

New Hampshire Electric Co-op TODAY

- Free Home Energy Audits
- May Rate Adjustment
- Member Discount
- A/C Rebate
- Fred Said

JUNE 2008

Your Electric Co-op's Newsletter



FEATURE ARTICLE:

Introducing NHEC's Online Outage Map

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative has made real-time information on power outages available on its website at www.nhec.coop.

The online map of New Hampshire displays the same information used by the company's outage management system to track power outages at the county and town level. Color-coded circles indicate the approximate location and time of outages, number of Co-op members affected, the status of line crews in the field and the expected time of restoration, when available. To protect member privacy and security, the outage map tool does not display outage locations to a specific street address.

When outages are occurring, an alert box will appear on the NHEC website home page indicating the number of outages and members affected. The alert box links to the real-time outage map for more detailed information.

The online outage map was designed with many audiences in mind – state

and local emergency officials, the media, even members who just want to check out the Co-op's distribution system when the weather gets rough.

To report a power outage, keep this number handy: 1-800-343-6432. The Co-op's outage management system recognizes your phone number if we have it on record. To update your account record, call Member Solutions at 1-800-698-2007.



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Running for the Kids!

5K Road Race to Benefit Youth in Grafton, Belknap Counties



Mark your calendar - the Third Annual Cooperative Covered Bridge 5K is Saturday, August 30, 2008.

This year's race will benefit two non-profit youth advocacy groups – the Pemi Youth Center of Plymouth and Belknap County Community Response (CoRe) Coalition. Located on Main Street in Plymouth, the Pemi Youth Center provides a safe and welcoming environment where area youth can gather after school. The Belknap

County CoRe Coalition is a group of concerned citizens who convened in 2001 with the goal of eliminating the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco among Belknap County youth.

This year's race begins and ends inside the Smith Covered Bridge in Plymouth. Runners and walkers are welcome and prize money will be awarded to the top male and female finishers in each category. There will be age group prizes, a huge

raffle, great food and t-shirts for everyone, plus a Fun Run and Obstacle Course for kids. Last year's race attracted more than 220 runners and walkers!

Registration forms will be available for downloading in July at the Co-op's website: www.nhec.coop, or you can register online at www.coolrunning.com.

See you August 30 at the covered bridge!

Papermill Theatre Discount

Co-op Members - \$5 off up to two adult tickets – Valid for any night except opening/closing shows and matinee performances. July 3-August 20.

Papermill
THEATRE
North Country Center for the Arts

Summer 2008 Shows:

All Shook Up, Forever Plaid, and The Full Monty

For more information, please visit www.papermilltheatre.org, or call 603-745-2141

Present this coupon at the box office to receive discount. Originals only, no photocopies

Free Home E

New Hampshire Electric Co-op (NHEC) is now accepting applications to receive one of 75 free home energy audits the company is offering in 2008 as part of its efforts to save energy and money for its members.

To apply, you must be an NHEC member and use fossil fuels as your primary heat source. Members who choose to install recommended measures can receive an incentive of up to one-third of the installed cost, up to \$1,000.

The deadline to apply is August 31, 2008. Applications are available for download on the company website at www.nhec.coop, or by mail by calling Member Solutions at 1-800-698-2007.

WATTS HAPPENING!

Carbon Footprint Study

The Co-op has partnered with Portsmouth-based Clean Air - Cool Planet (CA-CP) to quantify and reduce the company's greenhouse gas emissions. CA-CP will provide its expertise in the area of greenhouse gas calculation, and then assist NHEC in preparing a plan to reduce or eliminate emissions from its use of electricity and other fuels in the direct operations of the company.

"We have worked in various capacities with utilities in the past, but this is the first time we've helped a power company tackle emissions from its operations," said Adam Markham, CEO of CA-CP.

Half-Million and Counting...

Two years since making its first grant, the New Hampshire Electric Co-op (NHEC)

Foundation has crossed the half-million dollar mark in charitable giving. From local health care clinics to statewide food banks, more than 80 organizations have benefited from the generosity of NHEC members, who fund the Foundation through monthly contributions. NHEC serves approximately 78,000 members, two-thirds of which agree to have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the next dollar with the proceeds benefiting the Foundation.

Board of Directors Meetings

The NHEC Board of Directors meets monthly at dates and locations that are available on the Co-op website at www.nhec.coop/boardofdirectors, or by calling Sharon Yeaton at 603-536-8801.

What Makes a Marathon Water Heater GREEN?

(and the competition GREEN with envy?)

- Lifetime warranty non-metallic tank
- Highest energy efficiency ratings in industry
- Lowest stand-by heat loss of any tank-type water heater
- First in industry to use Envirofoam® insulation – CFC and HCFC free
- No combustion by-products



Buy your Marathon direct from NHEC and save with members-only pricing.

1-800-698-2007

www.nhec.coop

Higher Costs Driving Rate Increase

A seasonal rate adjustment caused by increases in the cost of electricity and transmission services took effect on May 1, 2008.

The effect on a typical residential member using 500 kilowatt-hours per month is a total bill increase of approximately 7.6%.

The increases are reflected in the Co-op Power

and Regional Access Charge line items on your monthly bill. Effective May 1, the Co-op Power rate increased from 8.9 cents per kWh to 10.2 cents per kWh; the Regional Access Charge increased from \$0.00849 per kWh to \$0.00983 per kWh.

NHEC typically adjusts its rates in late spring to reflect the seasonal increase in the cost of

electricity. Driving that increase is the rising cost of natural gas, which is the fuel most commonly used in New England to generate electricity.

Increases in the Regional Access Charge reflects NHEC's share of costs associated with expanding and improving the New England power transmission grid.

Energy Audits

The home energy audit, a \$350 value, includes blower door testing, building shell assessment, lighting and appliance evaluation and a comprehensive report outlining recommended improvements and potential energy savings.

NHEC is funding free home energy audits and related energy efficiency measures as part of a larger program that includes renewable energy rebates for solar hot water and photovoltaic systems, as well as small wind turbines installed in Co-op territory. Complete details are available at the NHEC energy conservation website – www.smallsteps.coop.



The BACK PAGE

Cooling strategies

Homeowners often associate insulation with reduced heating costs, but improving the building shell is one of the best ways to keep your home cool in the summer. A well sealed and insulated home reduces the amount of warm air that enters during summer months. Natural ventilation can also reduce cooling costs. Leave windows open on opposite sides of the building to allow natural breezes to flow through, or open windows on the second floor to allow warm air to escape. Cover windows with direct sun to keep the warm rays out and open windows which are in the shade.

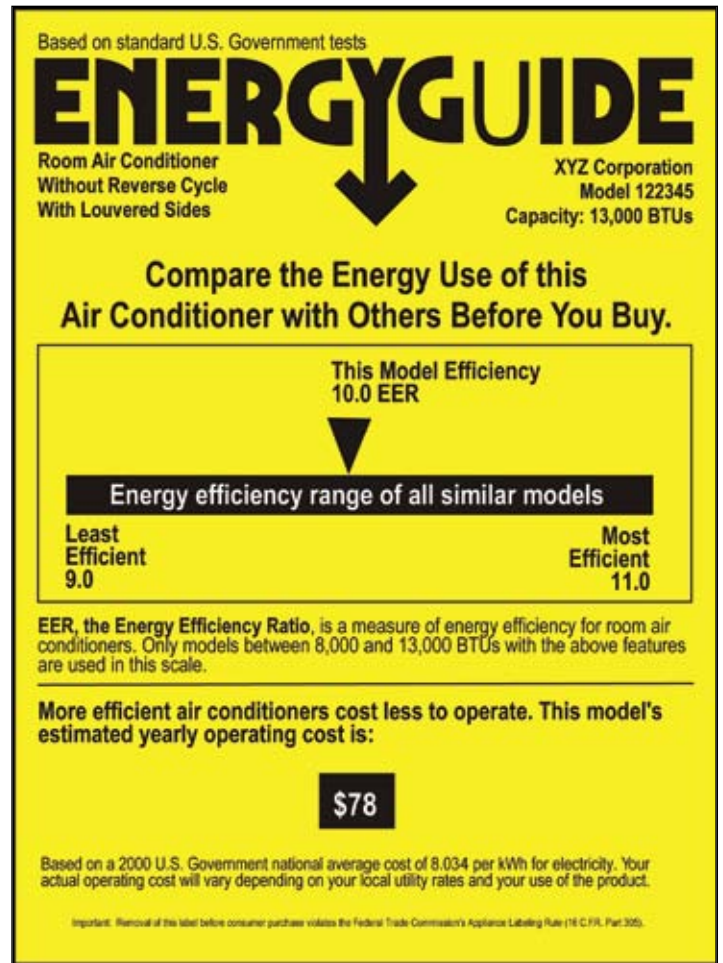
Reducing internal gains (heat released from appliances and lighting) by utilizing Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs), minimizing use of appliances and electronic equipment can also reduce cooling needs.

Another way to improve comfort is to reduce humidity. With fans or other ventilation equipment, homeowners can reduce cooling needs without the expense of air conditioning. Ceiling fans can also improve comfort by circulating air. Moving air feels cooler than still air (think of wind-chill).

Air conditioners also have an efficiency rating like heating equipment. Room air conditioners are rated in EER (Energy Efficiency Ratio - # of BTU's per hour the unit can remove for each watt of power it draws. See sample Energy Guide). Energy Star Qualified Room air conditioners require a minimum 11 EER rating.

When purchasing a new room air conditioner, make sure it is properly sized by referencing the following EPA Guide:

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=roomac.pr_properly_sized



FRED SAID: "If every room air conditioner sold in the U.S. were ENERGY STAR qualified, it would prevent 1.2 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions - the equivalent emissions from 100,000 cars."

(EPA)



Who is Fred? He's Fred Anderson, President & CEO of the Co-op and he's big on energy efficiency!

Save \$20 on ENERGY STAR® Room Air Conditioners



Co-op members can receive a \$20 mail-in rebate after purchasing an ENERGY STAR®-rated room air conditioner. ENERGY STAR® models use 10-20% less energy and save an average of \$20 per year in electric bills when replacing a 10-year old model.

For more information about the full line of ENERGY STAR®-rated appliances, including a list of participating ENERGY STAR® appliance retailers in New Hampshire, please visit the Co-op online at www.nhec.coop.



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
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