

## 2011 Annual Meeting Preview



This year we celebrate our 75th anniversary at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 11th at the Scott County Fairgrounds in Winchester. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. Members will elect

four directors, hear reports on the condition of their cooperative, and be asked to act on a proposal to amend the Bylaws. We encourage members to come out and meet their Board of Directors and employees.



### Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# 75th Annual Meeting



**Win  
Prizes!**

**Four \$500 Prizes**

**Twenty \$100 Prizes**

**Eleven \$500 Prizes for  
your favorite charity**

**Each Member will receive a \$10  
credit at registration!**

A proposed change to the Bylaws will be voted on by the membership. Article Three, Section 3 of the Bylaws states that Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be delivered not less than five days and no more than 14 days before the date of the meeting. We propose a change to the Bylaws of 14 days to 60 days. This change will allow us to better ensure that every member receives the Notice of the Annual Meeting prior to the meeting. In the past, we have had members not receive their notice in a timely manner. This proposed Bylaw change would also allow the co-op to save around \$7500 by no longer requiring us to mail the notice first-class.

If you cannot attend in person, we urge you to send your proxy with a neighbor or a friend.

For those in attendance, refreshments will be served and cash prizes will be given away. Prairie Power, our power supplier, will be at the meeting with the Energy Efficiency Wall again this year. The Energy Efficiency Wall is a 16 ft. display that illustrates "What Makes a Home Energy Efficient." The wall features various kinds of insulation, proper caulking points, ventilation equipment, and lighting systems. Members will also be able to receive energy efficiency advice from experts.



# Tips for Beating High Summer Electric Bills



Don't let warmer weather turn into "summertime blues" when your monthly electric bill arrives. Here are some energy-saving tips.

## Adjust the Thermostat

Lowering your thermostat in the winter can save as much as \$85 per year. During warmer months, raising the thermostat a few degrees can save money, too. For a rule of thumb, adjusting your thermostat one degree down in the winter or up in the summer will save you about three percent.

Take advantage of programmable thermostats that make it easy to save by using pre-programmed settings to regulate your home's temperature throughout the year.

## Use Fans Throughout the Home

While they don't replace air conditioners or heat pumps, fans move air and help you feel more comfortable. On milder days, fans can save as much as 60 percent on electric bills. Fans cool people, not rooms, so turn them off when you leave.

## Look for ENERGY STAR Equipment

When it's time to replace your cooling system, replace it with an ENERGY STAR qualified model. Doing so could reduce your energy costs by as much as 30 percent. Tax credits and rebates on qualifying ENERGY STAR appliances may be available.

For more information on saving on your electric bill, visit [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov) or [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).



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Do you use Facebook? If so, find our page at [facebook.com/illinoisruralelectric](https://facebook.com/illinoisruralelectric) and click *Like*. We will be using our Facebook page more regularly to keep members updated on outages, post energy saving tips, and any other information we may find beneficial to the membership. We will also be posting pictures from events and day-to-day operations.



## Energy Efficiency

### *Tip of the Month*

Consider using solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufacturers' instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge each day.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy