

Featured Article:

A Bright Idea in North Conway

North Conway is home to the state's first municipally-owned LED streetlights, thanks to a partnership between the Town and NHEC.

The three new streetlights, located downtown at Schouler Park, have a 10-year expected life and are replacing High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lights that needed replacing, on average, every 18 months. Town officials will be assessing the quality and durability of the new lights with an eye towards expanding their use in the future.

Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology offers many advantages over standard lighting, including lower energy consumption, longer life, and greater durability and reliability. In North Conway, two 70-watt HPS fixtures were replaced with 52-watt LED lights, while a larger 400-watt HPS was replaced by a 157-watt LED. In addition to providing brighter, whiter illumination, the LED lights will more than pay for themselves in energy savings and avoided maintenance on the old HPS fixtures.

The streetlights feature "Dark Skies" technology, which directs all illumination below the horizontal plane of the fixture, reducing light pollution. NHEC coordinated delivery and installation of the streetlights, working with lighting manufacturer General Electric to provide one fixture at no cost.



NHEC Conway District Lineworker Ben Mills installs a new LED streetlight in North Conway.

Get the Marathon Advantage

With members-only pricing and pick-up locations statewide, NHEC is New England's largest seller of ultra-efficient Marathon water heaters. Here are some reasons why:

Lower Cost of Ownership

Marathon's renowned durability eliminates the cost of buying and re-installing a new water heater every 10 years (national average).

No Rust, No Corrosion – Ever

A seamless, blow-molded polybutene inner tank makes the Marathon impervious to rust.

Best Warranty

The Marathon is warranted not to leak for as long as you own your home.

Other Benefits

- No venting or combustion
- No on-site fuel storage
- No backdraft worries
- Up to 94% efficient



Learn more about the Marathon advantage at www.nhec.coop, or call NHEC Member Solutions at 1-800-698-2007.

Winter Heating Assistance

Having trouble paying for heat? Three programs can help:

Statewide Electric Assistance Program (EAP)

Income qualified members of the Co-op can receive discounts on their monthly electric bills ranging from 5–70% of their total bill. Apply through your Community Action Agency.

State Fuel Assistance Program (FAP)

Provides benefits to qualified New Hampshire households to assist with heating costs. Renters and homeowners are eligible. Apply through your Community Action Agency.

Project Care

Project Care is a charitable organization that provides payment assistance for NHEC members in emergency situations. Applicants are eligible for Project Care emergency assistance only once in a twelve-month period. Members should apply to the programs listed above before applying to Project Care. For program guidelines or more information, contact Member Solutions at 1-800-698-2007.

Be Prepared for Winter Outages

A home emergency kit can be invaluable in the event of a prolonged power outage. Here are some ideas for your kit:

The Essentials

Portable radio

Flashlight(s)

Spare batteries

Candles

Matches or a lighter

Wind up or battery alarm clock

Cell phone – fully charged if you know bad weather is coming

Moist towelettes (baby wipes)

Freezer ice packs - keep them in the freezer all the time so they're ready to use

Large cooler or ice chest

Sleeping bags or blankets

First Aid Kit

Personal hygiene supplies and 3-5 day supply of prescription medicines

Baby supplies, including diapers

Disposable plates, cups, and eating utensils

Water - If you know a storm with the potential to cause outages is coming, fill containers with water, including your bathtub(s). Separate water for drinking from that for other uses. Flush toilets sparingly with a bucket of water. Also, remember to fully charge your cell phone – portable phones without battery back-up will not work without power.

Prepare a Safe Source of Heat - Have a safe alternative way to heat your home in case of a power failure. Never use a barbecue, camp stove or any other unvented heater because of the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. If you do not have a way to keep your home warm enough, go to the home of a friend or relative, or check into a shelter until the power comes back on.

**To Report an Outage
Call 1-800-343-6432
Anytime**

Got a Generator? Let Us Know!

If you've installed a generator anywhere in Co-op service territory, your Co-op needs to know about it.

A generator is a handy tool to have in the event of a power outage, but it can present a safety hazard for our lineworkers. If not properly installed, a generator can energize the power line outside your home – maybe while our crews are working on it.

The Co-op offers a free inspection of any generator installed on our system. We'll come to your property and make sure the transfer switch is wired properly to meet national electric codes. In addition to helping us update our records, you'll also be keeping our lineworkers safe.

If you have a generator, please call the Co-op at 1-800-698-2007 to notify us. Thank you!

Watts Happening

New E-Bill Is Online

NHEC E-Bill is open for business at www.nhec.coop. Log-in to your account home and check out all the improvements:

- Real-time payment posting and updating of account balances
- E-mail notifications when new bills are generated
- Opt-out of receiving a paper bill
- Graphs and charts with electric usage and payment history
- Expanded payment options – Discover card now accepted

Win a \$1,500 Scholarship

The NHEC Chapter of Dollars for Scholars is now accepting applications for six \$1,500 scholarships that will be awarded in 2011. Applicants must be at least a senior in high school at the time application is made; and must be a Co-op member, the child of a Co-op member, or attend a school served by the Co-op. College and non-traditional students are eligible and welcome to apply. The deadline for applications to be received at the Co-op is March 25, 2011. Complete requirements and application are available online at nhec.coop/community_nhecdollarsforscholars

Board Candidates Wanted

The Co-op is governed by a Board of Directors, which is elected by the members themselves. In 2011, three seats will be up for election to three-year terms. The Co-op seeks broad representation from a diverse group of individuals and encourages all qualified members to consider running for one of the open seats. You must be a Co-op member in order to run for a position on the Board. For more information about how to get your name on next year's ballot, contact Sharon Yeaton at 603-536-8801, or yeatons@nhec.com. Voting takes place by mail ballot in May 2010 with Board members installed at the June annual meeting. For more information, visit nhec.coop/about_electionprocess.



For member service
please call
1-800-698-2007
Monday-Friday, 8-5:00
or visit us online at www.nhec.coop

To report an outage
please call
1-800-343-6432

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
579 Tenney Mountain Highway
Plymouth, NH 03264