

Inside: Learn How To ...

Get Help Paying Your
Electric Bill

Help Others Through the
Cooperative Family Fund

Calculate Your Home's
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“Watts” Inside

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PowerLines

Happy Holidays!

To Our Members:

It's that time of year again, when memories are made and traditions live on as you gather to celebrate the joyous season. We appreciate your continued support over the last year and would like to extend holiday blessings to you and your families, along with a healthy and happy new year.

Sincerely,
Your Board of Directors
and Employees

Three ways to help others through the Cooperative Family Fund:

1. You can “round up” your electric bill to the nearest dollar. The average donation is less than a dollar a month.
2. You can contribute by authorizing Central Electric to add any amount to your monthly bill.
3. You can send a donation check for any amount payable to Central Electric Family Fund.

Central Returns Patronage Capital Back to Members

Central Electric Cooperative offers many positive differences compared to investor-owned utilities. For instance, we are a non-profit organization in business to provide reliable, quality service to our members. That’s right, you are more than just electric customers, you are owner-members in the cooperative. As an owner-member you earn patronage capital or margins through our ongoing patronage capital retirement program. The amount each member receives is an allocation of dollars credited to their account in proportion to the dollar amount of electricity used.

Central’s Board of Directors recently approved returning patronage capital in 2009. This year’s total refund to the membership is \$382,127 and will be credited to December electric bills. Since the patronage capital retirement program began, the cooperative has refunded approximately \$13 million to you, the members. Giving patronage capital back to the members demonstrates our desire to help strengthen our local communities and illustrates a strong, member-focused organization. Best of all, it allows members to share in our financial success, and that is the cooperative advantage.



Holiday Lighting Tips

Decorating for the holidays? Consider using ENERGY STAR qualified decorative light strings (DLS). These lights:

- Consume 75% less energy than conventional incandescent light strands.
- Last up to 10 times longer!
- Are cool to the touch, reducing risk of fire.
- A traditional light string with 300 lights costs about \$4.50* in energy costs over the holiday season. In contrast, an ENERGY STAR certified light-emitting diode (LED) equivalent costs only \$0.43* to operate!

Source: ENERGY STAR

*Savings estimate from Pacific Gas & Electric based on their testing and residential rates

Do You Need Help Paying Your Electric Bill?

The Pennsylvania Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps low-income families pay their heating bills through home energy assistance grants and crisis grants. A member can receive home heating energy assistance without having an unpaid bill. A family of four with an annual income of up to \$33,075 qualify for assistance and do not need to be in the Cash Assistance Program. No lien is placed on your property if you receive this help.

The dates for LIHEAP are:

- Nov. 2, 2009 through March 15, 2010 for cash. The minimum benefit amount is \$100.
- Jan. 4, 2010 through March 15, 2010 for crisis. The minimum benefit amount is \$25. (A household may receive only one crisis benefit during the program year.)

Cooperative Family Fund Can Also Help

Central Electric's Family Fund raises money to assist low-income members during winter months.

The assistance comes from fellow members, cooperative employees and cooperative matching funds. The Family Fund will pay up to \$200 toward qualified members' electric bills during a 12-month period.

Opening date for this fund is Nov. 2, 2009 and runs through March 15, 2010. Please call 1-800-521-0570 for more information.



Would You Like To Help Families In Need?

You can assist families in need this holiday season by contributing to the cooperative Family Fund. The program helps families needing energy assistance. There are three ways you can contribute to the Family Fund.

The first way to contribute is by rounding up your monthly electric bill to the nearest dollar. You can also add a specific amount to your monthly electric bill or send a check donation for any amount payable to Central Electric Family Fund. All of these methods are extremely helpful in keeping the lights on for struggling members. If you are interested in contributing, contact us at 1-800-521-0570 and speak with a consumer service representative today.

What a Great Deal!

The Gressley residence in Kennerdell is just one of many Central Electric members with an A.O. Smith water heater. The tank was installed in August by Coleen Gressley and John Relihan, owner of Dr. Water Heater, Inc.



Coleen Gressley and John Relihan, owner of Dr. Water Heater

Members can purchase the tank with standard installation for \$349.99. For more information on A. O. Smith water heaters or our Load Management Program please contact us at 1-800-521-0570 or visit our Web site at www.central.coop.



Hey kids, enter our winter coloring contest for the chance to win a Nintendo Wii™. Deadline is Jan. 10, 2009. The contest is open to Central Electric members' children ages 5-12. Central Electric employees' children are not eligible. Mail entry to: Central Electric Cooperative, Attn: Holiday Coloring Contest, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049.

Name: _____

Age: _____ Account No: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

Ken's
ilowatt
corner



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



Calculate Your Home's Energy Usage

Your electric bill rises and falls every month, depending on the weather, your use and other factors. Now you can help lower your energy bills by using Central's Home Energy Calculator. Log onto www.central.coop and click on the Home Energy Calculator icon. The first page that appears allows you to customize your whole house. But if that's too technical, click on the tab named Appliance Calculator (circled in red) and choose the

individual appliance settings that apply to your home. Enter the number of similar appliances running in your home and click on "calculate" at the bottom of the page. The Home Energy Calculator will automatically produce the annual kilowatt-hours (kWh) and dollar amount

that item will use. For your convenience, Central Electric's residential rate is already imbedded inside the calculator. A monthly cost is also shown.

You may then add up all the categories to get an approximate cost. Please remember that each home is different based on appliance age, the amount of time the appliances are used, etc. The Home Energy

Calculator is a great tool to help answer questions on usage and bill amounts. It also allows you the opportunity to create various scenarios on how you can save money and energy by making hypothetical changes to your usage. Knowledge is power and the cooperative gives the "power" to you!

HomeEnergySuite™

Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.

CALCULATORS

HOME ENERGY CALCULATOR **APPLIANCE CALCULATOR** LIGHTING CALCULATOR TV CALCULATOR SPACE HEATER CALCULATOR

Calculate Print Results Reset

Electric Rate: \$0.0915 per kWh

Television	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Kitchen	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Refrigerator	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Utility Room	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Living Room	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Bathroom	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Bedroom	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Office	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Heating/Cooling	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Garage	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00
Outdoors	Show	Annual kWh: 0	Annual Cost: \$0.00	Monthly Avg: \$0.00

Total Annual kWh: 0 Annual Cost: \$0.00 Monthly Avg: \$0.00

Calculate Print Results Reset

Recipe of the Month

Delicious Mix

Ingredients

- 1 pound M&M's
- 1 pound peanuts
- 4 cups small pretzels
- 4 cups Cheerios
- 4 cups rice Chex
- 4 cups corn Chex
- 2 pounds of white chocolate

Directions

1. Mix M&M's, peanuts, small pretzels, Cheerios, rice and corn Chex together.
2. Melt 2 pounds of white chocolate in microwave, stirring every 2 minutes.
3. Pour melted white chocolate over mixture.
4. Stir well and spread onto wax paper. Let dry then store in an air-tight container.



Recipe submitted by Patty Roydes of Tarentum

Send Recipes to:

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

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Read Power Lines and



Last Issue's Winner:
Chad Funfer of Boyers

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.

1. True or False: There are four ways to contribute to the cooperative Family Fund.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: Energy Star decorative light strings (DSL) are cool to the touch.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: The Home Energy Calculator is a great tool to help answer questions on usage and bill amounts.

Answer: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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



Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

PO Box 329 • Parker, PA 16049 • www.central.coop

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