

your electric Co-op's newsletter August 2020

Briefly...

ATTENTION MEMBER BUSINESSES

NHEC is offering enhanced incentives for member businesses looking to improve their energy efficiency. For a limited time, NHEC will provide rebates up to 75% of the project cost (up to \$40,000) for the installation of measures like LEDs, LED controls, and refrigeration controls. Funding is limited and projects must be pre-approved prior to installation. To learn more or apply: NHEC Program Administrator Joe Lajewski (lajewskij@nhec.com; 603-536-8663).

Three Elected to NHEC Board

NHEC members elected three people to the Board of Directors in the 2020 election. Leo Dwyer of Sandwich was re-elected to the Board, while William Darcy of Benton and Madeline McElaney of Plymouth have joined the Board as first-time Directors. NHEC Directors serve three-year terms. Complete election results are available online at www.nhec.com. Thank you for voting!

Board of Directors Meetings

The NHEC Board of Directors regularly meets on the last Tuesday of each month. Please check the Board of Directors page on the Co-op web site at www.nhec.com, or contact Sharon Yeaton at (603)536-8801; yeatons@nhec.com to confirm the current month's time and location.

NHEC Works to Meet Members' Broadband Needs

NHEC is moving quickly to meet our members' need for affordable, reliable, high-speed internet access. NHEC has been working for the past several years to support and facilitate broadband expansion to unserved members. In June, a majority of voting NHEC members supported a ballot question to add providing broadband service to the Co-op's founding documents. While the ballot question fell just short of achieving the two-thirds needed for adoption, the strong support it received demonstrated member desire for NHEC to more aggressively pursue ways to help expand the broadband service in our service territory.

As one part of NHEC's continuing efforts, in early July the Co-op applied to the State of New Hampshire for funding to support the construction of fiber optic broadband networks in Lempster and Colebrook. If NHEC is awarded the grant, the money would be used to help build pilot networks in these two communities to provide high-speed internet to as many as 845 members by the end of 2020.

(SEE UPDATED INFORMATION AT WWW.NHEC.COM)

Regardless of the outcome of the grant request, NHEC will continue to explore partnerships and funding opportunities to further the goal of ensuring all members have access to high-speed internet. The NHEC Board has also created a new Broadband Committee, which developed the grant application and is exploring creating a new broadband entity to focus on these efforts. For the latest information, follow the broadband channel on our website news feed at: www.nhec.com/category/broadband/

Looking Out For You



Following a lightning strike this summer, NHEC Ossipee District Lineworkers Jim Ross (left) and Josh Collier were responding to an outage in Sandwich when they saw smoke and flames rolling from the eaves of a member's home. No one was home but three dogs were locked inside. After kicking in a door and some amazingly calm coaxing, the guys managed to get the dogs outside to safety!

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HOME / PROGRAMS / ENERGY AUDITS & WEATHERIZATION

ENERGY AUDITS & WEATHERIZATION



Save Money and Make Your Home More Energy Efficient and Comfortable

Looking to make your home more energy efficient and more comfortable? The Home Heating Index tool is an easy, online way to determine if your home qualifies for an audit that can ultimately help you earn energy efficiency incentives and rebates as part of the NHSaves Audits and Weatherization Program.

Along with these meaningful incentives, the program offers access to established contractor relationships and low-interest financing that contribute to savings of up to \$4,000 in rebates on overall improvement costs.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Does Your Home Need Weatherizing? Start Here!

It only takes a couple of clicks to find out if your home is eligible for energy efficiency incentives through NHEC's Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® program.

Please visit the NHSaves Energy Audits & Weatherization page at nhsaves.com/programs/ for additional information and eligibility calculator.

If you qualify, a participating certified contractor will perform a comprehensive energy assessment of your home and recommend improvements. If you go forward with the work, NHEC will pay up to 50% or more of the installed measures.

For current program information and incentives, please contact NHEC Program Administrator Phil LaMoreaux: lamoreauxp@nhec.com; 603-536-8856.

Typical recommended measures include:

- SEALING AIR LEAKS AND ADDING INSULATION
- SEALING DUCTWORK
- UPGRADING LIGHTING
- IMPROVING HEATING AND VENTILATION SYSTEMS
- AFTER-INCENTIVE COSTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCING

Beware COVID-19 Scams!

Using the fear and uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic, scammers are targeting aging adults and others. Hang up immediately if:

- Someone calls pretending to be a family member who needs money to treat COVID-19.
- Someone calls offering COVID-19 home test kits, medicines or vaccines.
- Someone calls to "verify" your personal information so you can receive a stimulus check.

Learn more at: www.doj.nh.gov/covid-19-scams/

Help Is Available

NHEC recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic is creating financial challenges for many of our members. If you are falling behind on your bill, please call us at **1-800-698-2007** to set up a payment arrangement that meets your needs.

Other resources include:

- **NHEC Project Care**
Emergency bill assistance
To apply: www.nhec.com/project-care/
- **Electric Assistance Program (EAP)**
State program provides discounts on electric bills
To apply: nearest Community Action Agency
- **NH Health & Human Services COVID-19 Website**
Guidance on testing, financial, food, housing & health assistance and more
www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/residents.htm

NHEC Foundation Supports Communities with \$54,000 in Grants

The NHEC Foundation awarded 12 grants this summer totaling \$54,395. Full details at www.nhec.com.

Carroll County RSVP * Easterseals New Hampshire * Gibson Center for Senior Services * Lakes Region Community Services * LISTEN Community Services * Local Foods Plymouth * NH Audubon * NHPR * Pemi Youth Center * Reach High Scholars Program (Raymond) * Squam Lakes Association * White Horse Addiction Center



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For member service,
please call
800.698.2007 (8-5, M-F)
solutions@nhec.com

Report an Outage,
please call
800.343.6432
www.nhec.com