



Clay County Water Update

Clay County Water (CCW) has completed the construction of the original area of Phase 2. All of the water samples have cleared and we have obtained the operating permits from the Illinois EPA.

Clay County Water, Inc. also received word from USDA Rural Development, that the funds have been obligated for the Phase 3 project. The Phase 3 project includes about 50 miles of water line located in Southeast Xenia, South Stanford, South Harter, South Clay City Townships and a few other short line extensions in the area.

We are now finalizing the map of where exactly the line will go. If you have not been contacted, or would like to sign up for water service to your location, please call. Do not put this off any longer.

Doug Hockman 662-6666, Sue Pettit 662-4305,
Bob Pierson 662-7471, Kye Hemphill 662-4590,
Bill Seelman 662-8479, Dwight Edgington 678-2782
Kevin Henry 618-838-6123, or Hank Hilmes 662-2388.

Celebrating 30 years

Ginger Williams, Bookkeeper at Clay Electric Cooperative in Flora, Ill. celebrated her 30th year at the Cooperative on Dec. 29, 2010. She was presented with a watch for her years of service. Ginger's duties include payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable. She lives in Flora with her husband, retired Clay Electric Lineman, Ray Williams.



Ginger Williams is presented a watch for her years of service by Executive Vice President and General Manager John Meng.

Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

December 20, 2010

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Bill Croy, Neil Gould, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolphi, Danny Schnepfer and Greg Smith. Also present were Executive Vice President/General Manager John Meng, and Cooperative Attorney Melanie Pearce. The invocation was given by Trustee Gould.

Approved the minutes of the regular meeting held November 22, 2010.

Accepted 12 new members for service.

Canceled 12 members no longer receiving service.

Approved work orders in the amount of \$55,957.54.

Accepted the disbursement list for the month of November, 2010.

Approved the financial and maintenance reports for the month of November, 2010 as presented by Gen. Mgr. Meng.

Heard a report by Trustee Logan concerning the recent AIEC monthly Board meeting, including announcements of retirements by various AIEC Employees, upcoming strategic planning meeting, the upcoming NRECA Annual Meeting, various carbon-related legislative acts, the technological upgrading to the AIEC office, and the dates of the Youth Tour activities.

Heard a report by Trustee Herman concerning the recent SIPC Board meeting, including financial information, the status of securing financing, and the upcoming strategic planning meeting.

Disbursed, Reviewed, and Approved estimates for the replacement of

co-operative vehicle unit # 1.

Appointed as delegates to the NRECA Annual Meeting for NRECA Frank Czyzewski, and Alternate Richard Rudolphi, for CFC Frank Herman and Alternate Danny Schnepfer, for NRTC Kevin Logan and Alternate Bill Croy, and for Federated Richard Rudolphi and Alternate Greg Smith.

Approved write-offs for December 2010 in the amount of \$675.93.

Approved changing the regular monthly board meeting from January 24, to January 31, 2011.

Approved Special meeting for January 10, 2011 for presentation of Geo-Decisions regarding mapping project and a presentation by CFC Governor Sheldon Peterson.

Discussed an upcoming Prairie State Energy Campus tour.

Adjournment.



An Energy Efficiency Program for Clay Electric Cooperative Members

With our new Home program, you can earn up to \$1,500 in rebates for making energy-efficient improvements to your home. Call for more details on this program 618-662-2171 or 1-800-582-9012.

The Rebates

- \$1,500 – Geothermal heat pumps closed loop (14.1 EER or 3.3 COP)
- \$1,500 – Geothermal heat pumps open loop (16.2 EER or 3.6 COP)
- \$1,000 – Air source heat pumps (16 SEER)
- \$350 – Natural Gas or LP furnace (95% efficiency)
- \$350 – Central air conditioner (16 SEER)
- \$250 – Heat pump water heater (2.0 Energy Factor)
- 30% of cost of insulation and weatherization (max of \$500)

Maximum rebate per household is \$1,500. Rebates began May 10, 2010, and will continue until the money is exhausted.



Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Call before digging

Spring marks the arrival of the digging season and JULIE, Inc. (JULIE) plays a vital role in protecting communities in Illinois. The free service is intended to keep homeowners and contractors safe from personal injury and communities free of utility damage and inconvenient outages.

To ensure that underground utility lines in the work area are marked, simply call 8-1-1 or visit illinois1call.com to submit a locate request to JULIE at least two working days before digging. JULIE, Inc. will arrange for its member utility operators to have the underground lines at the project site marked, free of charge, so that homeowners and professional excavators can dig safely.

"Professional locators from local member utility companies visit the dig site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines with spray paint or flags," said Kevin Chmura, director of public relations for JULIE, Inc. "As an important personal and home safety reminder, these locators rarely need access into your home to complete a locate request and should always have proper identification clearly visible. JULIE, Inc. personnel never visit dig sites and do not locate any underground lines."

With a growing trend of do-it-yourselfers focusing on outdoor beautification projects, types of projects that require notifying JULIE include, but are not limited

to, planting trees, bushes or shrubs; putting up a fence or tent; installing a swing set, a mail box post or water feature such as a pool, pond or fountain; building a deck; or preparing a new garden or landscape area.

JULIE's call center agents are available to receive and process requests 24 hours a day, seven days a week at either 8-1-1 or 800-892-0123. E-Request, a free, web-based program for homeowners with Internet access who prefer to enter their own utility locate requests via www.illinois1call.com is also a popular option.

Based in Joliet, the not-for-profit organization represents 1,780 members and annually receives 1 million locate requests. Because one call to JULIE results in communication with multiple member utility companies, notifications to JULIE, Inc. last year resulted in 5.8 million messages being transmitted to members. JULIE neither owns nor

marks any underground lines.

For a copy of JULIE's Homeowner's Guide, an explanation of the color-code markings and information about the one-call process, visit www.illinois1call.com.



*Call
Before
You Dig*



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7784 Old Hwy. 50, P.O. Box 517, Flora, Illinois 62839

618-662-2171 • 800-582-9012

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

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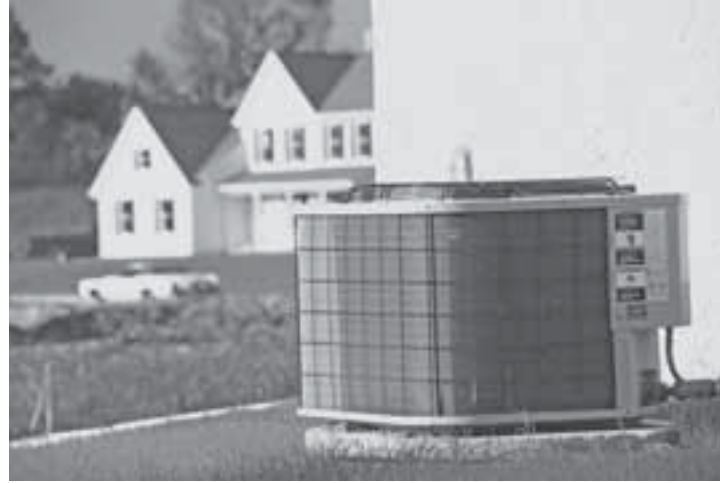
During the sweltering summer months people nationwide crank up their air conditioners in an effort to stay cool. In the struggling economy, the Energy Education Council wants everyone to get the most for their energy dollars. Be sure your house is ready to beat the heat this year by following a few guidelines.

Most of these suggestions require little effort or cost. The investment is well worth it with added comfort and savings.

- Check the insulation. According to EnergyStar insulation is usually measured using the R-Value. R-Value is a measure of insulation's ability to resist heat traveling through it. The higher the R-Value the more effective it will be to beat the heat. The level of insulation recommended for your area can be found at www.EnergyStar.gov. If you are lacking the recommended insulation, you can add more right on top of the old insulation. However, don't put a vapor barrier between the layers. Be sure the insulation doesn't block vents or cover exhaust fans.
- Ventilate the attic. When the outside temperature is in the 90s, your attic can easily reach 140 degrees. Adequately sized vents and/or an attic fan can help keep hot air from building up.
- Get the air conditioner ready. Shut off power to the unit before cleaning it. On the inside, wash or vacuum cleanable filters; replace disposable ones. Outside, clear leaves and other debris away from the condensing unit. Hose off any accumulated dirt.
- Put a timer or programmable thermostat on your air conditioner. Leave it on a higher temperature while you're away, and set it to cool the house half an hour before you return home.
- Install awnings over windows exposed to direct sunlight.
- Consider installing ceiling fans. On moderately warm days, fans can circulate enough air to keep you comfortable without air conditioning. Even on hotter days when you use the air conditioner, you can set your thermostat higher and save.
- Open windows and doors and let outside air cool your house on moderate days, and be sure to keep them closed when you're operating the air conditioner.
- Avoid unnecessary trips in and out of the house, especially on the most sultry days. Heat and humidity come in each time you open the door.
- Keep the sun out of your house. Close blinds, shades or draperies during the hottest part of the day. Consider planting fast-growing trees and shrubs near your home but away from power line, to provide shade.
- Set lamps, TV sets, and other heat-producing devices away from the air conditioner thermostat. Heat from the lamp could cause the thermostat to read higher temperature and keep the air conditioner running more than necessary.

One secret to getting the best efficiency from your air conditioner is to be sure the maximum amount of air moves across the coils. Make sure air can flow freely over the inside and outside coils. Shut off power to the unit before cleaning it.

Outside, clear away leaves and debris. Inside, clean or replace filters. If you can reach the fan blades, be sure the power is turned off and then dust them – if they're filled with lint they can't push as much air. If your air conditioner doesn't give you as much cooling as it has in the past,



call a cooling professional to inspect and tune it up.

If you're shopping for a new unit, check the efficiency rating, or SEER. The higher the SEER number, the more efficient the air conditioner. Consider buying an Energy Star approved unit, which uses around 14 percent less energy than traditional air conditioning units for central air and at least 10 percent less for room units. Energy Star and local utilities are offering many incentives to upgrade appliances and insulation this year. Be sure to visit www.EnergyStar.gov/taxcredits and contact your local utility for more information.

Like a car that gives you more miles per gallon, an air conditioner with a higher SEER gives you more cooling comfort for each energy dollar.