

NEWS

July 2008

Inside this issue...



Free CFL recycling at Menards

3



Visit us at Farmfest August 5-7

4



Rebates available for high efficiency cooling

7

Official publication of



www.mcleodcoop.com

One-Day Tour of Prairie Star Wind Farm & Pleasant Valley Peaking Plant



Members of McLeod Cooperative Power are invited to participate in a one-day tour of the Prairie Star Wind Farm and Pleasant Valley Peaking Plant, both located about 25 miles southwest of Rochester, Minnesota. The tour will be Wednesday, August 27. Cost is \$25 per person. It includes a light breakfast and lunch, plus motor coach transportation.

Final tour details are still being planned but we anticipate leaving

Glencoe between 6:30 and 7:00 a.m. The group should return to Glencoe shortly after 5:00 p.m. The Prairie Star Wind Farm was constructed in 2007 and this is our first tour of the wind project.

This tour is filling up fast. Call to make reservations. Ask for Katie.



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New Germany Substation transformer returned to service



In November 2007, the New Germany Substation transformer failed. At that time the transformer had to be removed and temporarily replaced with a loaner transformer from Great River Energy. Over recent months the transformer was rewound, tested and cleaned. On June 3, 2008, the Co-op's transformer was reinstalled in the New Germany Substation, with the help of A&B Crane Service, Great River Energy and MCPA line crews. The process required moving the transformer that was on loan from GRE off of the pad and onto the semi trailer and setting the newly rewound transformer back in its place. Crews connected the transformer and returned back-fed power to the New Germany substation.

Power Cost Adjustment to increase July 1

The power cost adjustment (PCA) will increase July 1 from \$.0093 to \$.0121. The first electric bill to include the larger PCA will be the bill you receive in mid-August for July energy use. This translates to an additional \$2.80 a month for each 1,000 kWh used.

Full details on PCA were published in the June 2008 *NEWS*.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

McLeod Cooperative Power Association is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions to Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Kris Ingenthron, General Manager.

Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

Thank you to members who contacted our federal legislators

At the time we were printing last month's newsletter, the Lieberman-Warner bill and the Boxer Amendment had not yet been voted on, so your phone calls were very important to our legislators in Congress. On June 6, the bill was defeated in a vote on the Senate floor; 48 yes to 36 no votes, (60 yes votes were required to carry the bill). That ended action on the Climate Security Act for 2008, but we are fairly certain that it will be back in some form in 2009.

The majority of Americans would like to see our nation reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A significant percentage of Americans who have participated in national surveys in the last year are even willing to pay a little more for energy and manufactured goods if they are produced with fewer emissions (or a smaller carbon footprint, as it is often called today). However, most Americans cannot afford double-digit increases in the cost of energy, fuel and manufactured products.

Passage of the proposed legislation would have put a huge financial burden on consumers. We needed to make our members aware of this. McLeod Cooperative Power is supportive of good environmental legislation, as long as it has an economic safety valve, to protect consumers from huge price increases for electricity, gasoline, natural gas, propane, fuel oil, and all products manufactured in the United States. We asked for your opposition to the Lieberman-Warner bill because it did not include an economic safety valve, and it was projected to double the cost for most energy sources by 2030, according to a study by the National Association of Manufacturers (www.nam.org) and the American Council for Capital Formation (www.acf.org).

NAM is the nation's largest and oldest industrial trade association representing 14,000 companies in every industrial sector in all 50 states. ACCF is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to tax and environmental policies that encourage

savings and investment. The projected cost increases we shared in last month's newsletter were not from any study by an energy or electric organization. NAM and ACCF did a national and state-by-state study of the economic impact from the Lieberman-Warner proposed legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The change in electricity costs to consumers in Minnesota was projected to be 31 percent to 39 percent by 2020 and 134 percent to 153 percent by 2030. The study looked at the impact on economic growth, jobs, low income families, and the state budget. In summary, the Lieberman-Warner bill ran the risk of doing more economic harm than environmental good; that the U.S. could not afford the loss of up to four million jobs nationally; and that our nation's climate change policies must still allow U.S. companies to economically compete in the global marketplace. NAM believes acceptable legislation needs to include expanded domestic gas exploration and an increased investment in nuclear energy technology. A copy of this report is available upon request by any MCPA member from the Co-op or you can access it at the NAM website.

We will continue to keep our members aware of critical legislation in the future. Feel free to contact the Cooperative office at any time if you have questions or concerns about anything published in the monthly newsletter.

**Our apologies for an error in the toll-free numbers for our senators.
Corrected numbers are below:**

Sen. Norm Coleman
Web site: www.coleman.senate.gov
Telephone: 202-224-5641
MN Office: 1-800-642-6041

Sen. Amy Klobuchar
Web site: www.klobuchar.senate.gov
Telephone: 202-224-3244
MN Office: 1-888-224-9043

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MCLEOD COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION NEWS

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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.

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Monday - Friday
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**Phone: 320-864-3148
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**24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685
Fax: 320-864-4850**

Web site: www.mcleodcoop.com

Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166

Area youth receive scholarships

Two \$500 power line worker scholarships were awarded to area youth this spring. Nicholas Tritz and Jacob Pastoors each received a scholarship to attend one of Minnesota's power line schools this fall.

Nicholas is a 2008 graduate of Glencoe-Silver Lake High School and will be attending Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Wadena this fall. He is the son of Terry and Lois Tritz of Glencoe.



Nicholas Tritz

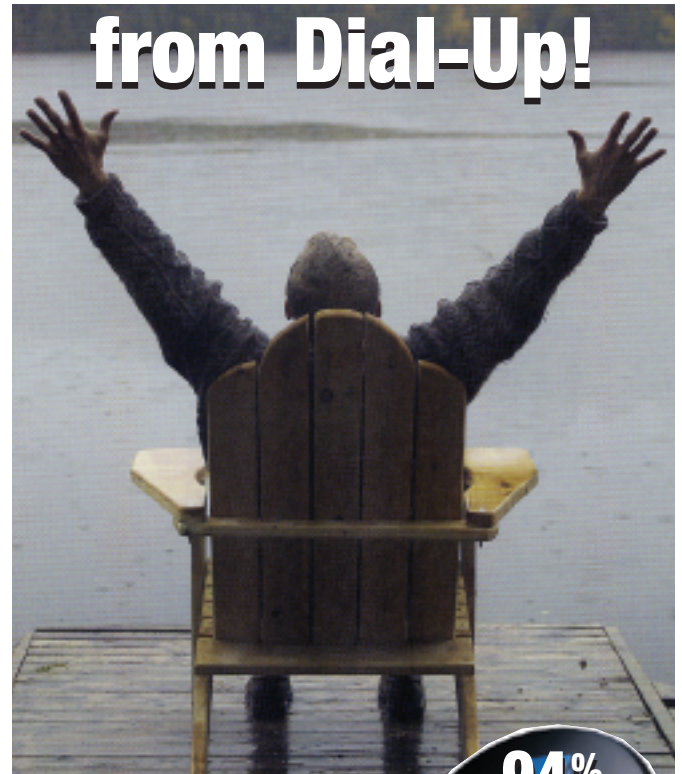


Jacob Pastoors

Jacob is a 2008 graduate of BOLD High School in Olivia and will attend Minnesota West Technical College in Jackson this fall. He is the son of Dave and Deb Pastoors of Olivia.

Each year MCPA makes available up to four \$500 scholarships for individuals accepted into power line worker programs in Minnesota to assist with tuition. For details on the scholarships or for a free line worker career brochure call McLeod Co-op Power at 1-800-494-6272.

Break Free from Dial-Up!



High-Speed Internet Where You Live.

WildBlue service is available in three packages:

Value: \$49.95/month

This will be our standard package that will fit the needs of the majority of our members. Designed for home use with one or two computers, this service will feature download speeds of up to 512 Kbps (about 10 times faster than dial-up)

Select: \$69.95/month

This package will feature speeds of up to 1 Mbps and is meant to fill the needs of a home-based business or a family with three or more computers accessing the Internet.

Professional: \$79.95/month

This package was developed with the needs of business users in mind. Speeds of up to 1.5 Mbps will allow for networks of computers to access the Internet simultaneously.



Call McLeod Cooperative Power Association today to schedule your installation!

FREE and CONVENIENT CFL recycling at **MENARDS**

Please drop off your used CFLs at the Service Desk.

Only CFLs from residential customers will be accepted. No tubes or other mercury-containing items accepted.

Because of the presence of mercury, CFLs must be recycled. In Minnesota, it is illegal to place them directly in the garbage.

a brighter idea

Using CFLs is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1 REPLACE old incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs). Be sure to match the right CFL to the right kind of fixture to ensure that it will perform properly.
- 2 REDUCE energy costs by up to \$30 per bulb over its lifetime and use 75% less energy. CFLs last up to 10 times longer and generate 70% less heat than standard incandescent light bulbs.
- 3 RECYCLE burned out or broken CFLs to prevent the release of mercury. Great River Energy, in partnership with our 28 member cooperatives is excited to bring you FREE and CONVENIENT recycling at all Menards stores in the state of Minnesota. In addition to Menards, you can bring CFLs to your local recycling center or your community's hazardous waste drop off for proper disposal. For more information on recycling options visit www.minnesota.earth911.org or www.pca.state.mn.us

In Partnership with our 28 Member Cooperatives:

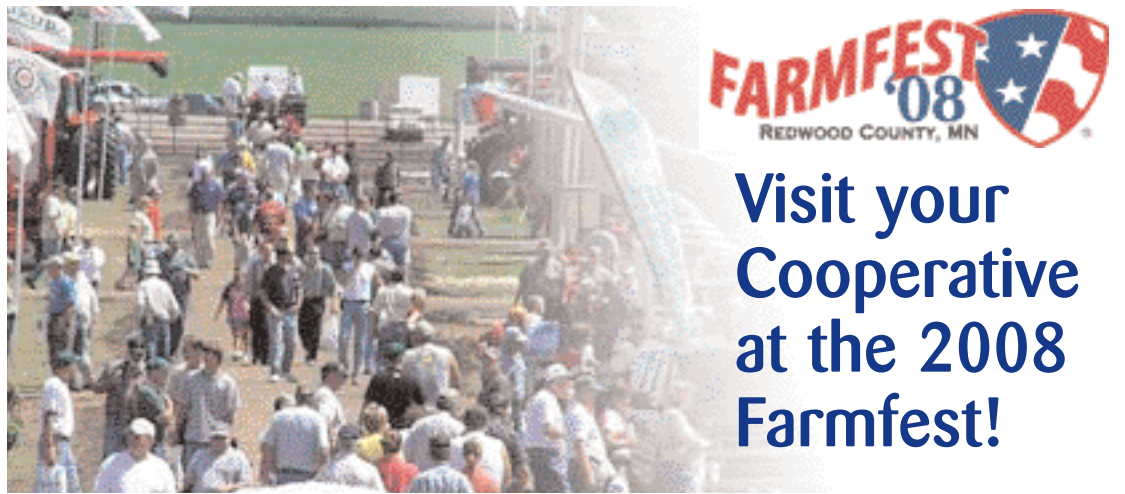
Agnelle Electric Cooperative • Arrowhead Electric Cooperative • BENCO Electric • Brown County Rural Electric Association • Cornhusker Energy • Cooperative Light & Power Association • Crow Wing Power • Dakota Electric Association • East Central Energy • Federated Rural Electric Association • Goodhue County Cooperative Electric Association • Inaska-Montana Cooperative Electric Association • Randolph Power Cooperative • Lake Country Power • Lake Region Electric Cooperative • McLeod Cooperative Power Association • Mower Cooperative • Miller Lake Energy Cooperative • Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative • Nobles Cooperative Electric • North Star Electric Cooperative • Redwood Electric Cooperative • Rouse County Electric Association • South Central Electric Association • Stevens Electric Association • Stearns-Woman Cooperative Electric • Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative • Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association

20 cheap ways to reduce cooling costs

In this period of rising energy costs, it's important to keep thinking of ways to reduce energy consumption — and then do them!

1. Use fans. Even mild air movement of 1 mph can make you feel 3 or 4 degrees cooler.
2. Shade your outside central air compressor for more efficient operation.
3. Place lamps & TVs away from your AC thermostat to prevent heat from making your AC run longer.
4. Install a whole-house fan to pull air through open windows on the bottom floor and exhaust it through the roof. This can reduce energy use by a third. Cost of a unit is around \$200 to \$400; not exactly "cheap," but it will pay you back in savings.
5. Install white window shades, drapes or blinds to reflect heat. Close curtains on south and west-facing windows.
6. Grow vines on trellises to shade windows or the entire side of a home.
7. Avoid landscaping with lots of unshaded rock, cement or asphalt on the south and west sides. This increases temperatures around the house and radiates heat to the home in the evening.
8. Plant deciduous trees to shade your home from the sun. In summer, daytime temperatures can be 3-6 degrees cooler in tree-shaded neighborhoods.
9. Use CFLs and cut heat radiation by 80%.
10. Air-dry dishes instead of using the dishwasher's drying cycle.
11. Use a microwave oven to cook more meals, reducing energy use and heat.
12. Plug home electronics into power strips and turn the strips off when not in use.
13. Lower the thermostat on your water heater; 115 degrees is comfortable for most uses.
14. Wash only full loads of dishes & clothes.
15. Take quick showers instead of baths to reduce hot water use.
16. Caulking and weatherstripping keeps cool air in and hot air out.
17. Hire a professional to repair holes or separated joints in your air ducts.
18. Add insulation around AC ducts located in unconditioned spaces, such as attics, crawl spaces and garages.
19. Hang clothes outside to dry instead of using your dryer.
20. Install awnings on south-facing windows. Because of the angle of the sun, trees, a trellis or fence will best shade west-facing windows. Apply sun-control or reflective films on south-facing windows.

Source: MSN Money



Visit your Cooperative at the 2008 Farmfest!

August 5-7 at the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County MN

Ag Tent, Booth #2301

Visit your hometown Cooperative and learn about the latest electric technologies, conservation strategies and even see a super heat pump demonstration.

Farmfest Hours

Tues – 8 AM to 5 PM
Wed – 8 AM to 5 PM
Thurs – 8 AM to 4 PM

Use this Farmfest Coupon to receive a FREE Compact Fluorescent light bulb, compliments of your Cooperative!

Featuring: Great Pretenders; U.S Senate Candidate's Forum on Agriculture and Rural Issues; Linder Farm Network; "Noontime Ag Jamboree"; Pedal Pull; Seed Plots; Scavenger Hunt; Tractor Pull; and much, much more!

- Visit the AgriPreneurship Pavilion
- The Conservation/Habitat Development Pavilion
- Home & Garden Pavilion

Plus hundreds of exhibitors all related to your Agri-Business!

The power to make a difference is in your hands.

If every U.S. household changed their 5 highest used light bulbs from incandescent to compact fluorescent, it would save more than \$6 billion kWh of energy and keep more than one trillion pounds of greenhouse gases out of the air each year.

Hard to comprehend? Imagine taking more than 8 million cars off the road or saving more than \$6 billion every year in energy costs.

We can help!

Your electric cooperative, along with other electric cooperatives, will be participating in Farmfest 2008. Bring this coupon to FarmFest Booth #2301 in the Ag Tent on August 5-7, 2008 and we will give you a FREE compact fluorescent light bulb.

All we ask is that you install it.



One easy phone call to 811 starts the process to get your underground utility lines marked for free. When you call 811 from anywhere in the country, your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. Local One Call Center operators will ask you for the location of your digging job and route your call to affected utility companies. Your utility companies will then send a professional locator to your location to mark your lines within a few days.

Study finds MN needs more high-voltage transmission capacity

Seeking to use Minnesota's electric infrastructure more efficiently before an expected wave of renewable energy projects come on line, the Minnesota Department of Commerce has found 600 megawatts of system capacity for new renewable projects – and is looking for 600 more. “We need to increase the high-voltage transmission capacity in our state and use our existing infrastructure more efficiently,” said Edward Garvey, director of the Department of Commerce’s Office of Energy Security.

Finding the first 600 megawatts was relatively easy, a government spokesman said, as it was a search for unused existing substation capacity. Finding 600 additional megawatts of renewable power project sites outside the Minneapolis-St. Paul area will be more of a challenge. “The point of the [Phase I] study was to find the low-hanging fruit,” said Bill Walsh, a Department of Commerce spokesman. The next assignment promises to be more difficult because “the [power] grid is complicated, and the grid in some areas is full,” Walsh said. “But there are places in the grid with low capacity where there is room for small [renewable energy] projects.”

The Department of Commerce’s Office of Energy Security is conducting both phases of the power study in cooperation with Maple Grove-based Great River Energy, representatives of Minnesota electric utilities and related industries.

-Twin Cities Finance and Commerce

Plans advance for first U.S. offshore wind farm

A plan for the first U.S. offshore wind farm advanced on Monday when the company that wants to build it announced it has agreed to sell the power generated to a local utility. Up to 200 megawatts of electricity from about 60 turbines to be built 11 miles off the coast of Delaware will be sold to Delmarva Power in a 25-year contract that officials said will likely make the project the first in the country.

The farm will be able to generate up to 400 megawatts in addition to the 200 megawatts that will be bought by Delmarva. The cost is subject to a final decision on generating capacity, said Jim Lanard, a spokesman for Bluewater Wind. A 450 megawatt farm would cost around \$1.5 billion, he said.

The project may encourage other states to use offshore wind in an effort to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels, said Laurie Jodziewicz, an expert on offshore power at the American Wind Energy Association, the industry’s trade group.

About 1 percent of U.S. energy needs are met by wind. The amount of power generated by wind grew by 45 percent between 2006 and 2007. Last year, 35 percent of new generation capacity came from wind, according to the American Wind Energy Association.

-Reuters

Celebrate Minnesota’s Sesquicentennial

with a trip to its historic places



It’s Minnesota’s 150th birthday and the Minnesota Historical Society is offering a Two-for-One Admission coupon to dozens of historic sites and museums around the state.

Stop in to the Cooperative’s office for your 2008 historic places Travel Guide and coupon. This coupon can be used anywhere from the State Capitol to Split Rock Lighthouse to Fort Snelling. Enjoy!

The right washer lowers energy and water use



An Energy Star qualified clothes washer can save you \$550 in operating cost over its lifetime compared to a regular clothes washer. An Energy Star washer, which is your guarantee of high efficiency, will lower energy costs and water use. This means less pollution from power plants and less water going to waste. These units typically cut utility bills by an average of \$50 per year. Over the eleven-year lifetime of the washer, that adds up to \$550.

Save water and energy

Qualified clothes washers also save 7,000 gallons of water a year. Over the life of the washer, that is enough to provide a lifetime of drinking water for six people. As water resources become less plentiful, the amount of water we use will become more important and more costly.

Front loading and some advanced top loading washers use next generation technology to cut energy and water consumption by over 40% compared to conventional washers. Front loaders tumble clothes through a small amount of water instead of rubbing clothes against an agitator in a full tub. Advanced top loaders use sophisticated wash systems to flip or spin clothes through a reduced stream of water. Both designs dramatically reduce the amount of hot water used in the wash cycle and the energy used to heat it. It reduces the amount of water your well pump has to pump into the machine. It also reduces the amount your washer motor and septic pump (if you have one) needs to pump out.

Efficient motors spin clothes two to three times faster during the spin cycle to extract more water. Less moisture in

the clothes means less time and energy in the dryer. This again reduces run time and energy costs on operating your dryer.

Save your clothing

You also save wear and tear on your clothes with an Energy Star model clothes washer. Instead of twisting and pulling clothes around a turning agitator, front loaders and advanced top-loaders use wash systems that gently wash with less water. This lengthens the life of often-washed items and leads to less lint in the dryer. Because they are so gentle, many models can safely clean silk, wool and other hand-washables.

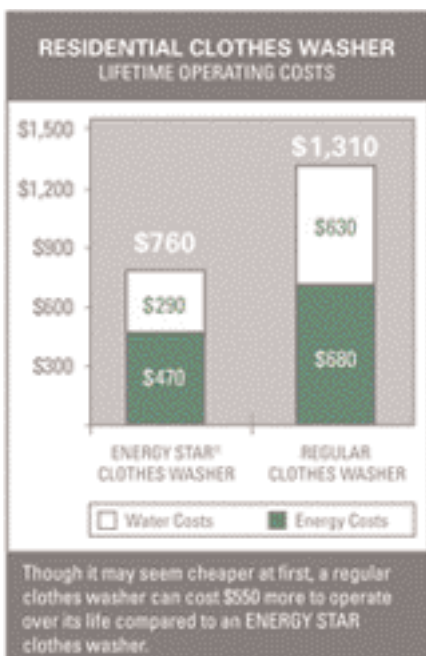
Save time

Can you save time with an Energy Star washer? Without a bulky agitator there is more usable space in the tub for laundry – especially large items like comforters. More capacity also means fewer loads of laundry each week. Some agitator-free washers can wash over 20 pounds of laundry at once, compared to 10-15 pounds for a conventional top-loader.

Where and how do I purchase an Energy Star washer?

Look for the blue and white Energy Star sticker on any clothes washer. Models with the Energy Star qualified label are guaranteed to be higher efficiency than conventional models. For help in selecting a model or brand or finding a store, go to www.energystar.gov website.

Cooperative members who purchase an Energy Star clothes washer at this time are eligible for a rebate. Check with your Co-op for specific details.



How will the digital television transition affect me?

At midnight on February 17, 2009, all full-power television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting in analog and switch to 100% digital broadcasting. Digital broadcasting promises to provide a clearer picture and more programming options and will free up airwaves for use by emergency responders. Analog television sets receiving free TV using an antenna will not work after February 17, 2009, unless their owners take action.

Consumers have several options:

1. Keep your existing analog TV and purchase a TV converter box. It will plug into your TV and keep it working after the digital switchover.

A TV converter box is a new product available in early 2008 that plugs into your analog TV and, along with your antenna, will keep your analog set working. A TV converter box is a one-time purchase and is expected to cost between \$40 and \$70.

2. Connect to cable, satellite or other pay service to get your local channels.

A TV connected to cable, satellite or other pay TV service will not require a converter box unless you get your local channels off of an antenna and are not willing to pay your provider for local channels.

3. Purchase a TV with a digital tuner.

Congress created a TV Converter Box Coupon Program

for households wishing to keep using their analog TV sets after February 17, 2009. The program allows U.S. households to obtain up to two coupons, each worth \$40 that can be applied toward the cost of eligible converter boxes. You can apply for either one or two coupons by calling 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009) or by going online at www.dtv2009.gov. You get mailed your coupons and then use them at a local retailer to purchase your converter box. A list of retailers is available at the website above. When you get your box you follow the instructions in the box to connect it to your TV.

How do I know if my TV is analog or digital?

The best way is to check your owner's manual. If your TV has a digital tuner built in then you have all you will need. If you bought your TV before 1998 it probably does not have a digital tuner at all. Big screen or projection TV's bought between 1998 and 2004 may have a built in digital tuner but it is unlikely. If you bought a new TV since 2004 it is likely that it has a digital tuner but it is

not a sure thing. So, you are really back to checking your owner's manual.

Converter boxes are about the size of a paperback book and will fit on top of a small to medium size TV. By hooking up your converter box now you will be able to enjoy the benefits of digital television today. You do not need to wait until February as most full-power stations are currently broadcasting in both digital and analog. You should receive a clearer picture and multi-cast channels where they are available. But even with the converter box, an analog TV cannot display high-definition. DIRECTV customers who currently pay for the local channels do NOT have to make any changes to their TVs that receive DIRECTV programming. Your viewing will not be affected. Those receiving off-air antenna signals for local channels should add the local channels to their package before February 2009 if they do not wish to purchase a converter box.

CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS THAT CAME BACK IN 2008

We are looking for current mailing addresses of the following former Co-op members who had capital credit checks which came back in 2008.

These capital credits were for 1988 energy revenue and 20% of 2006 revenue.

Please notify our office if you have a current mailing address or have the consumer below contact us directly. Thank you for your help.

MARTIN C. ADAMS BROWNTON MN	DARRIN CARLSON REDWOOD FALLS MN	DREW HALONEN CORCORAN MN	THOMAS KICKHAFFER BIG LAKE MN	JOHN MC GUIRE HUTCHINSON MN	THEODORE L. PETRON NEW ULM MN	ADELBERT SCHULTZ GAYLORD MN	NEAK B. TWETTEN NEVIS MN
GEORGE S. ALLBEE HUTCHINSON MN	BARBARA CARTIE COSMOS MN	ROBERT HAND OMAHA NE	GENE KIRGISS & KEITH KIRGISS	JOHN W. MEFFERT ARLINGTON MN	TERANCE L. PICHA EDEN PRAIRIE MN	MERRYON K. SEDESKY NISSWA MN	USA TRAILER SALES WINTHROP MN
BENNIE ANDERSON CAMBRIDGE MN	ARCHIE C. COLLINS FARGO ND	GARY HANSEN SAVAGE MN	HECTOR MN WENDY KLEIN	JULIE MELBERG ST. PAUL MN	WAYNE PIKE PHOENIX AZ	CLARK SEFFENS LAKEVILLE MN	THOMAS VAN DONSELAAR SIOUX FALLS SD
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BILLIE ARNOLD HUTCHINSON MN	BRUCE P. DANIELS HUTCHINSON MN	CHARLES C. HAUROS BRAINERD MN	COKATO MN RAY KRAETSCH	CRAIG E. MURPHY BROOKLYN CENTER MN	ARNOLD H. REMMEL GLENCOE MN	DALE SIEBENBRUNER HARRIS IA	NORA VOLLRATH WINSTED MN
STACEY L. BATCHELOR LITCHFIELD MN	DOUG & INEZ DIEMERT NEW ULM MN	THOMAS L. HERRIGES LAGUNA HILLS CA	HECTOR MN DAVID KRAFT	ROBERT MURPHY STEWART MN	HAZEL E. RICHARDS HUTCHINSON MN	KHAMPHY SISAVAT BUFFALO LAKE MN	BECKY WADE AKELEY MN
DAN E. BATDORF STEWART MN	INEZ DIEMERT NEW ULM MN	RUSSELL GATTON MAYER MN	SILVER LAKE MN JEANNE KRUEGER	BOBBY & NANCY NELSON REDWOOD FALLS MN	JODI RIEGE GROVE CITY MN	STEVE O. SKEDSVOLD LESTER PRAIRIE MN	THOMAS H. WALMSLEY LESTER PRAIRIE MN
SHARON D. BATDORF WATERTOWN MN	DOWDEN CABLE PARTNER S.L. ATLANTA GA	JULIE ANN HILDAHL DARWIN MN	CLEMENTS MN RUSSELL LANDRETH	KEVIN NEMITZ STAPLES MN	R. C. RIGGOTT UNKNOWN	BETTY SLETTEN HUTCHINSON MN	TIMOTHY WALSH LAKEVILLE MN
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How to get your rebate for a high-efficiency air conditioner or heat pump

If you purchase a high-efficiency central cooling system with a SEER (seasonal energy efficiency rating) of 13 or greater, AND it was installed by a registered contractor, you are entitled to a rebate.



High Efficiency Rebates

13 SEER	\$30
14 SEER	\$180
15 SEER	\$280
16 SEER	\$330

Additional \$150 available for heat pumps on the Dual Fuel program

Split air conditioning systems or mini/splits do not qualify for these central system rebates. A high-efficiency split system qualifies for the same \$25 rebate as a window air conditioner because it's designed to cool only one or two rooms.

Your contractor must be registered with the HVAC Reduction service. If he is not registered there will be no rebate. Contractors who have passed the Reduction exam, confirming their knowledge of proper installation methods for high-efficiency cooling systems, are listed on the service's web site at www.hvacreduction.net. You may access the list of all contractors in Minnesota certified to do rebate-

eligible installations by going to the Cooperative's web site. Go to www.mcleodcoop.com. Click on About Us, and then Our Partners on the left margin. Select Search for certified contractors from list. If you are not internet savvy, just call us at McLeod Co-op Power and we can provide you with the names of contractors in your area that are registered. The list is updated daily as contractors receive certification.

All registered contractors will complete the rebate forms as they do the installation and forward them to the Cooperative. We will send the check to you, the member. There is nothing the consumer needs to fill out for the central system high-efficiency rebates.

Announcing the 2008 air conditioning tune-up program.



Tune up your cooling unit and receive a \$25 credit

Just schedule a tune-up of your central air conditioner or air source

heat pump (unit must be at least 5 years old and in working condition to qualify) and when your licensed professional HVAC contractor performs the service work, have them complete the rebate coupon below. Send the completed rebate form to the Cooperative with a copy of the contractor's invoice. His tune up must include the items on the coupon. After the Co-op receives your documentation, we will credit your electric bill \$25 within 4-6 weeks.

Air Conditioner/Heat Pump Check List

Owner _____
 Acct. # _____
 Address _____
 Location # _____
 Phone # _____
 Company doing Tune-Up _____
 Technician's Name _____
 Company Phone # _____

CHECK LIST

Brand Name _____
 Model # _____
 Serial # _____
 Tons/BTU Rating _____ SEER Rating _____

- Clean Outdoor Unit
- Clean and Inspect "A" Coil
- Check Blower Belt
- Compressor Motor Amp Reading Check
- Compressor Amp Reading Check
- Blower & Oil
- Blower Motor Amp Reading Check
- Check Filter
- Check Refrigerant Level & Pressure
- Blow Out Drain Line
- Visual Inspection of Cooling System

Recommendations _____

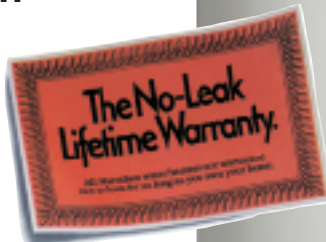
Technician Signature _____
 Date _____

Marathon Water Heaters

- **Lifetime limited tank warranty — 6-year parts warranty**
- **Highest energy efficiency rating with Envirofoam® insulation**
- **Designed for easy installation. There's no need for an anode rod**

Available in 50-gallon, 85-gallon and 105-gallon capacities. For sale to electric members and the general public.

Call or stop by the Cooperative today. Speak with one of the Energy Experts on programs and rebates designed to save you money and conserve energy.



Did you know...

Due to the increase in the cost of some metals (especially copper) it now costs 1.26 cents to manufacture a penny and 7.7 cents to turn out a nickel.

Source: The Kiplinger letter May 16, 2008



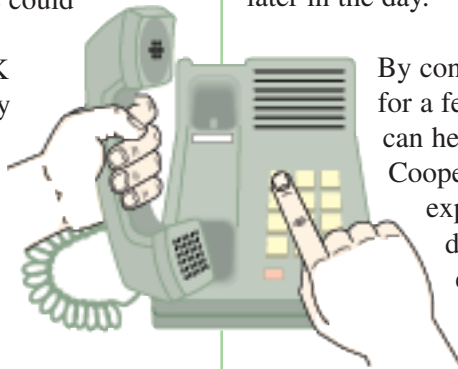
Heat your water for HALF the price

Participation in the Hot Water Storage Program from MCPA means you get plenty of hot water for baths, showers, laundry and your daily chores at HALF the price. Heating water at the off-peak electric rate saves an average family of four persons \$20 per month on their electric bill. It is a great program that hundreds of MCPA families use.

Call the Cooperative today at 1-800-494-6272. We will help you size your water storage system to guarantee plenty of hot water for your daily needs at the low off-peak rate.

Be ready for a phone call on an EXTREME PEAK DAY

If hot weather hits or the market price of electricity is very high, we could experience an EXTREME PEAK DAY. That is a day when the demand for energy is so high that we will ask our members to conserve energy. Whether you take action to conserve is totally voluntary. On such a day, the Cooperative will use an automated recording system to call your home and notify you that it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. If you are home, please listen to the recorded message. It will provide the announcement that it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. It will also tell you the hours of requested conservation and provide a list of ways you can conserve. If you are not home and you have an answering machine, we will leave you the same



message. If you do not answer, the system will try to call you back later in the day.

By conserving energy for a few hours, you can help the Cooperative avoid expensive peak day demand and energy charges. This helps manage electric rates for all of our members. 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. We greatly appreciate any effort our members can make to conserve on these days.

On EXTREME PEAK DAYS we will ask you to:

- Do laundry early in the day or after 10 p.m.
- Wait until after 10 p.m. to start the dishwasher.
- Go out for dinner, cook in the microwave or on the grill, instead of using the stove or oven.
- Turn off or unplug the dehumidifier, computer equipment that is not being used, unnecessary lighting or rechargeable appliances until after 10 p.m.
- Turn your thermostat up a degree or two during the peak hours so your air conditioner run time is reduced.

Doing some or all of these conservation practices will keep your house cooler on hot summer days. 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.



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