

NEWS

August 2009

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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, 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.

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55330

Please reserve _____ places for the Prairie Star Wind Farm & Pleasant Valley Peaking Plant Tour, Sept. 16, 2009.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed (\$32 per person): \$ _____

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



Erin Wolter, (far right behind the podium), attended the Washington D.C. Youth Tour in June. Erin represented the Cooperative on a one-week learning experience with thousands of youth from across the nation. A few pictures shown here were taken by the Minnesota delegation. The entire group of Minnesota students is pictured on the steps with the capitol in the background.



How will Red Flag Rules affect you?

Red Flag Rules went into effect August 1. They are designed to help prevent identity theft. To comply with these new laws, McLeod Cooperative Power will require more information from those persons applying for service and we will verify their identity.

For existing members, we will only be able to discuss your account with you if you are the member listed on the bill. If your spouse takes care of the billing questions but her name is not on the bill, please fill out the authorization form on page 2 and return it to the Cooperative. When you call in we will have to verify your identity.

The Cooperative has also implemented many safety measures to protect the identity of our member's sensitive information. Please read the Manager's Message on page 2 for more on the Red Flag Rules.

Manager's Message —

by Kris Ingenthron, General Manager McLeod Cooperative Power Association



Red Flag Rules help protect against identity theft

On August 1, 2009, the Federal Trade Commission began enforcing the Red Flag Rules. These rules will require creditors, financial institutions and other businesses, including utilities, to develop and implement an Identity Theft Prevention Policy. The intent of the Red Flag Policy is to detect, prevent, and mitigate identity theft. McLeod Cooperative Power Association has developed, and will implement, such a policy and new procedures to protect our members' personal information.

Beginning August 1, 2009, all existing and new member applicants wanting to gain access to their account information, make changes, or set up a new account, will be expected to identify themselves with their account number and the last four digits of their Social Security number. If this cannot be done, the member will need to come into the office and provide a valid government-issued photo ID to discuss any account information.

While this is an additional process and may appear unnecessary, the overall purpose is to protect our members' information and identity. Collecting this data will allow us to:

- Verify your identity
- Prevent unauthorized access to your account information
- Prevent unauthorized transactions
- Identify and report possible instances of identity theft or "Red Flags"

"Identity theft is a real threat to today's consumer." We are training our employees to be on the lookout for identity theft and consumer fraud. Unfortunately, it is a bigger problem now than ever before.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but there is really no other choice. It is not only the law, it also is the best way for us to protect our valued members against identity theft.

With that in mind, we are asking members to sign an Account Authorization Form if you would like to authorize access to your account information to another person (spouse, parent, etc.)

In the meantime, we ask for your patience as we work to protect the information you provide us.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer season.

To obtain information on an account, your name must be on the account, or you as the account holder must sign this Account Authorization Form, giving access to your account information to someone else (spouse, parent, etc.). If you are the McLeod Cooperative account holder and want to authorize access to your account to another person, please complete the information below, clip it out and return it to McLeod Cooperative Power, Attn: Billing Dept., P.O. Box 70, Glencoe MN 55336

ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION FORM

I hereby authorize _____, _____
Full Name Relationship

access to information in my McLeod Cooperative account, by supplying McLeod Cooperative with the last 4 digits of my Social Security number: _____
It is my responsibility to notify McLeod Cooperative to amend this authorization.

Member Name — PRINT

Account Number

Member SIGNATURE

Phone Number

Please complete, clip and mail to McLeod Cooperative Power, Attn: Billing Dept., P.O. Box 70, Glencoe MN 55336.



Office closed Labor Day

Mcleod Cooperative Power's office will be closed Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day. Emergency and outage dispatchers are on duty 24 hours a day and can be reached by calling 1-800-927-5685.

Visit the Eco Experience Building at the Minnesota State Fair

Great River Energy will again be part of the Eco Experience Building at the Minnesota State Fair, educating fairgoers about energy efficiency. The Eco Experience Building is located at the corner of Cosgrove Street and Randal Avenue.

A visit to the building will expose you to innovative, interactive displays about environmental issues, an indoor green space with rain gardens, an eco home, a live stage and displays on renewable energy, new fuels and vehicles, organic farming and a children's area.

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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

How Do I Know If I Need a Dehumidifier?

A dehumidifier is used to remove excess moisture from the air. Some of the most common indications that you may need a dehumidifier are:

- Wet stains on walls and ceilings
- Stuffy feeling in a room
- Rotting wood
- Condensation on windows
- Musty smells
- Allergies (if the air in your home is too moist, it will encourage the growth of bacteria and mold, common allergens)



terms of Relative Humidity (RH). RH is the amount of water vapor actually present in the air compared to the greatest amount of water vapor the air can hold at that temperature. The optimum RH level for a building is generally considered to be between 30% and 50%. Anything above this range may promote bacteria growth. (In colder climates, during the heating season, humidity levels should be in the range of 30% to 40% RH to prevent window condensation.)

Many dehumidifiers include a built-in humidistat, a device that allows you to set the desired RH level that you would like for the room. Once the room reaches the desired RH level, the dehumidifier will cycle on and off automatically to maintain the level.

If your dehumidifier does not have a built-in humidistat, or has a humidistat that does not show RH levels, purchase a hygrometer (a gauge that measures relative humidity) separately and hang it near the dehumidifier. The hygrometer will measure RH levels, and enable you to monitor when to turn the dehumidifier on and off.

How do I know what kind to buy? Always choose an ENERGY STAR model for guaranteed low operating cost.

Energy Factor

The energy efficiency of dehumidifiers is measured by its energy factor, in liters of water removed per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of energy consumed or L/kWh. In general, a higher energy factor means a more efficient dehumidifier.

Operating Temperature

If the space being dehumidified has an average temperature that falls below 65 degrees (F), you may want to consider buying a product that is specified for use at lower temperatures.

Frost can form on the condensing coils if the air temperature drops below 65 degrees, and may negatively affect the performance of the product by causing the compressor to cycle on and off repeatedly without removing moisture from the air. If this happens, the unit should be switched off and allowed to defrost before it is turned back on. Some dehumidifiers come with an anti-frost sensor which will automatically turn the unit off if the air temperature drops below a certain point.

Qualified ENERGY STAR models are available that are rated for use at temperatures as low as 42 degrees.

Relative Humidity (RH) and Humidistats

Humidity, the amount of moisture or water vapor in the air, is most often talked about in

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 are available at:



Hwy 22 & Ford Ave., Glencoe
800-494-6272



The New Old Faithful

Does someone you love live alone?

Family members are often concerned about the personal safety of their loved ones, especially those who live alone. This uneasiness is compounded if the loved one is elderly, has medical concerns or lives a distance away from other family members. Yet we recognize that it is also important for our

loved ones to maintain their sense of independence. McLeod Cooperative Power offers a solution to this delicate situation. It is the First Alert Personal Emergency and Monitoring System.

Easy to Operate

System installation is easy. The equipment is simple to operate and the monthly monitoring fee is inexpensive. The system features a high-quality advanced telephone with a speakerphone and emergency response pendant or wristband. In case of an emergency, help is summoned through a simple touch of the pendant/wristband that is worn at all times. The speakerphone is immediately activated and contact is made with a 24-hour response center.

Professional Response

Professional dispatchers staff the response center. Since the automated computer system has already been programmed with the necessary

subscriber information such as address, family contacts and medical history, the dispatcher will be able to immediately contact the appropriate authorities.

Preserves Mobility

A particularly nice feature is that this sophisticated speakerphone and pendant/wristband alert allows mobility throughout the home and the nearby yard. The speaker-phone is so powerful that it even allows conversation from across the room.

A Quality Phone, plus more!

The speakerphone is a quality device that can be used for everyday conversation, just as a normal telephone. The number keys are especially large and are backlit, making dialing easy for arthritic hands or someone with reduced vision.

Peace of Mind is Affordable

Contact McLeod Cooperative Power to have a personal emergency response system installed anywhere within McLeod, Sibley, Carver or Renville Counties. Subscribers do not need to receive electric service from the Cooperative in order to participate in this program. Installation of the rental phone monitoring system is \$49 and the monthly monitoring fee is \$30.00.



If you're frustrated with dial-up internet service, check out what our employees have to say about WildBlue High-Speed Internet...



"Our teenage daughters use it constantly. WildBlue meets our family's needs very well."
Bob Thomes, Diversified Services Manager
McLeod Cooperative



"When we were on dial-up, it would take an average of 1-1/2 hours for each of our children to do their homework with resources from the internet, and they had to wait until the other was done before they could get their homework done. This tied up our phone line a long time, also. Now with WildBlue, it takes about one-third of the time and we don't have to tie up the phone line. We only have the ValuPak, but we've found it is very compatible with the online tests and education that our daughter has done through the University of Wisconsin River Falls. We would never go back to dial-up."
Felicia Skaggs
Customer Service Representative
Meeker Cooperative



"I have Wild Blue and I believe it is one of the first few that was installed. I installed the very first dish at the home of one of our employees and then I received a system a short time later, so I've been with the service from the beginning and love it. I have had very few issues with the service and use it for home business, internet exploring, and it's used for homework research by the kids. It is close to sliced bread."

Steve Johnson, Operations/IT Manager
Meeker Cooperative

WildBlue High-Speed Internet became available as a faster option for rural homeowners who were limited by dial-up internet service. It was offered by your Cooperative as a way to improve the lives of its members, including you! That has been the Cooperative way of business for more than 70 years. Not only do our members use WildBlue, our employees use it as well. More than two dozen Meeker and McLeod Co-op employees use WildBlue. We couldn't fit all the testimonials on this page, so here's what just eight of them had to say about their WildBlue experience:



"WildBlue was our only option to have high-speed internet, especially since we use our cell-phones and didn't want to have to pay for a LAN line for computer use. Our kids appreciate being able to download items to their ipods and to access online resources for homework. Some area internet providers use public, non-licensed frequencies. This increases congestion and reduces available bandwidth and speed. WildBlue doesn't do that."

Kristin Dolan, Financial Manager
Meeker Cooperative



"WildBlue works good. It has been good enough that I haven't considered switching to Mediacom or other services I have available in my area."

Shannon Jerabek
Load Management Technician
McLeod Cooperative



"We owe our living to WildBlue. My husband is a computer software engineer and he works out of our home. When we moved from town to the country three years ago, we were

worried that he would have to rent an office in town to have the online service he needed. Fortunately, the Co-op offered Wildblue. We chose the ProPak option, which literally put food on the table for us! We will always be grateful for the service that the Co-op provided to us through WildBlue. Allan couldn't have done what he needed to do without it."

Becky Sorenson
Communications Specialist
Meeker Cooperative



"When I lived in Litchfield I was able to have a DSL system. Then I moved into the country in 2007. I needed an internet connection and I wanted one that could respond at a decent rate. Wildblue was my best choice. I presently have the standard Wildblue package. It works great for surfing the net, keeping in contact with the

family and getting pictures of the grandkids. This summer when I was laid up due to surgery, Wildblue allowed me to stay in touch with family, work, and the outside world."

Mike Klein, Human Resources Manager
Meeker Cooperative



"We live in the rural area and it's our only option for high-speed, reliable internet service. We use it for games and research, and for e-mailing friends and relatives across the country"

Randy Ahrndt
Financial Services Manager
McLeod Cooperative



Enjoy greater control with WildBlue's new subscriber portal



WildBlue High Speed Internet service is provided through your Cooperative as a solution to our members and others who have no alternative to slow dial-up internet service. The WildBlue team is always looking for ways to optimize the experience of those who use this valuable service. We're thrilled to bring you a new Subscriber Portal that can give each subscriber greater control of their system.

This new Portal will allow you to:

- Review Your Account Information
- Strengthen Your Password
- Choose Who Can and Cannot E-mail You

- Set Your Spam Defense
- Evaluate Your Spam Filter Settings
- Monitor Your WildBlue Usage
- Consolidate E-mail Accounts and Take a Vacation
- Forward Messages
- Set Auto-Reply
- Limit Dial-up Access to the Internet
- Build Your Own Web Site
- Manage Your Mailbox Size
- Choose Additional Applications
- Bookmark Favorite Pages
- Add Additional Users
- Set Mailbox Size for Additional Users

Download the Subscriber Portal User Guide at www.meeker.coop; go to Services, WildBlue Internet and click on the link "Subscriber Portal User Guide."

Can using a Power Factor Device really reduce electricity use?

Power Factor Correction Devices claim to reduce residential energy bills and to prolong the productive life cycles of motors and appliances by reducing the reactive power (kVAR) that is needed from the electric utility. In some cases, companies claim these devices can actually slow down the electric meter and save up to 40 percent on electricity costs, earning them the coveted ENERGY STAR designation.

According to ENERGY STAR, they have not seen any data that proves these types of products for residential use accomplish what they claim and they do not give their endorsement or designation. "Power factor correction devices improve power quality but do not generally improve energy efficiency (meaning they won't reduce your energy bill). There are several reasons why their energy efficiency claims could be exaggerated. First, residential customers are not charged for KVA-hour usage, but by kilowatt-hour usage. This means that any savings in energy

demand will not directly result in lowering a residential user's utility bill. Second, the only potential for real power savings would occur if the product were only put in the circuit while a reactive load (such as a motor) were running, and taken out of the circuit when the motor is not running. This is impractical, given that there are several motors in a typical home that can come on at any time (refrigerator, air conditioner, HVAC blower, vacuum cleaner, etc.), but the unit itself is intended for permanent, unattended connection near the house breaker panel."

According to ENERGY STAR, these devices could save roughly one percent in a commercial setting, where motors run continuously. However, most monetary savings will come from not having to pay utility fines for low power quality, not from using less energy. In a residential setting, members should not expect to save anything.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy, ENERGY STAR

INDUSTRY

News

Wisconsin wind power stalls due to outdated transmission system

Last year, Wisconsin had the fourth highest rate of growth in wind capacity with the addition of three large wind projects, according to the American Wind Energy Association. As support builds for wind and other renewable options, one question remains: how to move electricity from where it's generated to the big cities where it's needed.

Experts agree the network of wires moving electricity from power plants to end-users is old and unreliable. Already, more than 70,000 megawatts of wind projects in the Upper Midwest are on hold because there isn't enough transmission capacity to get the electricity to potential customers, according to the AWEA. ITC Holdings Corp., an independent transmission company, has started a \$10 billion to \$12 billion effort to build 3,000 miles of new high-voltage transmission lines to serve parts of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The network would help move 12,000 megawatts of wind power.

~Appleton Post-Crescent

Selling ash, saving cash

In its ongoing search for ways to reduce the cost of electricity, Great River Energy, the Co-op's wholesale electricity provider, has found treasure in its trash – or, rather, its ash.

Fly ash – a fine powder produced by burning coal to generate electricity – has become a valuable resource. By selling it, Great River Energy saves on disposal costs and generates income. And it's not just cost savings; by diverting the ash from landfills, marketing fly ash is an environmentally friendly option. The primary use for fly ash is as a Portland cement replacement, but it's also used in other household products, including mortar, stucco, carpets, paint, shingles, floors and ceiling tiles. In fact, a high concentration of fly ash from Coal Creek Station, Great River Energy's power plant in Underwood, N.D., was used in the concrete that built the new Interstate 35W bridge in Minneapolis.

In 2008, nearly 400,000 tons of fly ash was sold from Coal Creek Station. Stanton Station, located in Stanton, N.D., also marketed a record volume of fly ash, selling 28,568 tons last year. Fly ash from Stanton Station is used to solidify liquid oil waste for soil stabilization projects, which reduces the need for clay, another valuable natural resources.

By selling its fly ash, Great River Energy has found a smart way to save money – by generating revenue instead of paying to store it in landfills.

~Press release

Smart ways to save energy and stay cool this summer

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 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 heat.
12. Lower the thermostat on your water heater; 120 degrees is comfortable for most uses.
13. Caulking and weatherstripping keeps cool air in and hot air out.
14. Hire a professional to repair holes or separated joints in air ducts.
15. Add insulation around AC ducts located in unconditioned spaces, such as attics and crawl spaces.

Stimulus Funding Having Local Effect

Carpenters to weatherize homes, housing inspectors and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Outreach staff are among some of the first jobs to be created in west-central Minnesota by the federal stimulus funding.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, signed by President Obama, is intended to create or save 3.5 million jobs nationwide, including 66,000 in Minnesota. There is no local tally of jobs created, but early recipients of stimulus money have begun hiring.

Heartland Community Action Agency, serving low-income residents of Kandiyohi, Meeker, McLeod and Renville counties, will be receiving a total of 3.2 million in stimulus funding. The funding is designated for several specific programs and also for discretionary/innovative areas.

Specific program funding includes:

Weatherization Program

2.9 million is available for the Weatherization Program to provide energy efficient improvements to 391 homes. Heartland has contracted with seven new local businesses to perform weatherization services, hired two housing inspectors and one housing support staff.

2009 – 2010 Weatherization Income Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	Income Levels/Annual Income Limit
1	\$21,660
2	\$29,140
3	\$36,620
4	\$44,100
5	\$51,580
6	\$59,060
7	\$66,540
8	\$74,020
For each additional member add \$ 7,480	

Head Start Program

Head Start, a comprehensive child and family development program, will utilize \$143,700 in stimulus funding to increase staff hours and create a new position for a half-time Family Service Worker.

Discretionary funding includes:

Family Assets for Independence in Minnesotans (FA.I.M)

The FAIM program will be working with an additional five low-income households to provide assistance to start a small business or to pursue higher education to create or sustain employment.

Helping People Get There

Helping People Get There Program accepts donations of vehicles, refurbishes and then "re-donates" those vehicles to qualified persons to provide much-needed transportation for employment purposes. Stimulus funding will be used to increase staff time in order to serve more persons.

Social Security Income Outreach

Heartland has hired a full-time position to work with persons who are at or below 200% of poverty and on the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) who request assistance in the SSI application and appeals process.

Mobilizing Communities

A full time position will be hired to coordinate Heartland's *Community Building Campaign*. The *Community Building Campaign* will provide an opportunity for communities to come together to meet the unprecedented needs of our families, friends and neighbors.

For persons interested in learning more about Heartland's services and ways to help their family, friends and neighbors, Heartland staff is available to provide informational presentations in person, at meetings, staff trainings, adult faith community groups, etc. For more information, please contact Joan Macik, Executive Director.

Heartland Community Action Agency, Inc. is an EOE/AA/ADA Compliance Organization. This notice is available in large print, on audio tape, and in braille from the ADA Compliance Officer by calling 1-800-992-1710, TDD 1-320-235-8570.

Fill Your Fridge Sweepstakes

MCPA members may enter for a chance to win \$500 in free groceries. There will be a grand prize of \$500 in free groceries and one first place prize of \$100 in each participating Great River Energy member cooperative service area.

Visit www.mnbrighterideas.com between August 16 and September 30, 2009, and complete a short quiz for instant entry. Entry rules are posted on the web site.

mnbrighterideas.com

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Preparing for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles

A new pilot program from Great River Energy and its member distribution cooperatives will make it easier for people to transition from the gas pump to the plug-in.

Beginning in August, Great River Energy will have ChargeWise outlets available for installation in consumer's garages to provide low-cost, off-peak energy for charging plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs). The program is being developed in anticipation of the launch of several production PHEVs over the next two years.

The ChargeWise outlets will charge PHEV batteries between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when demand and price for

electricity is at its lowest. Charging the batteries during these hours also allows Great River Energy to "store" wind energy allowing PHEVs to receive power from renewable resources.

"It's cleaner, greener, and cheaper than gasoline," said Gary Connett, of Great River Energy. "As more wind energy is added to the electric grid, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles will get even greener."

To help get the program started, Great River Energy and its member cooperatives will cover the cost up to \$500 of the ChargeWise outlet installation for the first 50 qualified members who are owners of PHEVs.

Comparative energy costs for space heating

Electricity (Cents/kWh)	Fuel Oil Regular Furnace (\$/Gal.)	Fuel Oil Super Efficient Furnace (\$/Gal.)	Propane Regular Furnace (\$/Gal.)	Propane Super Efficient Furnace (\$/Gal.)	Natural Gas Regular Furnace (\$/MCF)	Natural Gas Super Efficient Furnace (\$/MCF)
3.0	0.74	0.98	0.48	0.72	5.27	7.91
3.2	0.79	1.05	0.52	0.77	5.62	8.44
3.4	0.84	1.12	0.55	0.82	5.98	8.96
3.6	0.89	1.18	0.58	0.87	6.33	9.49
3.8	0.94	1.25	0.61	0.92	6.68	10.02
4.0	0.98	1.31	0.64	0.97	7.03	10.54
4.2	1.03	1.38	0.68	1.01	7.38	11.08
4.4	1.08	1.44	0.71	1.06	7.74	11.60
4.6	1.13	1.51	0.74	1.11	8.09	12.13
4.8	1.18	1.58	0.77	1.16	8.44	12.66
5.0*	1.23	1.64	0.81	1.21	8.79	13.18
5.5	1.35	1.80	0.89	1.33	9.67	14.50
6.0	1.48	1.97	0.97	1.45	10.55	15.82
6.5	1.60	2.13	1.05	1.57	11.43	17.14
7.0	1.72	2.30	1.13	1.69	12.31	18.46
7.5	1.85	2.46	1.21	1.81	13.18	19.78
8.0	1.97	2.63	1.29	1.93	14.06	21.10
8.5	2.09	2.79	1.37	2.05	14.94	22.41
9.0	2.22	2.95	1.45	2.17	15.82	23.73
9.5	2.34	3.12	1.53	2.29	16.70	25.05
10.0*	2.46	3.28	1.61	2.42	17.58	26.37

The above figures are based on the assumptions and formulas listed below.

*5.17¢ per kWh is McLeod Cooperative's off-peak rate

10.0¢ per kWh is McLeod Cooperative's regular rate

Formulas

Alternate fuel price to electric rate conversion formula:

$$(\text{Fuel Price}) \div (\text{Efficiency}) \times (341,300) \div (\text{Btu Heat Content}) = \text{Electric Rate}$$

Example of \$0.72/Gal. Propane to Electricity with a Super Efficient Furnace:
 $(0.72) \div (0.90) \times (341,300) \div (91,600) = 3.0\text{¢/kWh}$

Electricity rate to alternate fuel price conversion formula:

$$(\text{Electric Rate}) \times (\text{Efficiency}) \times (\text{Btu Heat Content}) \div (341,300) = \text{Fuel Price}$$

Example of 2.9¢/kWh Electricity Rate to #2 Fuel Oil with a Regular Furnace:
 $(3.0) \times (0.60) \times (140,000) \div (341,300) = \$0.74/\text{Gal.}$

Lighting and efficiency grants for farms and businesses

Farmers and business owners whose commercial operation is served by the Cooperative are eligible to apply for energy grants or lighting rebates when they upgrade to more efficient motors, fans, light fixtures, etc. Some financial assistance is also available for commercial energy audits. Call Shannon at the Cooperative if you are planning a new or retrofit project to see if what you are doing qualifies.

Bigger rebates in 2009

Getting customers to conserve more energy is an important part of Minnesota's mandated legislation requiring all utilities to reduce how many kilowatts they sell. One way to help us meet this requirement is to help our members install the most efficient heating and cooling systems available. Increased rebates for high-efficiency ground source and air source heat pumps will be offered in 2009 to encourage members to choose the optimum efficiency in heating and cooling. Higher rebates will also be offered for members installing storage space heating which uses low-cost nighttime energy and storage water heating using the high efficiency Marathon water heater.

Rebates for high efficiency air source heat pumps and air conditioners will continue to require installation by a "registered contractor" which has been designated as a quality installer and is listed on the hvacreducation.net web site. A list of all "registered contractors" in Minnesota is on our Cooperative web site at www.mcleodcoop.com.

2009 Rebates

Ground Source Heat Pumps (controlled or uncontrolled)		
Residential		\$400/ton
Commercial		\$200/ton
Air Source Heat Pump	13 SEER	\$330
	14 SEER	\$480
	15 SEER	\$580
	16 SEER or higher	\$630
Ductless Air Source Heat Pump		\$300
Central Air Conditioner	13 SEER	\$ 30
	14 SEER	\$180
	15 SEER	\$280
	16 SEER or higher	\$330
Storage Space Heating		\$ 40/kWh
Storage Water Heating w/high efficiency water heater*		\$200
*(Marathon or equivalent energy rated heater)		
Replacement of older water heater with new high efficiency water heater		
(Energy Factor.90 or higher)		\$50
ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioners		\$35
ENERGY STAR Refrigerator with recycling of old unit		\$75
ENERGY STAR Refrigerator or freezer		\$50
ENERGY STAR Clothes Washer		\$25
ENERGY STAR Dehumidifier		\$25
ENERGY STAR Dishwasher		\$25

How the appliance rebate works

Between August 16 and September 30, 2009, you can go to one of the local appliance dealers listed in the ad on this page. If you purchase an ENERGY STAR clothes washer or refrigerator, ask the sales person for the Co-op's rebate form. Complete the rebate form and send it to the Cooperative along with a copy of your sales receipt. The Cooperative will mail you your rebate check. An old refrigerator must be recycled and the proof of recycling by the store must show on your sales receipt. Consumer is responsible for recycling fee, if there is one.

If you are shopping at Sears, then take one or both of the instant-off coupons from last month's (July issue) MCPA NEWS. If you purchase an ENERGY STAR clothes washer you may use the \$75 off rebate for instant savings at the checkout. If you purchase an ENERGY STAR refrigerator and recycle your old one, you can use the \$125 instant-off coupon. If there is a fee for delivery from Sears, you are supposed to get either 12 months no-interest financing with your Sears card — OR — free standard delivery and haul away. With this second option, you are charged for the delivery fee at time of purchase and will need to submit a Sears rebate form for the delivery.

The campaign kick-off will be **Monday night, August 17 from 6 - 8 p.m.** at the **Hutchinson Sears Store** with **V.I.P. Friends and Family pricing** for MCPA electric consumers.

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
McLeod COOPERATIVE POWER
mnbrighterideas.com

Finally
appliances you can feel good about

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

Save \$75
on an ENERGY STAR® washer

Save \$125
on an ENERGY STAR refrigerator*

Offer good August 16 through September 30, 2009.

See a sales associate for your mail-in rebate form. Contact McLeod Cooperative for details.

* With the recycling of old refrigerator

mnbrighterideas.com

Finally
appliances you can feel good about

August 16 - September 30, 2009

PROMOTION DESCRIPTION	PROMOTION DATES	REDEMPTION PROCESS	PARTICIPATING STORES
SEARS COUPONS	AUGUST 16- SEPTEMBER 30	COUPONS: \$75 OFF ENERGY STAR® WASHERS \$125 off ENERGY STAR REFRIGERATORS Things to note: • Promotion kicks off with a special Friends and Family Night at Sears in Hutchinson, Monday, August 17, 6 - 8 p.m. • Instant savings at counter with your coupon • Refrigerator rebate is based on recycling on old refrigerator <i>Assume 479 kWh savings per refrigerator, and 338 kWh savings per washer</i>	ALL MN SEARS LOCATIONS
OTHER RETAILERS WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH MAIL-IN REBATE FORM	AUGUST 16- SEPTEMBER 30	SPECIAL REBATES: \$75 OFF ENERGY STAR® WASHERS \$125 off ENERGY STAR REFRIGERATORS Things to note: • Rebate forms can be obtained from the retailers listed at right and requires proof of recycling of old refrigerator • Allow 6-8 weeks for rebate processing <i>Assume 479 kWh savings per refrigerator, and 338 kWh savings per washer</i>	Participating merchants in MCPA service area: • 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

Fill Your Fridge Sweepstakes: As an overlay to the Appliance Promotion, Co-op members can also be entered into the Fill Your Fridge Sweepstakes (One, \$500 Grand prize and up to 28, \$100 prizes, one per participating co-op). Details and participation information for the sweepstakes are available on the mnbrighterideas.com site.

Sears mnbrighterideas.com