

NEWS, NOTES & VIEWS 02/15



HomE 3.0 - Co-op Energy Efficiency Rebates

The HomE program (pronounced home E) started in 2010 with grant funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's State Energy Plan. Your electric co-op and other co-ops across the state have helped make energy efficiency improvements to hundreds of homes with these funds.

The HomE program's initial success meant there would be approval for a second round of funding. And now there is a third round, but it is smaller and will likely be the last of the funds.

If you didn't get a chance to participate in the first or second round of rebates, you now have a third and final chance. HomE 3.0 rebates are available until funding runs out, or until May 31. The program starts on February 1 and funds are on a first-come, first-served basis. So don't wait.

HomE 3.0 Incentive Rebates Include:

- Geothermal system \$1,000
- Air-Source Heat Pump (16 SEER or higher) - \$500
- Insulation and Weatherization 30% of total project cost, up to \$500
- Heat Pump Water Heater \$250

With the help of the first round of HomE funding Illinois Rural Electric members installed geothermal heat pumps, air-source heat pumps, and made insulation and weatherization improvements.

"All cooperative electric members are eligible for HomE 3.0. These rebates, plus the federal income tax credits that are available for some of the projects, make this a great time to make your home more energy efficient," says Justin Gumbel, co-op electrical engineer.

For more information call the co-op office at 1-800-468-4732 or visit www.e-co-op.com.



Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative

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Youth Day participants get an up close look at state government. Picture above was taken at Youth Day 2014.

Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative is sponsoring its "Youth to Springfield" and "Youth to Washington" programs this spring/summer. Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative and its sister cooperatives across the state have sponsored these programs for over 50 years in an attempt to introduce students to government and the political process.

Each year, nearly 300 outstanding students get an up close and first hand look at democracy in action when they meet their elected representatives during Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day.

Over the years, thousands of students have learned how government works and why it's important for every citizen to get involved in it. State senators and representatives have the opportunity to inspire and encourage the leaders of tomorrow during this annual event, held in Springfield.

The co-op will sponsor selected sophomore or junior students who complete an application and essay from each high school in its service area on an all-expense paid bus trip to Springfield on Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

During the day your students and their counterparts from other western Illinois high schools will meet their elected senators and representatives at the Capitol and learn first-hand about the workings of state government. In addition, the students will tour the Old State Capitol and the Abraham Lincoln Museum during the day.

Applications and parental consent forms must be received at the co-op office no later than February 24, 2015. If you have any questions or would like to attend Youth Day, please contact your school's guidance counselor.

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The co-op will give away a Chevy Volt and install a charging station at a member's home in December 2015. Entering the drawing is easy. Visit the co-op's website, www.e-co-op.com.

Click on Login or Register under myBill. Next, click Register and enter your member information including your e-mail address. <u>Make sure to choose Yes for paperless</u> billing.

We'll e-mail you your bill. Then you pay your monthly statement online at e-co-op. com. Every time you receive a paperless bill and pay online, you've entered to win the Volt! You could have 12 chances to win.

The co-op is doing the giveaway in order to achieve long term savings from printing, postage, and processing. Once a significant number of members receive an e-mail statement and pay online, we'll recover the cost of the Volt and continue to reduce costs.

The co-op currently offers ZERO.5% financing on electric cars for qualified electric members. On top of financing the car and charging station, an electric car rate of fives cents a kWh is offered from 11pm-7am for charging the car.

If you are interested in financing an electric car, give us a call at 1-800-468-473 or visit www.e-co-op.com and click Electric Cars under the Services tab.

How to Sign Up for Online Bill Pay and Paperless Billing

Visit www.e-co-op.com and follow the four steps below to sign up for online bill pay and paperless billing. If you are already paying your bill online and would like to switch to paperless billing, login to your account and choose Account Management / Paperless then click Yes for paperless billing.

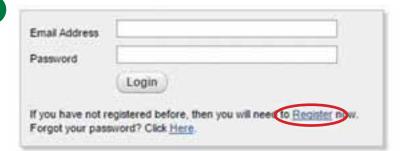
If you have any questions, please give us a call at 1-800-468-4732 and a customer service representative will help you.



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Pay Your Bill, View usage, or Sign Up for Paperless Billing

Login or Register



3

Registration - Step 1

Please enter a valid account number, member number and email address. Registration requires a valid account number and member number off your most recent bil. Once step 1 is completed, you will receive an email that contains a link to continue the registration process.

Account Number

Member Number

Email Address

Confirm Email Address

Paperless Billing

Yes No Make sure to choose Yes

I understand that I have authorized the coop to communicate with me in the above manner

Once you click Submit, you will receive an e-mail with a link to enter a password and complete the registration.

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