

Inside: Learn How ...

Check on Load
Control Periods

Prepare for a
Power Outage

Purchase an Efficient
Water Heater

“Watts” Inside

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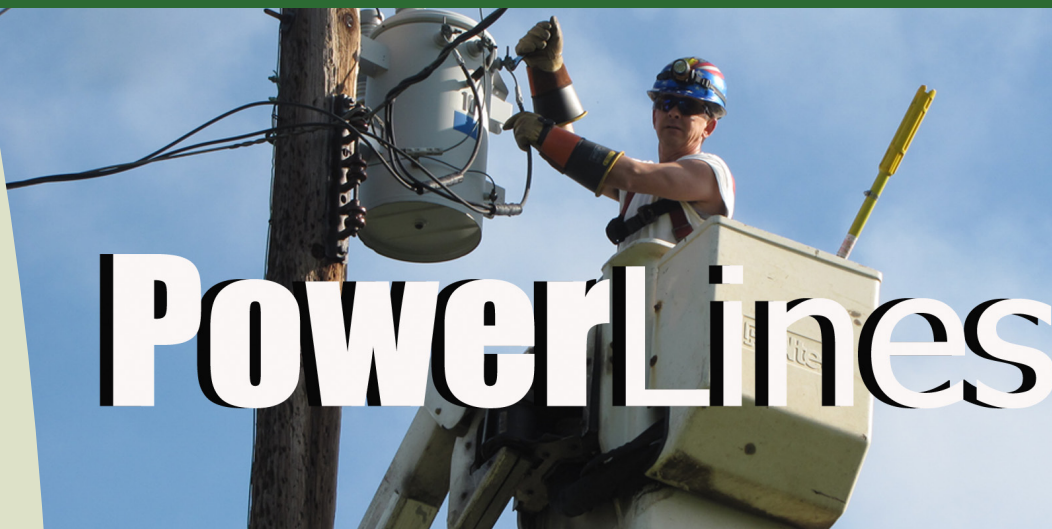
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PowerLines

One Byte at a Time

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Years ago I asked my youngest son if he knew how to eat an elephant. He thought about it for a moment, as he is a thoughtful child, and responded that he could not eat an elephant. I smiled and told him that the way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time. I don't want to offend any animal rights folks out there; I have never actually eaten an elephant (although I imagine it tastes like chicken). This was simply intended to relate that no task is too big if we break it into small enough pieces.

Our approach to the sometimes daunting task of providing safe, reliable electric power at affordable rates is much the same. We recognize, because you tell us, that we need to continually improve the reliability of our system and of course meet

the increasing demand for power. These requirements could be looked at as being in conflict with keeping our rates in check. We balance this conflict by taking an incremental approach to the necessary improvements. We take “small bites” by improving our system a little every year, and the result is reliable service at a reasonable cost to our members.

To make those dollars go farther we are constantly looking for ways to do things more efficiently. Central Electric employees understand what is required to efficiently run a rural electric cooperative. A key part of our mission statement is our commitment to technology. Efficiencies are created as new technologies are implemented.

Over the past ten years Central

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One Byte at a Time/ From Page 1

Electric Cooperative has added new electronic payment methods for our members' convenience and, of course, to reduce payment processing costs to the cooperative. The Internet is increasingly becoming our main

manage accounts online and track sales via online statements.

Over the past few years Central Electric Cooperative has offered incentives to our members who use electronic payment methods. At this time over 30 percent of our members utilize some form of electronic payment. Central offers an e-bill

What to do When the Lights Go Out:

1. Check fuses or circuit breakers
2. Check to see if your neighbors have power
3. Leave us a message at 1-800-282-8610, only if you have determined the problem is not your electric system

NOTE: If you report a false power outage, you could be billed for the call-out.



hub for communication, information and the way we conduct business. Electronic payment services have become an increasingly popular way for you to manage your account and pay your bills — whether in the office, at home or on the go.

The benefits of electronic payment processing go well beyond convenience. It has rapidly become the most cost-efficient way to conduct business. Paper checks are slowly becoming a thing of the past and the cooperative recognizes that e-commerce is the way of the future and believes it is here to stay. Some additional benefits of electronic payment processing are the ability to

system that accepts checks and all major credit cards. Members can also choose to receive their bill electronically which reduces the cost even further. In addition, members can make these same types of electronic payments over the phone. If you are interested in utilizing an electronic payment please call our consumer service number at 1-800-521-0570 and ask the representative about incentives available to you.

It is our goal to continually improve the service that we provide. Sometimes those efficiencies are a little less obvious than poles, wires, substations, and tree trimming but they are no less important. In the case of electronic payments I

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One Byte at a Time/ From Page 2

suppose you could say we are eating the elephant one “byte” at a time. If you haven’t already, I hope you will consider electronic payment as an option and help us take the next bite.

Twitter and Load Control

Members who participate in our Load Management Program (electric heating or an electric water heater) can get up-to-the-minute information on our load control periods. Just visit www.central.coop and click on the “Follow Me On Twitter” logo to learn when appliances are going to be interrupted. Please remember that the message is a prediction and control hours can vary.



PREA Scholarship Winners

Each year the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association offers \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors whose parents’ reside on electric cooperative lines. This year two of CEC’s Good Neighbor Scholarship recipients also won the PREA Scholarship Trust Fund. Congratulations to



Hannah Pratt

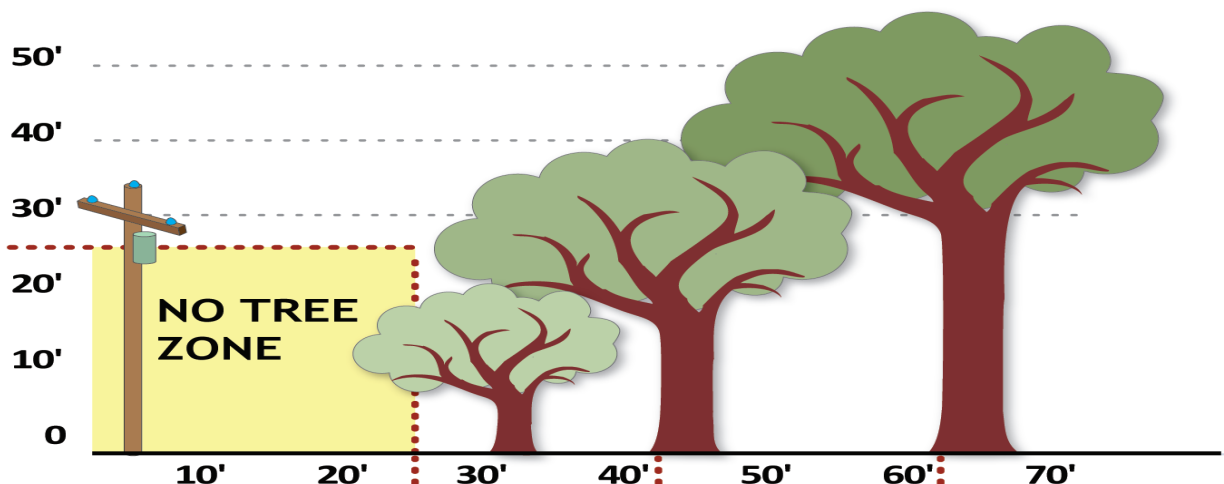


Katie Sefton

Hannah Pratt of Franklin Area High School, attending Messiah College; and Katie Sefton of Knoch High School, attending Grove City College. For more information on the PREA Scholarship Trust Fund visit www.prea.com.

Tree Planting Guide

Source: NRECA



Small Tree Zone:
Trees less than 25’ tall/spread at least 25’ from lines.

Medium Tree Zone:
Trees 25’– 40’ in height/spread at least 40’ from lines.

Large Tree Zone:
Plant trees larger than 40’ in height/spread at least 60’ from line.

What to do When the Lights Go Out!

If an outage occurs, please:

1. Check your fuses or circuit breakers
2. Check to see if your neighbors have power
3. Leave us a message **only** if you have determined the problem is not your electric system

To report the outage dial the toll-free number 1-800-282-8610. **NOTE: If you report a false power outage, you could be billed for the call-out.**

When you call in, the Outage Reporting System should recognize your phone number using the caller identification code provided by the phone company. If the system does not recognize your number please leave a message and provide your name, a phone number where you can be reached along with your service map location number.

It is very important that you keep your telephone number current with us, so that we may serve you better. Also the service map location number on the front of your bill helps our crews locate you through our mapping system.

Weather-Related Safety Tips

Before Storm:

- Prepare your emergency supply kit
- Plug appliances into surge protectors

During Storm:

- Stay indoors and away from windows
- Avoid using the telephone
- Stay away from downed power lines and trees

After Storm:

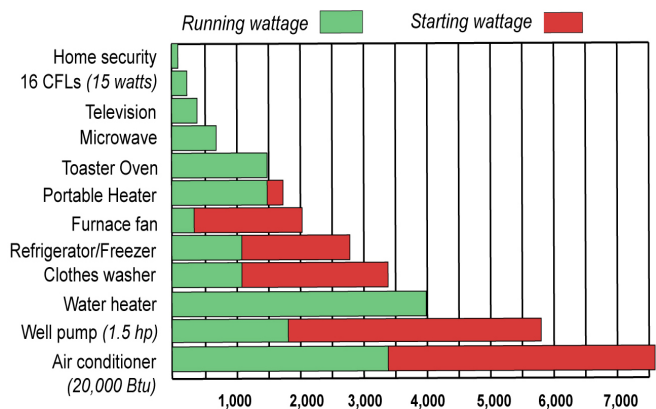
- Use flashlights, instead of candles, in case of an existing gas leak
- Listen to the local radio or television stations for storm updates
- Report all outages and downed lines immediately
- Leave on a single light to alert you when power is restored

Courtesy of Horry Electric Cooperative

The Right Portable Generator for the Job

Before purchasing or operating a portable generator, make a list of the appliances you will need to run at the same time. Find both starting and running wattage requirements on appliances nameplates or in owner's manuals; add them up to determine the total wattage your generator should handle. Check out the chart on the right for sample running wattages, as compared to spiked starting wattages.

If you are interested in purchasing a generator at a discounted rate visit www.central.coop for more information on our partnership with Butler Power Equipment and World of Wheels.



Sources:

North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives; National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Ken's
ilowatt
orner



www.central.coop
Check it out!
By **Ken Maleski**
CEC Consumer
Marketing Representative



Maintaining Major Appliances May Increase their Life Expectancies

How often do we say, "I'll get around to it" when it comes to handling a task we're not that excited about doing? Cleaning out the cupboards, scrubbing down walls or going through that pile of papers that never seems to get filed comes to mind.

Maintaining our appliances and HVAC systems are other great examples. Refrigerators, clothes dryers and furnaces require periodic attention. Let's take a minute and make a to-do list for the fall while the weather is still pleasant.

Refrigerator

Underneath your refrigerator is an item called refrigerant coils. This is where your unit expels the heat it removed from inside our food compartments. Lint, dirt or anything lost in your home could end up under your refrigerator. Now is the time to clean those coils. An inexpensive feather brush from a discount store works great!

Clothes Dryer

Your dryer vent pipe carries the moisture removed from wet clothing to the outside. If the warm air must travel some distance, it cools down along the way, depositing a thick lint layer to the inside pipe walls. Over time, the pathway becomes restricted; making drying times longer and eventually may burn up your heating elements. So put cleaning your dryer at the top of the list!

Furnace

What about your furnace filter? If you have a central air conditioning system the filter is most likely ready to be cleaned. In fact, the filter should be replaced or cleaned monthly.

There you have it, three main tasks for your pre-fall cleaning are complete. By taking the necessary steps to maintain these major appliances you may add an extra few years to their lives, saving you money!

Efficient Water Heater: Install One Today!

The Hobaugh residence in Butler is one of many Central Electric members with a water heater on Central's Load Management Program. The A.O. Smith tank was installed in April 2010 by John Relihan, owner of Dr. Water Heater, Inc.

Interested members can purchase the A.O. Smith tank with standard installation for \$349.99 plus tax. For more information please contact us at 1-800-521-0570 or visit our Web site at www.central.coop.



John Relihan and Denise Hobaugh

Recipe of the Month

Sandwich Spread

Ingredients:

- 12 green peppers
- 12 red peppers
- 12 green tomatoes
- 2 large onions
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 tablespoons salt
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 large jar mustard

Directions:

1. Grind together green and red peppers, green tomatoes, onions until a liquid form
2. Add 2 cups of sugar, 2 tablespoons of salt and 1/2 cup of flour
3. Boil for 10 minutes; remove from stove
4. Add 1 quart of salad dressing. Put into jars.

Recipe submitted by Florence Davis

Send Recipes to:

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

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Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:

Cindy MacDonald of Fenelton

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.

Contest Rules

1. The contest is open to all Central Electric Cooperative members with active accounts as of the drawing date.
2. Only one entry per member is permitted.
3. Employees and directors of Central Electric, along with members of their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. The winning entry will appear as a credit on the member's bill and may not be redeemed for cash.

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

1. True or False: You can check load control periods by going to our Web site at www.central.coop.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: When your power goes out the first thing you should do is contact Central Electric.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Purchase a water heater with standard installation for only \$349.99 plus tax.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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



Central Electric Cooperative

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Customer Service 1-800-521-0570 • Emergency Outage Number 1-800-282-8610