

Starting Lines

YOUR FIRST STEP TO MEMBER BENEFITS

FALL 2009

MEMBERS TESTIFY



Peters loves ETS

At Adams Electric, we encourage our members to use energy efficiently. In that regard, one of the heating and cooling systems we recommend to members is Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) units. Over 800 members currently have ETS in their homes.

ETS units are about the size of a radiator or a suitcase. Inside the insulated cabinets is an electric coil that runs through high density electric bricks. Once the bricks are heated, electricity to the units can be turned off and the units will continue to give off heat for up to 15 hours. There's no flame, flue or venting, but you do need a separate subpanel to run the Co-op controlled unit. This allows members to pay a lower price for the electricity they use when running the system. Here are one member's thoughts on ETS...

"I have (three) Electric Thermal Storage units and I love it. It's the most comfortable heating I've ever had here (at the farmhouse).

These storage units keep it nice and comfortable. They aren't very big at all and they're, well I think, very neat looking.

As an added bonus, we get a cheaper rate, and in this day and age that's very important.

Even without the cheaper rate, I wouldn't want to give it up because of the comfort.

I'm really sold on it."

- Marion Peters

A member in the co-op's Gettysburg District



ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. EMPLOYEES

Are you making the most of your cooperative?



Welcome to the first issue of **Starting Lines**, a quarterly newsletter that spotlights the many products and services which benefit Adams Electric members. And what better time to launch such a piece than in October, during Co-op Month!

After looking at how we communicate with members, we found that a resource was needed to better outline the benefits of belonging to an electric cooperative. This newsletter is a place where you can start your research into how to take full advantage of the cooperative you own.

Starting Lines works with our monthly magazine **Penn Lines**, which is designed to spotlight members and their achievements, provide official notice of co-op activities and highlight Adams Electric's role in the communities it serves.

The employees of Adams Electric are here to serve you. We welcome your feedback as we continue to improve the ways we communicate with you, our members.

Sincerely,

Steve Rasmussen

Steve Rasmussen
CEO/General Manager



SHOP ONLINE: Energy savings at your fingertips

Adams Electric is teaming up with Service Concepts, a co-op created retailer, to provide its members access to an online store stocked with a line of energy-saving products...just in time for winter.

Through the Internet-based store, members will be able to safely purchase compact fluorescent light bulbs, LED lights, weather stripping, water savers and other energy efficient items directly from Adams Electric's Web site, www.adamsec.coop. The online store is a solution for driving energy reduction among co-op members.

The site includes a CFL selector, payback calculator and other resource information to help members choose and use the correct bulb. An energy education section includes two versions of the Kill-a-watt electricity use monitor. An energy saver section offers night lights, power strips, plug strips that reduce "phantom load," thermometers, and furnace filter whistles. Another section offers a line of holiday and novelty LED lights. The water saver section offers low-flow heads for showers and faucets. The weatherization section includes a line of DAP and Frost King products.



LED HOLIDAY LIGHTS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY with George Taughinbaugh, energy use specialist

Getting ready for winter

During the winter heating months, air filters need to be changed. Air filters are very important as they filter out dust contaminating the air in your home, and prevent dust from collecting on the heat exchanger or coil in your heat delivery system.

Standard fiberglass filters are the least expensive of filter systems. I would consider these basic, standard filters. They are a cardboard frame, and have a very porous filtering system. To change these, measure your old filter, and go to a store that handles them and purchase a new one.

Hepa-type filters are a much better choice to filter the air in your home. These filters cost more, and in some cases you need a larger filter rack installed before you can start using these filters. They are available from a heating contractor or a supplier who handles furnace filters.

Electro-Static filters are my favorite. These filters work as the air passes over the filter. The filter builds up an electric charge to gather fine dust and pollen. These filters have been known to help the air quality in homes of people who have allergies. To clean them, take them outside and hose them off. These filters can be purchased in standard sizes, or custom made to fit your system. They are available from a heating contractor or a supplier who handles furnace filters.

Electronic air filters are the most expensive filters. These filters work similar to the electro-static filters, but they must be wired into your electrical system to give them the electric static charge. These filters can run more than \$500 to install, and usually require a heating contractor to install them. These filters are also washable.

If you have more questions, please contact the co-op and we will be glad to try to help you.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY LOANS: Over 25 years of member savings

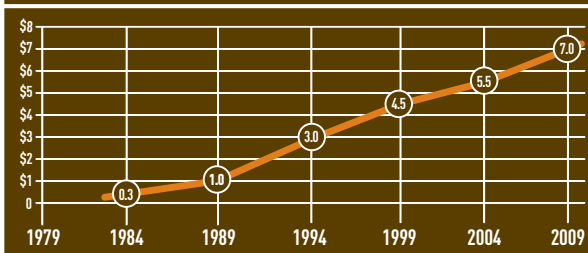
Looking for a wallet-friendly way to finance heating and cooling improvements in your home this winter? Join the more than 1,100 Adams Electric members who have taken advantage of the co-op's Energy Resource Conservation (ERC) and Supplemental Loan program.

Since its inception, more than \$7 million in low interest loans has been financed for co-op members.

Members can borrow up to \$25,000 and take one to seven years to repay, adding the payments conveniently to their monthly electric bills. Interest rates are 5 percent for a one- to three-year term; 5.25 percent for a four- or five-year term; and 5.50 percent for a six- or seven-year term.

Overall, four out of five ERC loans are for ground-source heat pumps (geothermal). Next are Heat Pump Plus systems and Electric Thermal Storage systems (ETS). Loans are also given for weatherization projects (window replacement, insulation, caulking and weather stripping).

LOAN GROWTH: 1982-2009 (DOLLARS IN MILLIONS)



60 SECOND SAFETY with Terry Hancock and Dave Bolton, risk management specialists

Every year around this time, your cooperative experiences damage to power lines and facilities that cause interruptions to electric service. You might ask, "Is it because there are more birds or squirrels running the lines, trees toppling over, or storms in the area?" Well, not exactly. The fact is a few trigger-happy hunters, either inadvertently or on purpose, shoot at our lines and equipment. This activity creates an extremely dangerous situation for the hunter, cooperative employees, and the general public.

If you are a hunter, please be aware of your surroundings at all times, especially around power lines and facilities. If you are not a hunter but observe activity that would create dangerous situations, please report it to the proper law enforcement authorities.

Downed electric lines and damaged electrical equipment can expose unsuspecting individuals to electrocution hazards that can cause serious injury and even death. Should you see that there has been damage done from this illegal activity, please stay away from the affected area and immediately notify your cooperative so that corrective measures can be taken.

Thank you.

YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

- Automated Meters
- Community Development Loans
- Convenient Payments
 - Budget Billing
 - E-Bill
 - Bill View/Pay
 - E-Check
 - Credit/Debit Card
 - ElectriCheck (Automatic Bank Draft)
 - Pay by Mail
 - Pay in Person
- Co-op Owners for Political Action
- Dry Hydrants
- Energy Audits
- Energy Calculators
- Energy Conservation Loans
- Energy Saving Tips
- Generator Safety
- Heating and Cooling Units
- Incentive Rates
 - Geothermal Rate
 - Interruptible Rate
 - Time-Of-Day Rate
 - Water Heater Rate
- Informative Brochures
- Load Control
- Patronage Capital Credits
- Penn Lines* Magazine
- Project Helping Hand
- Safety Information
 - Demonstrations
 - 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
 - Curriculum
 - Envirothons
 - Mini High-Voltage Demos
 - Youth Tour



TIPS FROM THE HOME ENERGY SUITE - "Did you know it costs \$72 a month to run two 1,500 watt space heaters 8 hours a day in your home? Find out more on saving your energy dollars at www.adamsec.coop."

