

Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 
The power of human connections

Why settle for 1 rebate when you can get 2?

New-Mac and Missouri DNR offer opportunities to be more energy efficient

Yes, the Missouri Department of Natural Energy (DNR) launched its *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* this past month, and hopefully, those in need of a new appliance are taking advantage of this opportunity. But don't forget, New-Mac Electric had its rebate program going first and is still in effect. So, if you purchase one of the appliances that qualifies for both rebates, sure enough, you can receive both.

Just make sure you act fast if you're hoping to get one of the DNR rebates, as those are on a first come first serve basis and when the funds run out, those rebates will be gone. Missouri is offering the following rebates on *Energy Star* qualified appliances:

- Gas Furnaces – \$125
- Air Source Heat Pumps – \$250
- Central Air Conditioning – \$100
- Water Heaters-Gas Storage – \$100
- Water Heaters-Gas Tankless – \$100
- Water Heaters-Solar (With Gas Backup) – \$500
- Water Heaters-Electric Heat Pump – \$150
- Water Heaters-Solar (With Electric Backup) – \$500
- Clothes Washers – \$75
- Dishwashers (tabletop models excluded) – \$75

For more informations on Missouri's rebates, call the DNR at 800-361-4827 or visit their website at www.dnr.mo.gov/energy.

New-Mac's rebates are in place through the end of the year. However, you need to submit your rebate application within 90 days of purchase.



New-Mac offers rebates on clothes washers, dishwashers, window air-conditioning units, electric water heaters, and dual-fuel and ground-source heat pumps.

Qualifications for each rebate are listed below. Please make sure any purchases meet these specifications – **because only qualifying purchases will be rebated.**

In order to receive a New-Mac rebate, the co-op must receive a completed rebate form and a copy of the purchase receipt within **90 days of the date of purchase**. Rebate forms can be found online at www.newmac.com, or can be picked up at both the Neosho and Anderson offices, or by calling 451-1515 or 800-322-3849.

New-Mac rebates will be applied to your bill in the form of an energy credit. Qualifications are as follows:

CLOTHES WASHERS – \$100

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be *Energy Star* rated
- only for homes with electric water heaters
- for residential customers only

DISHWASHERS – \$50

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be *Energy Star* rated
- only for homes with electric water heaters
- for residential customers only

WINDOW AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS – \$50

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be *Energy Star* rated
- for residential customers only

WATER HEATERS – \$50

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must have an energy rating of .9 or better
- only for replacement of another electric water heater, or for a new home
- for residential customers only

DUAL-FUEL HEAT PUMPS – \$150 PER TON

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- **must be *Energy Star* rated (14.5 SEER)**
- must be dual fuel (having natural gas or propane for back-up)
- for residential or commercial customers

GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS – \$300 PER TON

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- If only the unit needs replaced and the looping is still present, customers can get \$150 per ton if the new unit is a gain of at least 3 EER.
- 10 tons or more must be pre-approved
- for residential or commercial customers

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Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

Watch out for kids

Children will soon be out and about enjoying their break from school, and New-Mac Electric asks that you be mindful of that as you drive around this summer.

It's every driver's responsibility to be on the lookout for kids at play; just as every parent needs to stress that their children always be watchful for cars.

Let's all work together to keep summer both fun and safe.

Offices closed Memorial Day

New-Mac's offices will be closed May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

Mulch available

Just in time for spring landscaping, New-Mac Electric has mulch available for \$5 per scoop. Anyone interested should call the Neosho office (451-1515) and ask for Susan or Tobey so that arrangements can be made to assist you.

Think twice before cutting meter seals

A broken or removed meter seal is viewed as an indicator of meter tampering. Therefore, do not cut a meter seal without authorization from New-Mac. If electrical work needs done, requiring a seal to be broken, such work should be performed by someone with electrical training. Many times, a main breaker switch can simply be flipped to allow for such work.

Skelton, Emerson are looking out for you

Last month, we told you about efforts underway to keep EPA off the backs of consumers. That issue came to a head just as electric cooperative leaders from Missouri were gathered in Jefferson City for the Missouri electric cooperatives' State Legislative Conference.

U.S. Reps. Ike Skelton and Jo Ann Emerson — two of the best friends rural people have in Congress — attended that meeting and used the podium to announce bipartisan legislation they would co-sponsor to help protect your electric rates.

Because this legislation is so important to electric co-op members in Missouri, I offered additional space on this page to let Skelton and Emerson tell you about this issue.

To date, most of Missouri's Congressional delegation is supporting this bill and similar measures

making their way through the U.S. Senate. Electric cooperatives across the nation are calling for members to ask their legislators to support these bills.

Here in Missouri, electric cooperatives are reaching out to the grassroots on this issue, either through postcard sign-up campaigns at their annual meetings, at local events, through the pages of this publication and at www.ourenergy.coop. I encourage you to read the important information below and to learn

more about this issue.

We need to support the Missouri Congressional delegation as its members work to prevent monumental increases in the price of electricity that have the potential to return us to the days when only the wealthy could afford electricity.

Please do your part and get involved.



By Barry Hart
Executive Vice President
of the Association of
Missouri Electric
Cooperatives

Congress, not EPA, should make America's energy policy

*By U.S. Rep. Ike Skelton
and U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Emerson*

Anyone who needs evidence that Republicans and Democrats can still work together should look no further than our efforts to stop the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from imposing costly greenhouse gas regulations on American families, farms and businesses.

In 1955, the Clean Air Act was enacted to get lead out of the air and reduce smog in American urban areas. This act, amended several times over the years by the U.S. Congress, was specifically designed to reduce emissions of six airborne pollutants: sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, ozone and lead. Each of these chemicals can be harmful to humans and pose a proven threat to public health.

Greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, are not listed anywhere within the legislation or its amendments. In spite of this, a 2007 Supreme Court ruling authorized EPA to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

Since then, EPA has been studying greenhouse gases and has moved aggressively to implement regulations to curb them — not just from cars and trucks, which is what the original Supreme Court case involved — but also from power plants, farms and businesses.

On Dec. 7, 2009, EPA issued a so-called "Endangerment Finding," a report that declared greenhouse gas emissions a threat to human health and therefore subject to federal regulation pursuant to the Supreme Court's ruling.

Armed with this "finding," EPA can legally, as defined by the Supreme Court, regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

It is clear to us that during the current administration, EPA has been particularly aggressive. They are essentially threatening Congress with an ultimatum: either rush a regulatory bill through the House and Senate or live with the consequences of the agency's self-imposed regulations.

This choice is very troubling. Congress never explicitly authorized EPA to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, and neither carbon dioxide nor methane are identified as pollutants in any part of that act.

It seems that, rather than following the letter of the law as written by Congress, EPA has decided to interpret the law and regulate greenhouse gas emissions on its own accord.



Rep. Ike Skelton



Rep. Jo Ann Emerson

○ EPA issue

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We have serious concerns with the powers endowed to EPA by the Supreme Court, and many people in Missouri share the same view. In fact, several rural business and agriculture organizations also have serious concerns with EPA's proposals.

"EPA's finding puts the agricultural economy at grave risk," said the Missouri Cattleman's and Soybean associations in a letter to us last week. The National Federation of Independent Business stated that "an endangerment finding . . . would trigger a regulatory avalanche . . . and impose potentially crushing regulatory burdens" on small businesses.

There is broad consensus: EPA regulations would be terribly destructive for people throughout Missouri. That is why we have joined together to stop the EPA.

In February, we introduced two bills in the House of Representatives — one to clarify that EPA does not have authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gases and the other to stop EPA's greenhouse gas regulations from taking effect.

Our bills are supported by more than 175 rural business and agriculture groups across the country — including the American and Missouri Farm Bureau Federations, rural electric cooperatives and the National Federation of Independent Business — and by Republicans and Democrats in Congress.

Our efforts to harness EPA are not an absolution from the congressional responsibility to work toward energy independence for our country.

Rather, our bills are simply designed to eliminate EPA's ultimatum and to prevent unelected bureaucrats, who are accountable

only to an appointed EPA administrator, from determining U.S. energy and environmental law.

That is the job of Congress, which is accountable directly to the American people.

Left unchecked, EPA's proposed regulations will certainly increase energy costs for Missouri families, farms and businesses. That is totally unacceptable, and it is why the U.S. Congress must stand up for the legislative process and stand up to EPA.

Time is of the essence, and in the days ahead we will continue building bipartisan support for our two bills. Doing so is in the best interest of Missouri and our nation.

Today, we find our nation facing daunting problems: War in the Middle East, the worst economic recession in 70 years and an increasing national budget deficit are all issues that need immediate attention.

Yet Washington, paralyzed by partisanship, seems increasingly unable to find practical solutions. Leaders seem to fixate on areas of difference and disagreement instead of common concerns and results.

Residents of the Show-Me State know that hard work, not political rhetoric, is the answer to today's challenges. Our bipartisan effort to stop the EPA is an example of how lawmakers can work together to generate meaningful, needed results.

Cooperation and compromise are needed in Washington now more than ever, and we will continue working with lawmakers from both sides of the aisle to overcome the challenges currently facing our nation.

There is no other way to proceed.

Skelton represents Missouri's 4th Congressional District.

Emerson represents Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Can a heat pump water heater really be 200 percent efficient?



Doug Rye
says ...

May I wish you a happy springtime? We have warmer weather, pretty flowers, biting fish and it seems we are all more cheerful.

Those of you who read this column and listen to our "Home Remedies" radio program probably think that Professor Tom and I are greatly excited about the General Electric Hybrid water heater (now called GeoSpring) and you are right.

Why are we excited? Because rarely does a new product come along that actually performs as well as advertised and is feasible, as well as good for the consumer. Tom and I have been in the energy efficiency field for a combined 50 years and we have seen many so-called miracle products come and, mostly, go. We have seen the magic black boxes, the many different room heaters, the unbelievable sheets of aluminum foil, and many others. In my opinion there are individual cases where these products may actually help but almost never will they perform at the advertised 30, 40, or 50 percent savings.

I believe that the GeoSpring will perform exactly as we wrote about in last month's column. By the way, that column drew a big response from you, the readers. The most

often asked questions were, "What is the price?" and "How can it be 200 percent efficient?" Well, you can call your local electric cooperative for the current price and I will handle the efficiency question.

The engineering term that is used to state the efficiency is "coefficient of performance" or "COP." I like to say that the "COP" tells us

See Doug Rye, page 4

Energy Partners' *Recipe of the Month:*

COOKIES & CREAM FUDGE

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Vivian Harper**

- 1 (12 oz.) pkg. vanilla chips
- 1 can cookies & cream frosting
- 10 Oreos, cut in quarters
- 3 Oreos, crushed
- 8-inch square pan lined with foil

Melt chips over low heat. Remove from heat. Add frosting. Stir in quartered Oreos and mix until well coated. Quickly spread into pan. Sprinkle with crushed cookies. Refrigerate 1 hour until firm.

Send your recipe, along with your name and customer number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or recipes@new-mac.com. If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

******NOTE:** In the *Fern's Banana Bread* recipe featured in the March newsletter, 2 eggs were omitted from the ingredients.



AUTO-CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

Name _____

Customer # _____ Location # _____

Member # _____ Email _____

Daytime Phone # _____

Credit/debit card to which you wish amount to be charged:

____ VISA ____ American Express

____ MasterCard ____ Discover

Credit/debit card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Name as it appears on the card _____

Beginning date to charge _____

I, (print name) _____, do hereby authorize New-Mac Electric Cooperative, Inc., to charge my monthly electric bill to the card indicated above. I certify that I am duly authorized to charge on this card. I understand that my electric bill will automatically be charged on this card each month and that I will receive a monthly bill as well as a charge slip, via U. S. Postal Service, indicating the amount charged. This authorization shall remain in effect until I revoke it in writing and deliver the writing to New-Mac Electric. I shall indemnify and hold harmless New-Mac Electric from and against any losses, claims, judgments, liabilities, or expenses for damage of any kind caused by, or arising from, this authorization or any acts authorized by it.

Customer Signature _____

Date _____

Complete this form and get started with our auto-charge option.

Auto charge makes for one less thing to do

Nowadays, many have found using a debit or credit card is a convenient way to pay bills.

However, when everyone is trying to pay the same bill at the same time in the same way, sometimes waiting to get a card payment processed is inevitable.

This is why New-Mac Electric offers an auto-charge option for customers who like to pay their bill each month with a credit or debit card. Simply fill out an auto-charge authorization form (at left), and New-Mac will process your payment for you each month on the 25th calendar day (or next business day in the event of holidays or weekends).

If you have any questions, contact the New-Mac billing department at 451-1515 or 800-322-3849. If you would like to be on "auto-charge" for the month of May, bring the completed form to the New-Mac office prior to May 20.

Don't assume your account has been processed unless you have been notified by the billing department.

Get started with our auto-charge option today and know you've got one less thing to do at the end of the month.



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Telephone: 417/451-1515 800/322-3849
Fax: 417/451-9042
Office Hours: Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at www.newmac.com.

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Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:
Autowithdrawal Payment
Levelized Billing
Rental Light
Meeting rooms available at both locations
Credit Card Acceptance
Safety Programs (upon request)
Surge Protection
Green Power

Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes
P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO
mrakes@newmac.com

o Doug Rye

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how efficient the product converts a unit of electricity to heat. Here are three examples.

As you try to move electricity through a metal wire it meets resistance. In some metal coils the resistance is so great that the coil glows red hot. You would recognize this in a toaster, a hair dryer, some electric room heaters and in an electric furnace. Most electric heaters have a COP of 1.00 or an efficiency of 100 percent. One unit of electricity in

and one unit of heat out.

A heat pump is totally different. It uses a compressor to move heat from one location to another and it does it at higher efficiencies. Think of your refrigerator as the compressor runs and takes the heat out of the milk and puts that heat in the kitchen from the back of the refrigerator. The COP of a properly installed heat pump is about 2.5 or about 250 percent efficient at 40 degrees or warmer. One unit of electricity in and 2.5 units of heat out.

A geothermal heating system has a COP of about 4.00 and one model has a COP of 5.00. One unit of electricity in and 4 or 5 units of

heat out. Wow, what do you think of that?

When someone asks me how a heat pump works, I usually just say "really good."

Gas water heaters do not have COP ratings because they are not electric. They have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) rating. The AFUE rating of most gas water heaters is 57 percent or less. That simply means that about 43 percent of the gas goes straight up the flue to the sky above.

I honestly believe that the GeoSpring will deliver you hot water at over 200 percent efficiency. It's your choice.

See you after the crappie stop biting.