

september 2006

NEW HAMPSHIRE

ELECTRIC CO-OP NEWSLETTER

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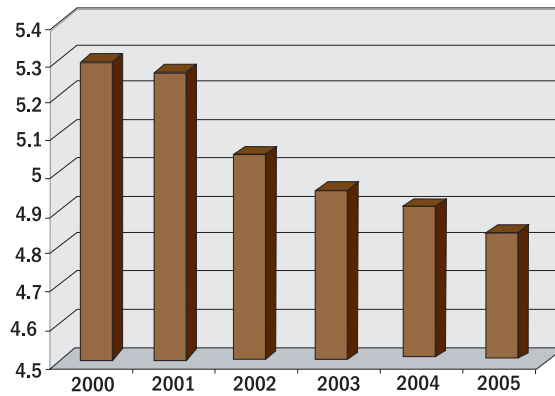
The Rising Cost of Electricity: What We're Doing About It

While the Co-op has little control over the high price of fossil fuels and their effect on the price of electricity, we're doing everything we can to manage costs here and improve the efficiency of our distribution system.

An ongoing Quality of Service program has targeted "system loss" – the difference between the amount of energy sent from substations and the amount billed to members. The installation of remote fault indicators and other Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs) at key points on our system have improved the efficiency with which energy moves through our system. It's also helped with both the prevention of outages and our response time to them.

The Co-op not only distributes electricity to members, it purchases it as well. We have a team of experts whose job it is to make power supply purchases at the right times

distribution service costs (cents/kWh)



and at the best possible prices. We are working on arrangements to receive power from both the market and directly from generators – both existing and new – for traditional and renewable energy when cost effective.

Most importantly, we're working to control

the cost of running the Cooperative itself. As the accompanying graph indicates, we're doing more with less. Year after year, our costs to distribute electricity are decreasing – proof that the improvements we've made to our business systems, operations and corporate culture are working.

Finally, we're doing our best to communicate with you, the member. Straight talk about the cost of electricity is what's needed in these times of increasing costs and we're working to offer you the latest facts about future rate increases before they appear on your bill. We're also offering members a number of ways they can help offset these cost increases through efficiency tips, products and programs.

High electric rates affect all of us – the rates you pay for power are the same that we pay. Together we can make a difference.

Watts Happening

Free Electrical Safety Presentations

Teachers – school is back in session and the Co-op encourages you to make electrical safety a part of your curriculum. The Co-op offers free electrical safety presentations that make it easy and fun to play it safe around electricity. The presentations are geared for children in grades 3-5. For more information or to schedule a presentation, please contact Seth Wheeler at 603-536-8685, or e-mail wheelers@nhec.com.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Co-op Board of Directors meets the second to last Tuesday of each month at Co-op headquarters in Plymouth, unless otherwise noted. The Board will meet next on Tuesday, September 19, 2006. The October meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at the BALSAMS in Dixville Notch, NH. For more information, contact Sharon Yeaton at 603-536-8801, or nhechq@nhec.com.

WildBlueSM Internet: 100 Members and Going Strong

New Hampshire Electric Co-op recently installed its 100th WildBlue Satellite Internet connection! If you're tired of dial-up but can't get broadband where you live, WildBlue is for you. WildBlue gives you always-on, high-speed Internet and e-mail (up to 1.5 Mbps) without tying up your phone line. Our profes-

sional installers have been crisscrossing the state connecting members, so call today to schedule your visit. For more information and to receive a service contract, have your NHEC account number ready and call NHEC at 1-800-698-2007; select "6" at the prompt and enter your account number.



In the next 10 years, 50 million non-Marathon water heaters will rust and leak...



Marathon
WATER HEATERS

**Never rusts.
Never leaks.
Never needs replacing.**

**Buy direct from NHEC
1-800-698-2007**

NOTICE: Disposal of Fleet & Equipment

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) is preparing to offer for bid, vehicles and equipment that are ready for disposition. This bid offering is being made available to the membership, Co-op employees and retirees with the disposal process and listing of vehicles as follows.

Member Solutions representatives cannot answer questions regarding vehicles and equipment being disposed. All questions will be answered during the two vehicle and equipment viewing dates listed.

Bid sheets for submitting bids can be picked up at the viewings. A separate sheet for each vehicle bid must be submitted. Sealed bids are due by the end of the workday (4:30 p.m.) Monday, October 23, 2006. Bid openings and awarding of bids will take place Tuesday, October 24, 2006. Vehicles are sold "As Is" and "Where Is" without warranties of any kind

whatsoever. NHEC reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Payment must be made and vehicle(s) removed by Friday, November 3, 2006. Payment will only be accepted in the form of cash, certified check, or bank draft.

A tentative list of vehicles and equipment for October disposal includes:

- (2) 1-Ton 4x4 w/utility body
- (2) Sedans
- (2) Small vans
- (1) 1/2 ton 4x2 pickup
- (2) 1/2 ton 4x4 pickups
- (1) Cargo van
- (1) Hi-Cube box van
- (1) Portable air compressor
- (2) Cargo trailers
- (1) Truck cap (Fits Shortbed Ranger Pickup)

LIST IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Viewing dates and times:

Tuesday, October 17, 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Wednesday, October 18, 12 noon - 6 p.m.

Bids due:

Monday, October 23, 2006, 4:30 p.m.

Bid openings and awards:

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

Vehicle/Equipment removal:

No later than November 3, 2006, 4:30 p.m.

Vehicle viewing location:

NHEC Vehicle Maintenance Facility
533 Tenney Mountain Highway
Plymouth, NH

*Information on the vehicles and equipment will be provided only at the scheduled viewing dates listed. Please do not contact the Co-op about vehicle and equipment conditions.

FREE Classified Ads! Buy and Sell on the Co-op Website

Back by popular demand, the Co-op Classifieds are online and reaching a world-wide audience!

Got an item for sale? Looking to buy? Check out the Co-op Classifieds. To get started, visit our website at www.nhec.coop. You'll see a link to the Co-op Classifieds where you can browse the latest offerings.

If you're a Co-op member, posting an ad is

EASY and FREE – just log into the My Account section of the website (you'll need to register if you haven't already) then follow the links to post your free ad. Once your ad is approved (no ads will be accepted for firearms, automobiles, or real estate) it will be posted in the Co-op Classifieds for 30 days. There's no limit to the number of ads you can post and you can resubmit ads every 30 days.

Buy! Sell! Post ads for FREE! The Co-op Classifieds is a new twist on an old Co-op tradition. Log on and check it out today.



CO-OP Member Discounts

**Present this coupon for
half-price greens fees!**

\$22.50 (including cart*) at Owl's Nest Golf Club on Saturday, October 28, 2006 and Sunday, October 29, 2006. Coupon is valid for both days. Owl's Nest Golf Club, Campton, NH.

For directions and course information visit the course online at www.owlstnecgolf.com.

*Limit four players per coupon. Coupon is good for New Hampshire Electric Co-op members only. Original coupon only, no photocopies will be accepted.



For member service please call
1-800-698-2007 or visit us
online at www.nhec.coop

To report an outage please call
1-800-343-6432 or e-mail
nheccc@nhec.com

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

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RESOURCECORNER

Co-op's Home Energy Solutions Program

The Co-op offers this program to assist members in maximizing the energy efficiency of their homes. Members with electric heat can receive a free Home Energy Analysis which will identify ways to reduce energy consumption, potentially saving money on your electric heating and cooling bill. We offer cash rebates up to \$2,500 toward the purchase and installation of recommended efficiency products – from 50% to 100% off the regular price of some measures – to reduce your up-front investment in energy efficiency measures. Contact the Co-op at 1-800-698-2007 for details.

Improve Your Home's Performance

The New Hampshire Residential Energy Performance Association is your comprehensive guide to home energy efficiency services and programs available right here in New Hampshire. If you're interested in a professional assessment or complete energy evaluation of your home, follow this link to a list of qualified professionals in New Hampshire: <http://www.repa-nh.org/>.

Welcome to the Back Page, a new feature in your monthly newsletter devoted to helping you save energy and money. With the cost of energy rising dramatically, it's more important than ever to conserve energy and learn the simple steps you can take in your home or business to save money. Check the Back Page every month for seasonal tips, new products and Co-op programs that will keep your energy budget under control.

Seal It Up for Comfort and Savings

Air sealing with caulking or low expansion foam is the most cost effective energy improvement you can make to your home. Homeowners often think that extreme dry air is caused by air distribution heating systems or woodstoves. Warm air can hold more moisture than cold air. Dry indoor air is usually caused by excessive cold air infiltration. Seal up any large holes to the outside in the basement and first floor, and make sure all doors have a good weather-strip. In order to

maximize the efficiency of your home, consider hiring a professional energy auditor to inspect insulation and measure building leakage. Their targeted list of improvements will pay back quickly and make your home more comfortable.

Reducing cold air infiltration may eliminate the need for a humidifier, which will improve indoor air quality and help reduce your electric bill.

Compact Fluorescent Lights – Simple Savings

If every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with an ENERGY STAR® qualified compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL), it would prevent enough pollution to equal removing one million cars from the road!

Lighting Conversion and Savings Chart

See how much you'll save by switching to energy-efficient lighting products!

Incandescent Wattage	CFL Equivalent	Lifetime Savings*
30-40w	11w	\$20-\$30
40-50w	13w	\$30-\$41
50-60w	15w	\$38-\$50
60-75w	18w	\$46-\$62
75-90w	23w	\$57-\$74
100w	25-27w	\$80
100-120w	30w	\$77-\$99

*savings based on 10,000 hour bulb lifetime, at 11 cents per kWh

About Our Cover

Cover Image: *Birch Hill*. 4" x 6" pen and ink of Lake Winnepesaukee, NH in sepia tone by Robert Sarnoff. Check out the NHEC Co-op Cover Collection at: www.cafepress.com/nhec_art.