Members helping members and members helping their community = Operation Round Up

The few cents that our members give by rounding up their electric bill can multiply to dollars for local charities that build up our whole community. It is easy to sign up, painless to participate in, and a great opportunity for your small donations to make a big difference.

Members who sign up for Operation Round Up will have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the nearest dollar. The difference between the billing amount and the nearest dollar goes to the Operation Round Up Trust. Members on the program donate from -0- to \$.99 a month, depending on the amount of their electric bill. The average member donates \$6.00 a year to the program. Many worthwhile charities benefit from the proceeds of the trust each year. If you do not already participate, please fill out the form and return it to the Co-op. We will get you set up as an Operation Round Up participant.

Yes, sign me up for Operation Round Up. I understand that my bills will be rounded up to the next dollar amount and the proceeds will be used for local charitable programs.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Account #: _____

Signature: _____