

NEWS

July 2009

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Official publication of



www.mcleodcoop.com

What exactly do I need to do before I dig in my yard?

It is very important that consumers understand how the Gopher State One Call system works. Whether you plan to dig in post holes for a deck or flagpole, plant a tree, or trench in electric lines to a garage or outdoor appliance, you need to call Gopher State One Call 48 hours before you plan to dig (excluding weekends and holidays). The Gopher State One Call system is designed to notify utilities which might have underground facilities in the area that digging is planned. The utilities then mark any lines they have in the immediate area. If a utility has no buried lines in the area to be excavated, it does not need to visit the site.

It is the homeowner's responsibility to locate or hire someone to locate their own personal underground facilities such as underground electric wires between the meter and the house, the meter or house and other buildings, buried gas lines for propane tanks,

lamps, pool heaters, water lines, sewer lines, telephone lines, sprinkler systems, invisible fences, etc. The Cooperative does not locate buried wires that are the homeowner's responsibility. You should hire a licensed electrician or cable locating company to mark your personal lines. A list of private locators is available on the www.gopherstateonecall.org site.

First, you need to call Gopher State One Call two business days before you plan to start digging. You call either "811" or 1-800-252-1166.

Be prepared with the following information:

- Your name, home phone number and work/cell phone number;
- When you plan to begin work;
- How many days the digging may take;
- Type of work you will be doing;
- County and city/township where









work will be done;

- Address and nearest cross streets or township range/section where work will be done;
- Where you will be digging on the property;
- Whether any digging will be done in road right-of-way.

Gopher State One Call will call any utilities with facilities in the area you plan to dig. They will not notify anyone regarding your personal buried facilities. That is the property owner's responsibility. Utilities will locate themselves or hire a locating company to find and mark their facilities with colored flags. See the color code chart for meaning of flag colors. No one should ever remove flags before work is completed. They are there to mark lines for the safety of all digging in the area.

Presorted Standard
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #60
 HUTCHINSON, MN
 55330

Color Code Chart For Marking Underground Utility Lines

	WHITE —	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
	PINK —	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
	RED —	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
	YELLOW —	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
	ORANGE —	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLE OR CONDUIT
	BLUE —	POTABLE WATER
	PURPLE —	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
	GREEN —	SEWER AND DRAIN LINES

Special rebate program and shopping night in August to kick off energy saving appliance promotion

Inside this month's newsletter on pages 6 and 7 are coupons for a promotion beginning August 16 that offers our members a \$75 rebate on ENERGY STAR® clothes washers and a \$125 rebate on ENERGY STAR® refrigerators. These appliances can be purchased at a variety of local dealers, including Sears stores. Proof of recycling is required for the old refrigerator. SAVE THESE COUPONS if you need to purchase a new washer or refrigerator, as the promotion runs August 16 through September 30, 2009.

The kick-off event will be a special V.I.P. Friends & Family Night for McLeod Cooperative Power members at the Sears store in Hutchinson on Monday, August 17 from 6-9 p.m. For that one night our members will be eligible to receive employee pricing on ENERGY STAR® appliances. Plus, members can redeem the \$75 and \$125 rebate coupons on their purchase. There is even an opportunity to register to win \$100 or \$500 to fill your fridge. Check out the details on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

Non-Discrimination Statement

“Rural Electric Cooperative” is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political belief, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. Revised: 1/25/07

Sales tax to increase

Beginning with electricity purchased in July, the Cooperative will have to apply the new, higher Minnesota sales tax rate of \$.06875. Voters in November 2008 approved the sales tax increase from 6.5 percent to 6.875 percent to:

- Raise additional revenue to protect Minnesota drinking water
- Restore wetlands, forests, fish, game and wildlife habitat
- Preserve our arts and cultural heritage
- Support our parks and trails
- Protect and restore our lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater

Details on the sales tax increase are available at the Minnesota Department of Revenue web site.



a brighter idea

Chill Out This Summer with Lower Cooling Costs

An affordable way to heat and cool your home

Rising energy costs have people looking high and low for affordable ways to heat and cool their homes. With air- and ground-source heat pumps, you now have an efficient year-round solution.

“Heat pumps are an excellent way for our members to reduce their energy costs,” said Sue Pawelk member services manager McLeod Cooperative. “By using the earth’s natural temperature, you require significantly less electricity to control the climate in your home.”

Multitasking Abilities of Heat Pumps

	Ground-Source Heat Pump	Air-Source Heat Pump
HOME HEATING	ALL	SOME
HOME COOLING	ALL	ALL
WATER HEATING	SOME	NONE

Ground-source heat pumps use the constant temperature of the earth to transfer heat to and from your home to provide your home’s entire heating and cooling needs. Even in Minnesota’s turbulent climate the ground temperature a few feet below the surface remains relatively constant year-round. This serves as an excellent source of heat in the winter and cool temperatures in the summer. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, ground-source heat pumps can reduce energy consumption by up to 72 percent compared to electric resistance heating and standard air conditioning

Air-source heat pumps consist of a compressor and coils of copper tubing that extract heat from the outside in the winter and remove heat from your home during the summer months. They require a much smaller initial investment than a ground-source heat pump and operate much like a traditional air conditioner. Unlike an air conditioner, an air-source heat pump can also provide a portion of your winter heating needs. You will still need a furnace, however, when the outside temperatures drop below 20 degrees.

McLeod Cooperative has NEW and increased 2009 rebates available for the installation of heat pumps and a reduced rate for members who enroll in a load management program. Contact McLeod Cooperative to learn more about heat pumps today.

mnbrighterideas.com



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MCLEOD COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166

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

Announcing the 2009 air conditioning tune-up program.



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 _____

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, September 16. Cost is \$32 per person. It includes a snack and lunch, plus motor coach transportation. We will leave the Cooperative between 7-8 a.m. and return by 5 p.m.

The Prairie Star Wind Farm was constructed in 2007 and

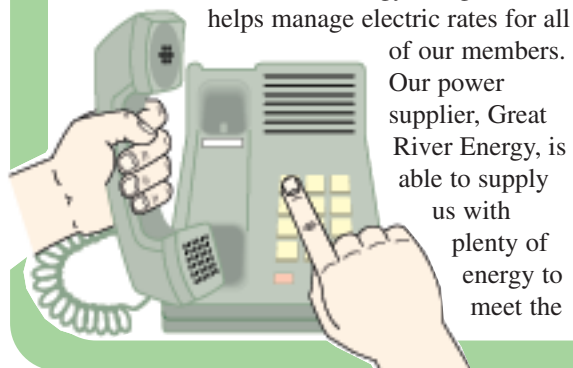
this is our second tour of the wind project.

Call McLeod's office to sign up for the tour. The Co-op reserves the right to cancel the tour if a minimal number of persons sign up to attend. If this would happen, all members signed up would be notified in advance and receive a full refund. However, we doubt that we will have any trouble filling the bus, as so many MCPA members have requested a wind power tour in recent years.

Be ready for a phone call on an EXTREME PEAK DAY

If the temperature hits 95 degrees and it is humid or if we have several consecutive days in the high 90's, 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 voluntarily. 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.

What's Buzzin' at the "Bee Hive"?

Resort living that both hearkens to the past and embraces the future...



Back in 1920 when Bill and Mary Bugbee first began operating their Lake Koronis resort, now called the Bug-Bee Hive Resort and Conference Center, life was a lot slower than it is today. People often took vacations at the resort for an entire month, escaping the heat of unconditioned homes for the cool waters and relaxed living offered lake-side. Resort owners got to know their clients well and enjoyed their company, sometimes year after year.

Lake Koronis, with its sprawling, craggy shores and three forested islands, is a game fisherman's paradise. It also delights boaters, skiers and swimmers. However, times

have changed, and so have the ways people choose to vacation.

"There used to be as many as 14 resorts on Lake Koronis in its hey day 50 years ago," said Paul Bugbee, Bill and Mary's grandson and operator of the Resort. "The number of resorts has sharply declined all over Minnesota."

Paul took over operation of the resort from his father, Jack Bugbee, a retired postman. Under Jack's inspired management, the resort grew to 12 cottages. Recognizing the times and how people vacationed, Jack also added the "King Bee" seasonal Recreational Vehicle (R.V.) park, where folks could park their R.V.s year-round and have their own vacation home for however long they wished to lease the space. Currently the Bugbee park contains dozens of R.V. sites for lease. Paul is getting ready to add another R.V. park in wooded acres that overlook the lake.

For those that enjoy more traditional resort vacations like years past, there are 30 quaint yet modern cottages that can accommodate two to 12 or so guests. These units (with names like "Bumble Bee, Honey Comb, Bee Haven and Sea Bee) have kitchens, gas fireplaces, knotty pine interiors and beautiful views. These



Paul Bugbee by the Lodge fireplace. Although resorts are a lot of work, it's the lifestyle and the people that keeps the Bugbees committed to keeping the Bug-Bee Hive alive.

days, resorts have to think outside the box of the traditional vacationer to cater to the needs of its guests.

"We offer space to hold business meetings, weddings, banquets, and

we get a lot of scrapbookers," Paul said. "We've hosted business meetings for 3M, the statewide Library Association, law firms and Bondes Corporation, just to name a few.



The Bee Keeper's Lodge (left) includes sleeping suites complete with kitchen and fireplace (above), gift shop, library, coffee shop, guest business center, indoor pool, hot tub, locker rooms, meeting area and more.

The 1,200 square foot main "Bee Keeper's" lodge, features a main-floor lounge, gift shop, library, coffee shop, guest business center, indoor swimming pool, hot tub, locker rooms, 3,200 square foot meeting & retreat area, catering kitchen, and two new three-bedroom/three-bath rental units located on the third floor.

Running a resort is a lot of work, but Paul knew what he was getting into, having grown up working on the resort when Jack was running it.

Although Paul was involved in real estate after college, and had careers with the American Heart Association and St. Benedict's Center near St. Cloud, he felt the call to come back to the Bug-Bee Hive and eventually take the helm when Jack was ready. He and his wife, Kella, a nurse, run the day-to-day operations as well as taking care of their 4-year-old son and keeping tabs on their 19-year-old daughter.

"My siblings ran away from the resort lifestyle as fast as they could," Paul said. "But I enjoy getting to meet and know the people who come here. You don't make a lot of money doing this but that's not why I do it."

Paul is passionate about resort living and promoting its value. He is president of the Minnesota Campground and Resort Association, a platform that gives him opportunity to raise awareness of the options that resorts like the Bug-Bee Hive offer. Unfortunately, so many "ma and pa" campgrounds and resorts don't get sold as a unit, but rather succumb to real estate deals that have nothing to do with preserving the integrity of the business. Five years ago Paul acquired Stonegate Lodge, with 16 cottages and 15 R.V. units that would likely have had the same fate.



The Bee Keeper's Lodge includes a pool for birthday parties or just enjoying as part of the resort guest amenities.

Paul enjoys the excitement of resort life now, but what does the future hold?

"Well, it gets a little harder to keep this up as you get older, but I can't imagine selling all this and having it split up," he said. "Money can buy anything, but it can't buy roots; to have something that's been there for generations is so rare."

INDUSTRY

News

Climate bill passed by the House of Representatives

With pressure from President Barack Obama to move ahead on one of his priorities — and over objections from Republicans and some Democrats — the House passed the Waxman-Markey bill 219-212. Eight Republicans voted yes; 44 Democrats voted no; and Minnesota and Wisconsin lawmakers voted along party lines. The measure still is a long way from becoming law. The Senate now will work out its version, and the results of a planned vote there this fall are uncertain.

Much of the House debate focused on what the bill would mean for American household budgets. The mandatory reduction of emissions would raise the cost of energy from coal, oil and natural gas. However, the bill also contained many provisions intended to protect consumers and prevent job losses. Money for these protections and for such efforts as training workers for new jobs in renewable energy and preventing tropical deforestation would come from the sale of permits for each ton of emissions of greenhouse gases. The number of tons of emissions allowed would decline each year, starting in 2012.

~Washington Post

State energy projects get funding recharge

Minnesota was awarded \$21.7 million in energy grants this week as part of the Obama administration's stimulus package that focuses on energy efficiency and job creation. The funds are part of \$54 million in energy funds promised to the state that will be used to reduce energy use and greenhouse gases as well as to create jobs, boost efficiencies and broaden renewable energy efforts.

The grants are also headed to the St. Paul Port Authority, which is coordinating a program to save 1 trillion BTUs of energy usage mostly within industrial plants. The state Legislature has appropriated \$5 million of the DOE money toward the program, which will be overseen by Xcel Energy.

Local governments and school districts are scheduled to receive about \$6.5 million to install wind and solar energy systems, ground source heat pumps and district heating systems, a process that captures heat from biomass and coal-fired plants and diverts it to heat local government buildings, schools, residential water systems and other energy demanding entities. About \$7.65 million of the \$54 million energy grants will go to a future loan fund mostly run by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. The loans, which should be available by year end, will route energy efficiency and residential fix-up funds through NEC and about 160 other lenders around the state.

~Star Tribune

Visit your Cooperative at the 2009 Farmfest!



August 4-6 at the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County MN



Ag Tent, Booth #2301

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: Beyond the New Farm Bill; Climate Change—Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture; Linder Farm Network; Scavenger Hunt; Pedal Pull; Tractor Pull; Auctioneering Competition; The Great Pretenders; FREE pancake breakfast and much, much more!

The power to make a difference is in your hands

The benefits of CFLs go beyond cooler bulbs. A 75-watt incandescent light bulb will burn out after about 40 days of continuous use, whereas a CFL can keep going for a full year; CFLs require two-thirds less energy than incandescent bulbs, which saves roughly \$30 in energy costs over the bulb's lifetime, according to ENERGY STAR.



We can help!

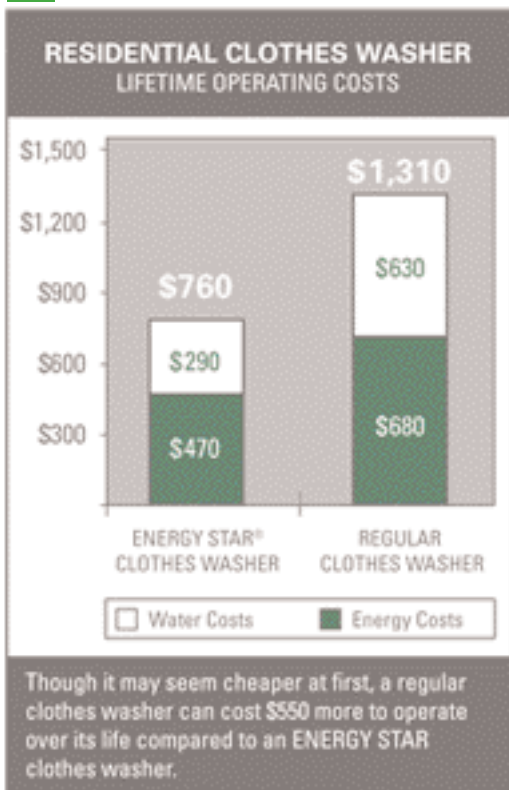
Your electric Cooperative, along with other electric cooperatives, will be participating in Farmfest 2009. Bring this coupon to FarmFest (Booth #2301 in the Ag Tent) August 4-6, 2009, and we will give you a FREE compact fluorescent light bulb.

All we ask is that you install it.



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.



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.

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.

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

Finally

Take the next step to a cleaner future with appliances that save more than just energy.



Save \$125
on an ENERGY STAR® refrigerator*

Save \$75
on an ENERGY STAR® washer

Offer good August 16 through September 30, 2009. See a sales associate for your mail-in rebate form. Contact McLeod Co-op Power for details.

* With the recycling of old refrigerator



mnbrighterideas.com

Sears \$125 OFF ENERGY STAR® RATED REFRIGERATORS*

ENERGY STAR Rated Top Mount ENERGY STAR Rated National Brand Side by Side

ENERGY STAR Rated Kenmore Side by Side ENERGY STAR Rated Bottom Mount

R 5 8 0 0 0 1 1 1 3 5 6 1 2 5 0 0 R 5 8 0 0 0 1 1 1 3 7 8 1 2 5 0 0

R 5 8 0 0 0 1 1 1 3 6 8 1 2 5 0 0 R 5 8 0 0 0 1 1 1 3 9 5 1 2 5 0 0

*With recycling of old refrigerator. A \$10 haul away fee may apply. Savings off regular and sale prices apply to merchandise only. Not valid on clearance or closeout items, great price items, compact refrigeration, wine chillers, Electrolux, Sears.com, Kmart.com, protection agreements. Redeemable only at Sears stores located in Minnesota. One coupon per purchase. Void if copied, transferred or where prohibited by law. Any other use constitutes fraud. Cash value 1/20 cent. In the event of a return, coupon savings may be deducted from your refund. ©2008 Sears Brands, LLC. Sales Associate: Please collect this coupon. If unable to scan, manually enter the coupon number. Valid August 16, 2009 to September 30, 2009 in U.S.A. only. Not to be used with any other coupon or associate discount, except for the August 16, 2009 Family & Friends Event.

Sears \$75 OFF ENERGY STAR® RATED WASHERS

ENERGY STAR Rated Washers

R 5 8 0 0 0 1 1 1 3 5 5 1 2 5 0 0

A \$10 haul away fee may apply. Savings off regular and sale prices apply to merchandise only. Not valid on clearance or closeout items, great price items, Electrolux, laundry pedestals, dryers, Sears.com, Kmart.com, protection agreements. Redeemable only at Sears stores located in Minnesota. One coupon per purchase. Void if copied, transferred or where prohibited by law. Any other use constitutes fraud. Cash value 1/20 cent. In the event of a return, coupon savings may be deducted from your refund. ©2008 Sears Brands, LLC. Sales Associate: Please collect this coupon. If unable to scan, manually enter the coupon number. Valid August 16, 2009 to September 30, 2009 in U.S.A. only. Not to be used with any other coupon or associate discount, except for the August 16, 2009 Family & Friends Event.

How the appliance rebate works

Between August 16 and September 30 you can go to one of the local appliance stores listed below. If you purchase an ENERGY STAR refrigerator or clothes washer, ask the sales person for a rebate form. Complete the rebate form and send to McLeod Co-op Power along with a copy of your sales receipt. The Cooperative will mail you your rebate check.

Or you can cut out one or both of the Sears coupons on page 6. Take it to any Minnesota Sears store. Present it when you buy your ENERGY STAR refrigerator or clothes washer for an immediate \$125 or \$75 off at the register. If you shop at the local **Hutchinson Sears store during the V.I.P. Friends and Family Night, August 17, 6 to 8 p.m.**, you can get employee pricing on your appliance purchase plus use the coupon from page 6.

Participating merchants in MCPA service area:

- Sears in Hutchinson
- Home Source in Hutchinson
- Home Solutions in Glencoe and Norwood
- Thomes Brothers in Arlington
- Y-Not Maytag Appliance Center in Arlington
- Isakson's in Gibbon

Save money while you sleep

Did you know that you can store energy to heat your home and provide hot water for your household?



With **Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) space heating**, electric heating elements that lie within special, high-density ceramic bricks are heated by off-peak electricity between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when energy rates are lowest. That heat is stored to heat your home during the entire day.



a brighter idea

McLeod Cooperative Power offers a **\$40 per kilowatt rebate** to defray the cost of installing storage space heating.



With an **ETS water heating system**, low-cost off-peak electricity heats and stores enough hot water at night for your household's daily use, which saves you money during peak energy use periods.

McLeod Cooperative Power offers **\$200 for off-peak high efficient water heating .90 or higher.**

Contact McLeod Cooperative Power to learn more about ETS or to find a contractor in your area.

Your Night to Save

Hutchinson Sears store Friends & Family Night Monday, August 17, 6 to 8 p.m.

Exclusive Savings

You're invited to Sears V.I.P. Family and Friends Night, an exclusive shopping event where co-op members can enjoy employee discounts.

Save Even More

Bring your ENERGY STAR® appliance coupons for extra savings!

Presented by

Sears



mnbrighterideas.com





DIRECTV®

rethink tv

Frustrated with your TV picture since the conversion to digital?

The Cooperative can help you return to a clear picture on all the local channels with DIRECTV service. Call our office to find out the variety of options available 1-800-494-6272.

Ridgewater College scholarship recipients from unclaimed capital credit fund

During the 2008-09 school year, Ridgewater College Foundation awarded six scholarships to students. These educational scholarship funds are made available through the Cooperative's unclaimed capital credit fund. The State of Minnesota allows the Co-op to donate capital credit funds that have remained unclaimed for at least seven years to an educational institution for scholarships. After years of trying to find a member who has possibly moved away with no forwarding address, the funds eventually may be donated.

This year's recipients were: Chris Eischens, David Svendsen, Kevin Witte, Star Schlueter, Hannah Streeter and Lois Sauck.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WATER HEATER AS FAITHFUL AS THE MARATHON.

Old Faithful and Marathon do a great job of heating water and both are very dependable. But did you know Old Faithful and Marathon are both tourist attractions, as well? Yes, many owners tell us they love their new Marathon and show it off to friends and neighbors. Marathon—it heats water. It's very dependable and it's attracting lots of attention.



Marathon WATER HEATERS

The New Old Faithful

Planning for the heating season?



If you are planning now for an efficiency upgrade of your heating system before winter, you may check with the Cooperative for suggestions on what system might work best for you. For the home, there are many Dual Fuel options, as well as heat pumps and storage heat furnaces. There are rebates available on some systems.

For sheds, barns, garages, shops and other conditioned buildings that are not living spaces, there is a heat storage or heat pump option, or electric heat on the general service rate. The Dual Fuel program and rates are only available to buildings that are residential living quarters.

Coal Creek Tour — August 4-6 Don't wait to sign up

This year's Coal Creek Tour is August 4-6. Reservations are now being accepted for this popular tour. It is both an educational and fun trip to Bismarck, North Dakota. Tour participants will visit Coal Creek Generating Station, Falkirk Coal Mine, North Dakota Heritage Center, Headwaters Fort Mandan Visitors Center including Fort Mandan, a reconstructed and fully-furnished fort where Lewis & Clark spent a winter. Attendees go on a drive-through tour of Blue Flint Ethanol, which is constructed adjacent to Coal Creek generating plant, and a scenic tour of other generating facilities in the area, Garrison Dam and Lake Sakakawea overlook.

Cost for adults is \$150 per person. Students 10-18 years of age who share a room with their parents or grandparents pay only \$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, August 4, and returns to Glencoe about 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 6. 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 to sign up.



Please reserve _____ places for the Coal Creek Tour, Aug. 4 - 6, 2009.

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.