

Starting Lines

YOUR FIRST STEP TO MEMBER BENEFITS

SPRING 2011

MEMBER REBATES

\$75 added for heat pump water heaters

Members may now claim a \$75 rebate for the purchase of a new heat pump water heater or an add-on unit--retroactive to purchases made after January 1, 2011.

The new rebate is being added to incentives already offered for tank water heaters. Over 10,000 members currently have load control switches on their tank water heaters which are controlled when electricity use peaks and energy supply costs rise.

Current rebates and incentives include:

Tank Water Heaters (controlled)

- \$5 bill credit (unless already on the controlled/interruptible rate)
- New, 80 gallons and above: \$100 rebate
- New, below 80 gallons: \$50 rebate

NOTE: \$50 bill credit offered for adding a switch to an uncontrolled water heater already in use.

Heat Pump Water Heaters (controlled and uncontrolled)

- New or Add-On Units, all sizes: \$75 rebate

NOTE: \$5 bill credit is not available for heat pump water heaters. Members must file for rebates within six months of purchase.



IN CONTROL: Toni Juhl, meter reader/collector, holds a load control switch that will be installed on member heat pumps and central air units in preparation for summer peaks.

WANTED: Heat Pumps and Central Air Units

Curb High Energy Costs This Summer and Earn \$30!

Adams Electric is looking for members to volunteer. You could fit the bill if you:

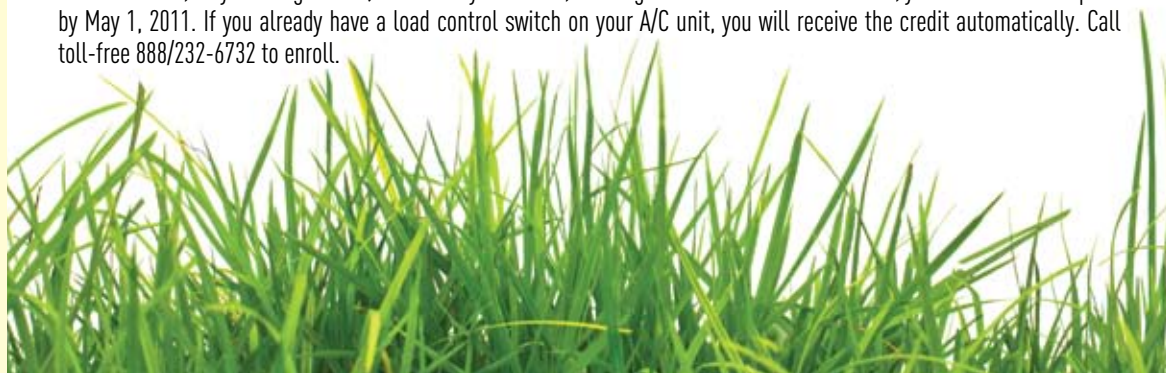
1. Use a heat pump or central air conditioner;
2. Could use an additional \$30 this summer;
3. Want to be part of the "Smart Grid"

All you have to do is allow Adams Electric to install a load control switch on your heat pump or central air unit free of charge. The switch will cycle the compressor on and off throughout the hottest weekday afternoons. During this time, the fan will continue to run to help maximize comfort.

This innovative "smart" device is part of Adams Electric's load management system, which for over 25 years has been helping co-op members curb their energy costs during periods of high electricity use. Load management helps stabilize rates, and reduces pollution from power plants that operate during peak periods.

The load program relies heavily on 10,000 members who already allowed load control switches to be installed on their water heaters (see sidebar). Now heat pumps and central air units are being added as well. As a result, the co-op saves thousands of dollars each year in avoided power purchases.

If you are accepted into the 2011 program, Adams Electric will pass along to you a \$30 seasonal incentive (paid as a \$10 bill credit for June, July and August use). Availability is limited, and to get the full seasonal incentive, you are asked to respond by May 1, 2011. If you already have a load control switch on your A/C unit, you will receive the credit automatically. Call toll-free 888/232-6732 to enroll.



FEATURED SERVICE: Decline of paper payments continues 'unchecked'



According to the latest Federal Reserve System payments study, the use of checks to pay bills dropped by over 6 percent each year between 2006 and 2009.

This is not a bad trend since it is estimated that the average American household could save 6.6 pounds of paper a year by switching to electronic bill payment.

Adams Electric members can go online through E-bill to view and pay their bills on a one-time basis by electronic check (E-check) or credit card. Members may also change their mailing address or phone number and update their financial information by adding, changing or removing the option to pay by automatic bank draft (ElectriPay).

Through E-bill, members may also view helpful cost and electric use charts for their account(s). Members may also discover how much the cooperative has paid them in patronage capital over the years.

Sign up for E-bill by visiting adamsec.coop and clicking on the E-bill icon. Select "Click here to sign up for online account access." Fill in your account number, your last name and your e-mail address. Select a password, confirm it and then click "continue."

FEATURED PRODUCT: Savings soar as more co-ops offer Co-op Connections cards to members

It has been a year since Adams Electric members received their Co-op Connections member discount cards. In the meantime, the number of co-ops across the nation offering cards to their members topped 350. There are now over 28 million cards in circulation since the program began in 2004.



The program offers a popular prescription drug discount. From Feb. 2010 to the end of Jan. 2011, Adams Electric's cardholders had 3,028 prescriptions filled at participating pharmacies and saved close to \$42,000. Nationwide, prescription drug savings have topped \$28 million since the service was first offered in 2007.

Besides the pharmacy discount, the Adams Electric Co-op Connections program offers coupons, deals from national businesses and discounts from 146 local participating businesses. To see a list of these businesses and their discounts, go to www.adamsec.coop and click on "View current local deals" under the card on the homepage.

YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

- Automated Meters
- CFL Recycling
- Community Development Loans
- Convenient Payments
 - Budget Billing
 - E-Bill (Online Bill View/Pay)
 - ElectriPay (Automatic Bank Draft)
 - Pay By Mail
 - Pay In Person
- Co-op Connections Discount Card
- Co-op Owners for Political Action Dial 8-1-1
- Dry Hydrants
- Electric Service Installations
- Electronic Alerts
- Energy Audits
- Energy Calculators
- Energy Conservation Loans
- Energy Library (online)
- Energy Savings Information
- Generator Safety
- Gift of Electricity
- Go Paperless
- Heating and Cooling Options
 - Air-Source Heat Pumps
 - Electric Thermal Storage (ETS)
 - Ground-Source (Geothermal) Heat Pumps
 - Heat Pump Plus
- High Voltage Safety Demonstrations
- Incentive Rates
 - Controlled/Interruptible Rate
 - Geothermal Rate
 - Time-of-Day Rate
 - Water Heater Rate
- Informative Brochures
- Load Management
- Online Efficiency Store
- Outage Map/Storm Central (online)
- Patronage Capital Credits
- Penn Lines Monthly Magazine
- Project Helping Hand (Payment Assistance)
- Safety Presentations
- Scholarships
 - Adult
 - High School
 - Statewide
- Security Lights
- Starting Lines Quarterly Newsletter
- Stray Voltage Reduction (Earth-to-Neutral)
- Surge Protection
- Tree Clearing
- Water Heater Rebates
- Youth Programs
 - "CFL Charlie" Science Curriculum
 - Envirothons
 - "Get Charged" Science Curriculum
 - Kids Websites
 - Low Voltage Safety Demonstrations
 - Mobile Agriculture Education Lab
 - Newspaper in Education
 - Youth Tour

60 SECOND SAFETY with Terry Hancock and Dave Bolton, energy use/safety specialists

Call 811 and dig safely

Did you know that Pennsylvania law requires you to "Call before you dig" on your property?



Just call 8-1-1, the national "call before you dig" number three to 10 business days before beginning a dig. In Pennsylvania, this number will link you to the PA 1 Call center, where a friendly service representative will take your information 24 hours a day and pass it along to all the utilities that are involved.

This is a free service to you and is in place to protect everyone involved in a project.

The utilities will have a representative come to your location and mark the location of all underground facilities. Please do not begin digging until all utilities have been marked. Do not allow these markings to be removed or altered until all work is complete.

Whoever placed the "one call" will receive an e-mail or fax with a list of facility owners who have or have not marked their facilities. If you hire a contractor, ask to see their PA One Call serial number before allowing them to dig. For more information, please visit www.pa811.org.

Remember, safe digging is no accident. April is National Safe Digging Month.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY with George Taughinbaugh, manager, safety/energy use

How to make that new system less taxing

We look back on a winter with colder than average temperatures and cold winds that seemed to be with us almost every day.

On top of that, you should be finishing your 2010 tax returns. What a great time to think about next winter's heating options because there are still tax credits out there to claim.

Some very good energy tax credits ended on December 31, 2010 for energy improvements to your home (new energy efficient doors, windows, insulation, etc.). Those credits for energy improvements still exist, but at a greatly reduced value.

The good news is that the 30 percent tax credit for new geothermal heat pumps or renewable energy projects (solar and wind) still exists. A geothermal system can greatly lower your heating and cooling costs—and it qualifies for the full 30 percent federal tax credit. For example, if your new geothermal system costs \$30,000 to install, and you received a 30 percent tax credit, your total cost would be \$21,000.

You may also check with the various geothermal manufacturers to see if they are offering rebates. This lucrative federal tax credit for geothermal and alternative energy projects is slated to end December 31, 2016.

As always, check with your tax preparer before you do any of these improvements. Also remember that Adams Electric can assist you in selecting the right system for your situation, with energy audits, financing, and advice. So, even though spring is here, avoid the rush and get ready for next's winter's fury.

TOGETHER WE SAVE

**LITTLE CHANGES
ADD UP +**

Small appliances like cable boxes and coffee makers can add up to be big energy hogs when left on all day and night. Often the best way to combat these energy wasters is to plug these appliances into a power strip, and switch it off after you are done using them. For more tips, click on "Little Changes Add Up" at www.adamsec.coop.

