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PowerLines

*Central Electric
Cooperative’s Board
of Directors and Employees
wish you a merry and
bright Christmas!*



'Tis the Season

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

What season exactly are we talking about? Golf? Sadly has ended. Autumn Leaf? Has come and gone. Football? In full swing (go Steelers)! Christmas? I haven't seen a commercial for two months that wasn't holiday related. Duck or rabbit? Check with Daffy and Bugs.

Around Central Electric Cooperative's (CEC) office it's budget and planning season. This time of year can get busy for many businesses and your cooperative is

increase from our supplier earlier this year but have absorbed the additional costs through 2011. We decreased both our expense and capital spending to help mitigate the impact these costs would have on our rates. The good news is that despite the current increase in power costs our board was able to approve a capital credit retirement in 2011. You will see the credit on your December bill.

It's also winter heating season.

At Risk for Hypothermia:

1. Elderly people with inadequate food, clothing or heating.
2. Babies sleeping in cold bedrooms.
3. People remaining outdoors for long periods of time.



no exception. We spend a great deal of time reviewing our past progress and planning for the coming year.

Our fiscal year matches the calendar year so, in addition to trimming the tree, we spend time trimming the budget. Our work plan is designed to continuously improve the reliability of our system while balancing the cost to our members. As I have mentioned before, we will have our first rate increase since April 2009. The primary reason for our January 2012 increase is our power supply rates. We started receiving this

We recognize the stresses this time of year can have on your budget. Through our escheats (unclaimed property) money, we have been able to increase funds available to our Family Fund for members experiencing difficulty paying their electric bills. Escheats money that would otherwise be returned to the State of Pennsylvania can now be used for low income energy assistance, educational programs or community support programs.

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Our Family Fund also provides an opportunity for members to help one another through contributions that increase the funding available through low income energy assistance programs.

Every season is conservation season. This is a great time to winterize your home and save energy. Contact CEC or go to www.central.coop for energy tips and ideas. Beyond that I hope you consider participating in our conservation load management program. CEC offers two different load control programs: managing solely the electric water heater or controlling the electric heating system. If you allow us to control your electric water heater we will install a demand response unit (DRU). The DRU interrupts power to the tank during peak usage times in which you receive a \$2.50 credit on your monthly electric bill. The credit does not apply to those purchasing a water heater from us. If you allow us to control your electric heating system (baseboard, electric heating or a heat pump) you will receive a 40 percent

reduced rate for the energy used by your electric heating system. Contact us at 1-800-521-0570 ext. 2172 for more information. Through this program cooperatives across the state have been able to decrease the peak demand of electricity and save all members money at the same time.

Lastly, and most importantly, it is always cooperative season. We are continuously looking for your input. I mentioned last month that we are piloting new ways to make direct contact with you but the most effective way is for you to contact us. Please use the "How are we doing?" on the monthly quiz (page six) to give us your feedback. Thanks for your time and enjoy the season!

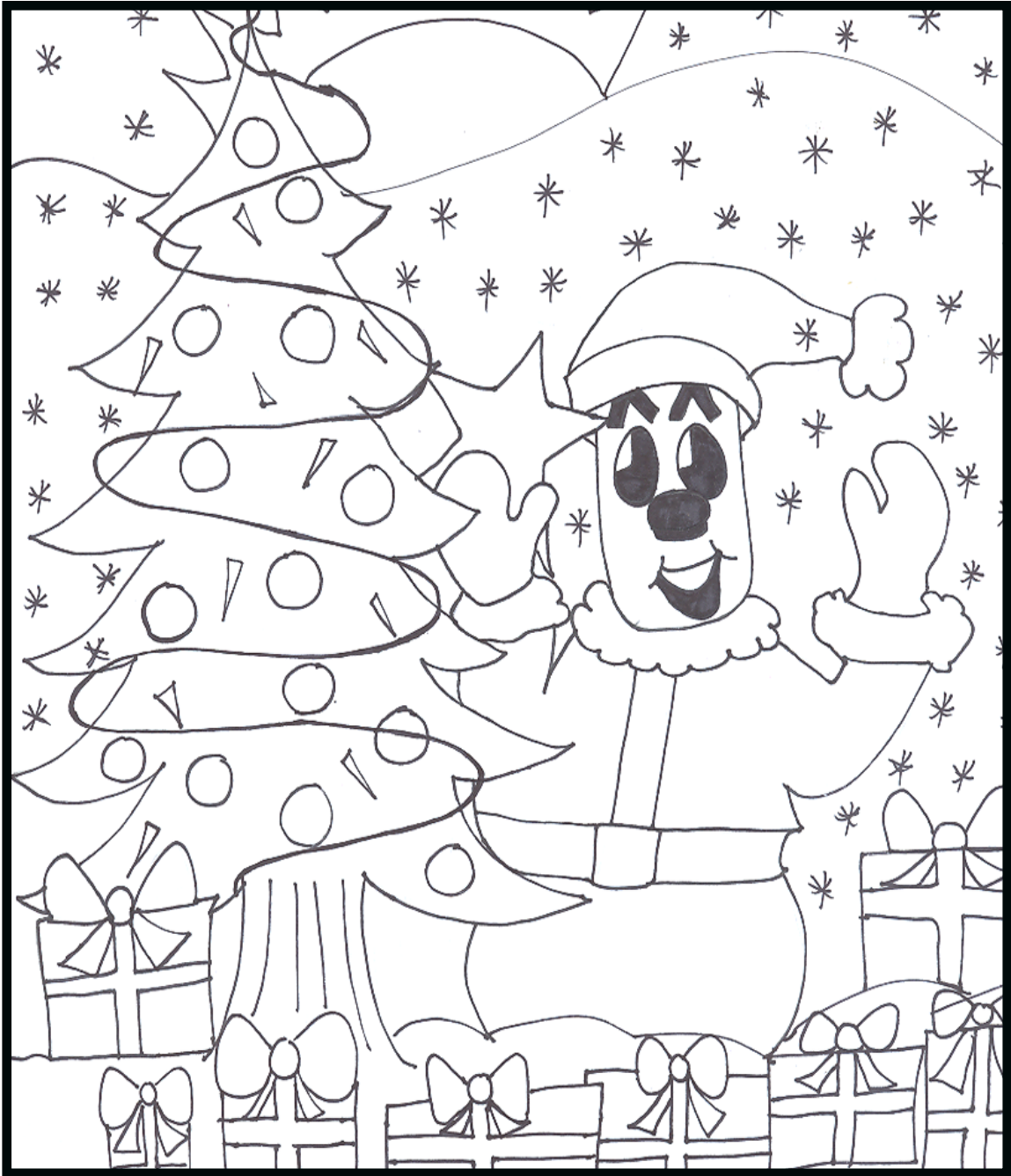


CEC's Improved Outage Phone Service

CEC now offers an automated outage reporting system. This new system can identify you by your phone number on record, or account number or meter number found at the top of your electric bill. Callers can still share information about what may have caused the power outage. The new system works with other programs at the cooperative, enabling us to better manage outages. Automated outage reporting is just another way your cooperative is using technology to improve its services!



Power Lines



Hey kids, enter our winter coloring contest for a chance to win a prize! Deadline is Jan. 10, 2012. The contest is open to Central Electric members' children ages 5-12. The following groups will be judged together: ages 5-7, ages 8-10 and ages 11-12. Central Electric employees' children are not eligible. Mail entry to: Central Electric Cooperative, Attn: Winter Coloring Contest, 716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049.

Name: _____

Age: _____ Account No: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

Ken's
kilowatt
corner



By **Ken Maleski**
CEC Consumer
Marketing Representative

www.central.coop
Check it out!



Lighting and the Law

In 2007, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA), calling for improved energy efficiency for many products, including light bulbs. You can still buy incandescent bulbs that look and operate like the ones you are used to — they will just use less energy. The law also requires new light bulb labels to help you choose the most efficient bulbs, like LEDs and CFLs.

| Bulb Types (all approx. 1600 lumens) | Life | Costs | Year 1 | Cost Annually | Total Costs over 6 years |
|--|-------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Standard Incandescent 100 W | 1 yr* | Bulb Cost | \$0.50 | \$0.50 | \$3.00 |
| | | Energy Cost | \$12.05 | \$12.05 | \$72.30 |
| | | Total Cost | \$12.55 | \$12.55 | \$75.30 |
| Halogen Incandescent 72 W | 1 yr | Bulb Cost | \$1.50 | \$1.50 | \$9.00 |
| | | Energy Cost | \$8.67 | \$8.67 | \$52.02 |
| | | Total Cost | \$10.17 | \$10.17 | \$61.02 |
| CFL 23 W | 6 yrs | Bulb Cost | \$3.00 | \$0.00 | \$3.00 |
| | | Energy Cost | \$2.77 | \$2.77 | \$16.62 |
| | | Total Cost | \$5.77 | \$2.77 | \$19.62 |

* rated life is based on three hours of use per day

Courtesy of Natural Resources Defense Council

SAFETY

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Recognizing Hypothermia

Hypothermia results from abnormally low body temperatures and affects the brain, making its victim unable to think clearly or move well. In many cases a person might not know that hypothermia is setting in.

Warning signs for adults are shivering, exhaustion, confusion and memory loss.

Infants suffering from hypothermia become bright red, have cold skin and low energy. If you notice any of these signs and if their temperature is below 95 degrees Fahrenheit



Matt Alderson
Manager of Safety and
Operational Support

the situation is an emergency and requires immediate medical attention. If medical care is not available, begin warming the person, as follows:

- Place person in warm room or shelter.
- Remove any wet clothes.
- Warm center of body first (chest, neck, head and groin).
- Give warm beverages to increase body temperature.
- Keep person dry and wrapped in a warm blanket, including the head and neck.

Recipe of the Month

No-Bake Cookies

Ingredients:

- 2 cups white sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 4 tablespoons oleo
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 cups uncooked rolled oats

Directions:

1. Mix together sugar, water, cocoa, oleo and salt and boil for one minute.
2. Add peanut butter, vanilla and cups uncooked rolled oats.
3. Cool slightly and drop by teaspoon onto wax paper.

Thank you to Nancy Lendyak for submitting the recipe!

Send Recipes to:

Jessica Brison at jbrison@central.coop or mail to Central Electric Cooperative, 716 Route 368, PO Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

CEC Staff

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Director of Engineering and Operations

November Recipe — Sweet Potato Casserole

The topping for last month's recipe:

- 3/4 cup cornflakes crumbs
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts (pecans or walnuts)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup melted margarine

Mix topping ingredients together. Spread on potatoes and brown for another 10 minutes.



Read Power Lines and

Last Issue's Winner:

Ronald E. Campbell of Karns City

Read your issue of Central Electric Cooperative's Power Lines and win! It's simple — you can win a \$50 credit on your monthly electric bill by reading Power Lines and completing the quiz below.

Complete, clip and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment. For a faster entry and for quiz rules you may complete the survey online at www.central.coop/quiz.

1. True or False: Our outage reporting system can identify you by your phone number on record.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: In 2007, President Bush passed a law banning incandescent bulbs.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Hypothermia results from abnormally low body temperatures.

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no right/wrong answer)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ **Account No:** _____



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

716 Route 368 • PO Box 329 • Parker, PA 16049-0329 • www.central.coop
Customer Service 1-800-521-0570 • Emergency Outage Number 1-800-282-8610