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Energy efficiency grants available to EnerStar members

Will you be upgrading your HVAC system this year? Could additional insulation in the attic or foam in your crawlspace help reduce your energy bill? If so, then consider applying for an energy efficiency grant for EnerStar members. There are two

separate grants, each with their own unique energy efficiency rating requirements. Some conditions apply so call EnerStar at 800-635-4145 prior to making your improvements to verify that you qualify.

The first grant is HomE Lite

available from the Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Funding is limited so you will want to act quickly. The second one is the Power-Moves grant available from our wholesale power supplier and is available through the end of the year.



- Geothermal heat pump - \$1500
- Air source heat pump - \$1000
- High efficiency air conditioner - \$350
- Heat pump water heater - \$ 250
- Insulation and air sealing – 50% of project costs up to \$1000
- Energy audit – up to \$300, must be completed by a BPI Accredited Energy Auditor

Rebates began on January 1, 2013, and will continue until the money is exhausted. Act quickly because this is a statewide grant.



- Heat pump water heater - \$400
- Air source heat pump – replacing electric resistance heat - \$1500
- Air source heat pump – placing air source heat pump - \$250
- Geothermal heat pump – replacing electric resistance heat - \$1500

Heat Loss/Heat Gain report required along with other paperwork. Grant program runs through December 31, 2013.

Remember, let us recycle your old fridge or freezer. We'll haul it away for free, you'll get \$35 and save up to \$150 a year in energy costs!

Improving your energy efficiency in 2013? Call EnerStar!

Last minute note: at the time this publication was going to print, there was some discussion about energy efficiency tax credits becoming available again. Watch our newsletter for further news or talk to your tax accountant.

EnerStar takes electrical safety to the class room

In early January, EnerStar Electric Cooperative took their show on the road as students at Marshall High School and Martinsville High School had the pleasure of watching Kyle Finley's "Live Line Demo." With the use of hot dogs and firing breathing squirrels, Kyle uses his own unique teaching methods to educate students about electrical safety. The program takes on a serious note as they discuss the dangers of texting while driving and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. "Many of the students have seen the Live Line Demo as 4th graders when they traveled to EnerStar for the day," said Angela Griffin, EnerStar's Manager of Member Services. "But when they start driving, things change. We want them to know what to do should they be in an unfortunate situation where the car they are riding in should happen to hit an electric pole. This program has saved lives in other communities so we feel it is a very important event to sponsor." The City of Marshall and Norris Electric Cooperative, based out of Newton, which serves the southern portion of Clark county, cosponsored the event. Last year, EnerStar took the show to Paris High School and Chrisman High School.



Telephone numbers to know:

1-800-635-4145

All Calls – Anytime - Anywhere

Whether you are calling the office or reporting a power outage, we ask all members to please use our toll free number.

1-888-999-4201

Pay by Phone

For those who pay their EnerStar bill over the phone, please call our new Pay by Phone system. Members can check account balances, pay their bills and sign up for automatic reoccurring debit/credit cards and electronic check payments by phone 24 hours a day.



Board Elections-Know How to Vote

The cooperative's annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to take part in the business of your member-owned cooperative. It is the democratic control that affords you, the member, the privilege of attending the annual meeting and participating in the director elections. A director is a member just like you. He or she represents your district and is your voice in the cooperative.

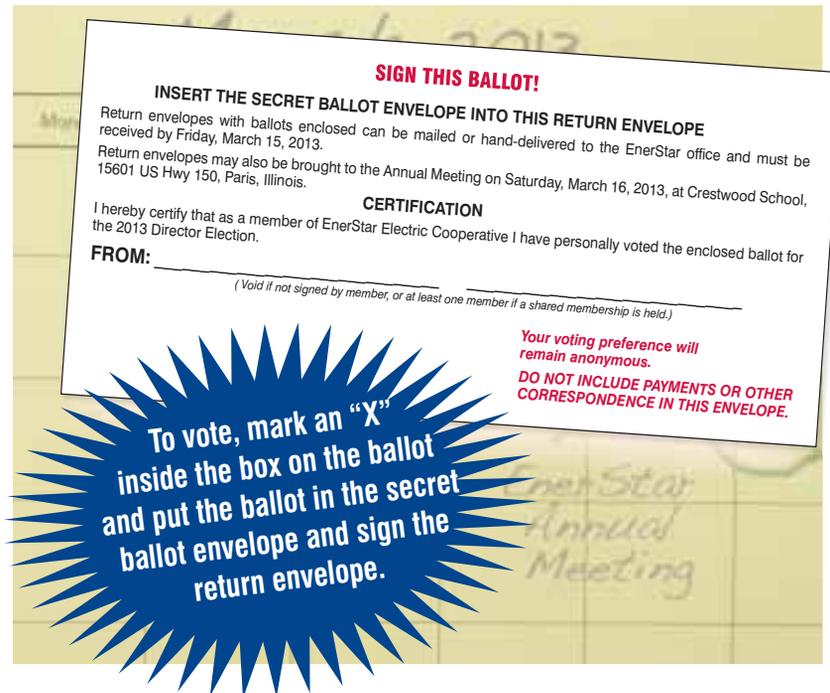
The EnerStar service territory is divided into nine Representative Districts. Representative districts are then assigned to one of three Voting Districts. Although the Representative Districts range in size, they contain approximately equal numbers of members.

Via first-class mail in mid-February members will receive an envelope containing all necessary voting documentation for the EnerStar board elections. The following items will be included: Official Notice, Voting Ballot, Ballot Envelope and a Return Envelope.

OFFICIAL NOTICE – This is the official announcement of the meeting as required by our bylaws. The notice includes the meeting date, time, and location. It also contains election information and voting instructions. Members should carefully read these instructions to ensure their ballot is completed correctly. The notice will also include a brief candidate biography. The candidates are solely responsible for the content provided in the biography.

VOTING BALLOT – To properly complete a ballot, members should mark an "X" in the box. **The two lines of the "X" must cross inside the box.** Members must not color in the box or use a check mark when voting. The Election Inspectors are required to void any ballot incorrectly completed. You will put your completed ballot inside the Ballot Envelope and seal it.

BALLOT ENVELOPE – This envelope is smaller than the return envelope with the words "Ballot Envelope" clearly stated on the front. Completed ballots should be sealed inside this envelope. The ballot envelope



should be placed in the return envelope and sealed.

RETURN ENVELOPE – The return envelope is the larger of the two envelopes. For the convenience of our members, the return envelope will be stamped and self-addressed to the attention of the Election Inspectors. **Members are required to sign the back of the return envelope where indicated.** This certification verifies that the member personally voted the enclosed ballot. If the account is a joint membership, only one member is required to certify the ballot.

Members may return their ballots one of two ways. Return envelopes

with ballots enclosed can be mailed or hand-delivered to the EnerStar office by **Friday, March 15, 2013**. Ballots received in the office after that date will be null and void. Return envelopes with ballots may also be brought to the Annual meeting on Saturday, March 16, 2013.

Election Inspectors, chosen by the cooperative legal counsel, open the ballot envelopes and count the ballots at the Annual Meeting. Members' voting preferences will remain anonymous. Election results will be announced at the close of the meeting after all business properly brought before the meeting has concluded.

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday March 16, 2013

Crestwood School • 15601 US Hwy 150
Paris, Illinois

Member Breakfast 7:30-9:00 a.m.
Member Registration 7:30-9:30 a.m.
Meeting Begins 9:30 a.m.

Voting Qualifications: Who Can Vote



Because there are certain rules regarding voting procedures for the Annual Meeting of Members, it is important to remind members of their voting rights and responsibilities. The following points explain who can and cannot vote in the annual director election. By knowing these points, you can be assured your vote counts at the meeting.

- If only one person signed the original membership application, then only that person is allowed to vote. This is known as a Single Membership. With this membership, only one name is printed on the billing statement.
- If a husband and wife both signed the membership application,

then one of them may cast one vote for that membership. This is known as a Joint Membership. Both names are printed on the billing statement. Sometimes, a membership was taken out before the member was married. In that case, the new spouse may not vote for the membership. A single membership can easily be converted to a Joint Membership. If you would like to make this change, contact the EnerStar office prior to February 1, 2013, for details.

- If you pay your landlord for the electrical usage at a location and the landlord's name is on the bill, you are not able to vote for that location. The membership belongs to the landlord, who would vote the membership.

- If you have power of attorney for a member, you may vote that membership as long as the form is on file at the cooperative office.

If you have any further questions regarding your membership status, please contact the EnerStar office at 800-635-4145 during normal business hours. We will be more than happy to assist you with any questions you may have regarding your account.

Remember, members can vote by mail, but ballots must be received in our office no later than Friday, March 15, 2013! Otherwise, *bring your voting ballot with you to the Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, March 16, 2013.*

VOTING

Three director positions are open for election at the forthcoming 74th Annual Meeting of Members. If you have questions regarding your voting district, contact the Member Services department at 800-635-4145.

<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Voting District A - Representative District 3</p> <p>Currently served by Dale English, Paris</p> <p><i>The Townships of Buck, Paris, Hunter, and Stratton in Edgar County, Ill.</i></p> <p>3 year term</p>	<p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Voting District B - Representative District 4</p> <p>Currently served by David Sprigg, Marshall</p> <p><i>The Townships of Westfield and Douglas in Clark County, Ill.; all that portion of the Township of Dolson lying north of the 2000th Road in Clark County, Ill.; and all that portion of the Township of Wabash lying north of Inter- state Highway 70 in Clark County, Ill.</i></p> <p>3 year term</p>	<p style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">Voting District C - Representative District 8</p> <p>Currently served by Tom Jones, Marshall</p> <p><i>All that portion of the Township of Wabash lying south of Inter- state Highway 70 in Clark County, Ill.</i></p> <p>3 year term</p>
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3 Voting Districts

A	B	C
1	4	7
2	5	8
3	6	9

Voting Districts A, B, and C each contain three Representative Districts in shades of red, green, and blue, respectively.