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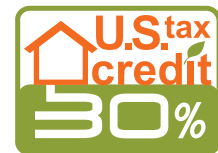
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Although cooperatives were created for different reasons, all of them were built by people, for people, and were based on the same core operating principles.

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Historically low energy prices can't last

Illinois electric co-ops are prepared for long-term

To introduce myself, for the past several years I served as Director of the Illinois Power Agency (IPA). The IPA is the state agency created in 2007 by the Illinois General Assembly to purchase wholesale power for certain customers of Ameren and ComEd, the state's investor-owned electric utilities. In October 2011, I started a consulting service and now advise communities on their energy purchasing options.

In my current capacity as an energy consultant, my job is price hedging. I identify risks, handicapping them for probability, and then explore what I can do to avoid those risks.

Prices for the electricity commodity have been driven lower largely by demand erosion due to the troubled economy. Since we entered into this recession in 2008, Illinois has seen about a 9 percent decline in industrial demand. The big question is how long will this low electricity commodity price market continue.

Conventional wisdom from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) indicates that the current price of 9.8¢ for a kWh of electricity will drop to 9.2¢ by 2019. Without meaning to sound too critical, I would suggest that the Energy Information Administration has perhaps over-emphasized the role of low natural gas prices in making its projections. Their projected future electricity prices appear to me to be artificially low based on overly high expectations for new natural gas supplies.

The U.S. DOE claimed that 410 trillion cubic feet of recoverable shale gas was available in the Marcellus formation. The U.S. Geological Survey, the guys who know about dirt and rocks, claim that only about 84 trillion cubic feet are available. In addition, any increases in regulatory

requirements on natural gas "fracking" will likely reduce supplies and increase prices.

Even if we get all of that supply to market, will prices stay low forever? The answer is no. In Europe and Asia, they will pay \$12 to \$15 a million btu for natural gas. We are paying \$2 to \$3 so there is a profit incentive to get it from here to there. We are turning liquefied natural gas import terminals into export terminals. I believe that retail electricity prices will likely rise by 75 percent by 2019. And, I also see natural gas above \$6 – or roughly double the current spot price.

Electricity prices are driven by multiple elements including generation supply, transmission and distribution.

On the generation supply side there is significant potential for base load generation retirement, and the rate of public plant closure announcements is increasing.

Can the effects of these retirements be offset by new renewable generation? Likely not, because 50 megawatts of wind or solar generating capacity is not the same as 50 megawatts of dispatchable generation. Renewables may be the preferred policy option today, but they're not the total solution to replacing lost base load generation.

So where will replacement generation come from? Frankly, I don't know, because that's a policy issue that has been ignored for the last 15 years in the deregulated states. We don't have a mechanism in the deregulated world to build new base load power plants. There is not a 30-year contract model to support the capital necessary to build a new plant.

So, we have a situation where generating capacity is going off line but we don't have new capacity coming on line. I think we can all

agree that this will cause upward price pressure. More importantly, an economic recovery will drive up energy demand. At the first sign of true economic recovery I expect to see a lot of upward price pressure in electricity markets.

Transmission also has some upward price pressures. We're starting to see some plans from regional transmission operators that predict higher costs. PJM, which manages transmission in the northern part of the state, estimates that about \$14 billion in transmission system upgrades are necessary just to deal with plant closures. Additionally, PJM estimates that integrating new renewables into the system will cost around \$60 billion.

Distribution costs are also likely to rise. The investor-owned utilities are spending significant sums of money to make long-overdue system reliability upgrades and all of this drives up distribution costs.

All of these items, and more, lead me to believe that electricity costs for consumers are going up.

Where does municipal aggregation fit into all of this? Municipal aggregation allows a county, city or village located in the ComEd or Ameren territories to step in and negotiate an electricity supply contract for their residents. Right now, municipalities are able to achieve significant discounts off the Ameren or ComEd

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Mark Pruitt, former Director of the Illinois Power Agency, currently is the Principal of the Power Bureau, LLC, an energy consulting firm.



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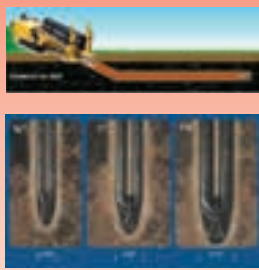
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*The Extreme inverter driven, air source heat pump eliminates the expense of installing a loop field in your yard.

Illinois travel guide available online

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism (DCEO/IOT) announced that the 2012 Illinois Travel Guide is now available to consumers. The all-new guide combines a newsstand magazine look and feel with the practical information visitors expect from a travel guide.

“We are pleased to offer consumers a brand-new travel guide,” said Illinois Office of Tourism Deputy Director Jan Kostner. “It’s always exciting to show the variety of things to do and see throughout the state, and our travel guide is a great showcase for that. We’re confident that visitors will find so much to do and see that they will stay longer and enjoy even more of Illinois this year.”

The new travel guide highlights the top attractions across the state by four regional sections, where visitors can find the activities and accommodations to plan their ideal Illinois getaway. The new guide also integrates with the Enjoy Illinois mobile app and enjoyillinois.com to bring immediate travel resources to visitors. A digital edition and tablet app gives travelers more options to plan their trip to Illinois.

To view, download or order a free copy of the 2012 Illinois Travel guide, visit www.enjoyillinois.com and click on Travel Tools or call 1-800-2CONNECT to order a copy. ■



Shimkus concerned about risk management and loans for farmers

Congressman John Shimkus (R-IL 19) held his Ag Advisory Board meeting at the offices of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in August. He voiced

concern about passage of the Farm Bill, drought relief for area farmers and regulations on local community bankers.

Shimkus said, “When the pictures

of a national drought are from your district you know it has been a tough year. I’ve been all over my current district and parts of my new congressional district and I think as we talk about the Farm Bill it is time to make the argument to my colleagues that this is why we have a program. It is for years like this. That is why you have an insurance process so farmers can do risk management. I did get to talk to the Speaker of the House yesterday and he understands risk management.

“Another thing when we talk about risk management is loans. There is real concern that the bigger banks are going to get bigger and squeeze out the smaller, local community banks because of rules and regulations. I think that is very harmful to rural America. I think it is going to be harmful to our producers. I hope that we can start looking at that too. I’ve always been concerned about the movement to centralize the financial industry into some major banks versus local community banks.” ■



Electric cooperatives were well represented at Congressman John Shimkus’ Ag Advisory Board meeting held at the offices of the AIEC in August. From the left are Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative (RECC) members Mark Reichert from Auburn and Andy Goldman from Divernon, Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative member Martin Barbre from Carmi, Rep. Shimkus, Shelby Electric Cooperative member Gene Johnson from Nokomis, Illinois Rural Electric Cooperative Board Director Robert Reed from Nebo, RECC Board Director John Beatty from Waverly and RECC President/CEO David Stuva from Auburn.



Linemen install osprey nesting at Sangchris Lake State Park

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), in cooperation with Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative (RECC), installed two elevated platforms intended to attract nesting ospreys at Sangchris Lake State Park southeast of Rochester.

Ospreys – a bird of prey listed as an endangered species in Illinois – nest in large trees, on rock formations, or on artificial structures near lakes, ponds, rivers and streams, where the adults feed on fish. Elevated platforms like those installed by RECC at Sangchris Lake have been used successfully by nesting osprey at a number of locations in the Midwest, including at the Lake Shelbyville Sullivan Beach area in central Illinois.

“Park visitors, wildlife watchers and our IDNR site staff and biologists have seen ospreys spending time in and around Sangchris Lake during migrations each spring and fall, and we hope installation of these platforms will encourage more nesting pairs to produce chicks here,” said IDNR Director Marc Miller. “We appreciate the cooperation of RECC in providing the utility poles and platforms and installing them at Sangchris Lake as part of this wildlife restoration effort.”

“Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative has always had a good working relationship with the State of Illinois and Sangchris State Park, and we are happy to assist the park with the installations of the osprey nest platforms to help build the population of these beautiful birds,” said RECC Manager of Operations and Maintenance Louis L. DeLaby. ■



Commentary *(Continued from page 4)*

energy rates for the short term. The ability to book those kinds of savings as a practical matter will basically end in May of 2013.

My suspicion is that more than half of the municipal aggregations that have been formed will probably go away within two years. Municipalities are generally not risk managers, and their residents can leave the aggregation if prices get too high.

First, it is important to remember that value is more than a low price. For example, electric co-ops are ahead of investor-owned utilities in terms of adding smart grid options. This new technology adds value in terms of reliability and pricing options. Co-ops are in many cases also providing rural broadband, or helping with rural water system expansion and other economic development projects. That's added value.

Second, remember that price

stability is also a value. The electric market prices change every 5 minutes. Electric co-ops have ownership in real generating assets that are going to protect members from rising prices over the long-term. While the municipal aggregation approach is yielding some short-term savings, we suspect that their prices will pop up when the economy recovers largely because they do not invest in generating assets.

Third, remember that today is not forever. We can all remember not long ago when they said we were running out of natural gas. I also remember something about nuclear plants making electricity too cheap to meter. We all know that the market changes, and that prices rise faster than they fall. Electric co-ops have taken crucial steps to prepare for the coming market changes.

Lastly, there will always be people who will question and criticize every

decision any leader makes. When you look at the long term, someone will say you should've gone short. When you buy, someone will say that you could've sold. I see price pressures and instability in today's electricity markets. My belief is that electric co-ops have laid out long-term plans and will be better positioned than the rest of the market when prices rise.

My Sunday school teacher used to ask, “When did Noah build the Ark? It was before the rain.” It was hard for Noah, with years and years of effort and everyone wondering why he did it. I personally believe that the state's electric co-ops are doing the hard work necessary in the current challenging times to prepare for the long-term best interests of their members. And, I would suggest that co-op members are likely to be thankful in the future for the foresight that co-op leaders have demonstrated.

Co-ops ask DOE to consider larger water heaters

In 2012, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced energy-conservation standards for all water heaters – gas or electric, storage or instantaneous – and set specific efficiency levels based on fuel type and size.

For tank-type electric water heaters, 55 gallons or smaller, the new standard set the minimum energy factor at .96 (or 96% energy-efficiency). However, the DOE standard required electric water heaters with storage capacities of more than 55 gallons to have a 2.057 energy factor. This standard can be met only with heat pump water heaters, not conventional water heaters with resistance heating elements.

For two years National Rural Electric Cooperative Association has been in conversations with DOE explaining how this standard for large water heaters will disadvantage electric cooperatives and their member-owners, especially for those cooperatives using water heaters for load management. Because of these concerns, DOE recently issued a request for information about its standards' impact on utility demand response programs that use electric storage water heaters for load management or electric thermal storage (ETS).

To allow 55-plus gallon water heaters to be manufactured and sold

after 2015, DOE would need to classify them as “grid-interactive storage water heaters.” Electric cooperatives are proposing that the DOE should allow the manufacture and sale of grid-interactive storage water heaters that:

- Are 55 gallons or larger in tank size;
- Have (or are able to be equipped with) a switch capable of receiving communication from the utility that provides real time control of the water heater's heating element; and
- Have a member-owner agreement in which the consumer agrees to be enrolled in the utility's demand response (load management) program. ■

Illinois State Fair visitors get “energized”

This year's state fair featured a brand new area with renewable energy displays, activities, engaging safety and energy efficiency programs, guest speakers and giveaways – along with returning features like the arcs and sparks of live power line demos and other traditional favorites.

It was all about “safe, smart, clean, and green” energy in the Illinois Energy Zone. The Energy Education Council (EEC) partnering with organizations across Illinois provided nearly two dozen attractions.

People of all ages learned from riding on the energy bike, checking out the solar energy house, getting free Illinois popcorn popped using solar and wind energy, seeing what geothermal energy is all about and finding out about biomass, biofuels processing and more. And safety programs were held several times each day, with special presentations by power lines accident survivors.

The 18-foot energy efficiency wall created by the Illinois generation and transmission cooperative



Prairie Power, Inc. allowed visitors to see what's inside their walls to better understand air and energy leaks, insulation and sealing.

“In recent years at the fair, we've seen growing interest in energy efficiency and clean energy,” said Molly Hall, executive director of the Energy Education Council. “By partnering with the Illinois Department

of Agriculture (IDOA), the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and many other organizations, we were able to show fair visitors what's happening in the state with renewable energy technology, efficiency measures and much more, sharing valuable information in a dynamic and enjoyable way.” ■



I have

an amazing wife
who's always
by my side

two kids who always
keep me on my toes

a family that gives
me endless strength

an electric cooperative that's always
looking out for my family.

At the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, we get our strength from a family as well. It's a family of over 730 cooperatives—who all work together. And together, we have strength. We have a greater ability to provide a reliable source of electricity. We also have greater purchasing power, which enables us to keep costs in check. Together, we'll always be looking out for you, your family and your community.



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Cooperatives - true examples of grassroots organizations

For more than 75 years the electric cooperative business model, when utilized effectively by engaged members, has served as a valuable instrument to improve the quality of life in rural areas. Cooperatives - democratically governed businesses that operate on an at-cost, not-for-profit basis - are unique in their ability to focus on the needs of their members, and not on profits.

Member-owned cooperatives come in many shapes and sizes. Agricultural co-ops, for example, fight for fair prices for farmers while marketing co-ops provide nationally known branding for products. Credit unions lend at competitive rates, while grocery co-ops give shoppers a say in what's stocked on shelves. All co-ops, however, boast a common foundation of core principles that puts people first.



Cooperatives are the fabric of your community

Every day, more than 29,200 cooperatives supply essential products and services to American consumers, touching lives in almost every way.

Tomorrow at breakfast, check your morning paper. Many of the articles may be labeled “Associated Press” or “AP.” Those stories were written by individual reporters but distributed by a cooperative news organization.

If your breakfast includes freshly squeezed orange juice, it may be from a Sunkist product. Sunkist is a cooperative formed by California and Arizona citrus growers.

And the list goes on: Land O’ Lakes butter, Ocean Spray cranberry juice, Sun-Maid raisins, Welch’s grape jelly, Nationwide Insurance, Blue Diamond almonds, Ace Hardware, REI outdoor gear—they are all cooperatives. In fact, one out of every four Americans claims membership in some type of cooperative, including 91 million served by credit unions and 42 million connected to more than 900 electric cooperatives in 47 states.

Although many in number, cooperatives differ from “typical” businesses in one big way: they are organized for the benefit of their members, not single owners or stockholders.

“Co-ops are established when the for-profit, investor-owned commercial sector fails to meet a need, either due to price or availability of goods and services,” explains Martin Lowery, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Executive Vice President, External Affairs and former Board Chairman of the National Cooperative Business Association. “The co-op model works in housing, utilities, and in both rural and urban settings. Co-ops empower people to take control over their own economic destinies. When you’re a member of a co-op, you have a real say in the direction of that business. That’s critical – it helps the co-op rapidly respond to changing conditions. As an example, a number of electric co-ops have branched out into other pursuits beyond electricity to meet pressing consumer and community requirements.”

Beyond just providing power, rural electric cooperatives are committed to improving the quality of life of their rural member/owners. For example, access to water suitable for drinking has been a challenge for many rural parts of the state. Many of the efforts to form water co-ops in rural downstate Illinois have been led by electric cooperatives and their leaders and they continue to assist in those ventures. And, electric and telephone co-ops are in the forefront in efforts to provide rural areas

with broadband services. They know that access to high-speed internet is vital to economic development, and to the health, education and welfare of rural areas. The demand for broadband in underserved areas is in many ways similar to that of the demand for electricity in the 1930s, and those same co-ops that were birthed in that movement are the very ones working hard to get broadband to rural areas. Electric cooperatives are also concerned with the environment and are actively working to utilize alternative and renewable energy sources, including wind, solar and hydropower.

Co-op tradition continues to evolve:

- Credit unions fought off the destructive cycle of payday loans by creating salary advance loans with low rates that placed part of the borrowing into a savings account helping members escape a cycle of debt.
- Marketing cooperatives added food nutrition labels to products long before it was required by federal law.
- Electric cooperatives lead the way in smart grid implementation—close to half have installed advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), with 30 percent integrating AMI or automated meter reading devices with various software applications, such as outage management and geographic information systems.

One major difference between electric cooperatives and stockholder-driven investor-owned utilities is that every home or business that receives power from an electric cooperative – 18 million in 47 states – owns a portion of the utility. As a result, anyone who receives cooperative electric service becomes a member/owner, not just a customer.

Membership matters

Membership in a co-op matters because electric co-ops care about improving the quality of life in the areas they serve. From helping to put up lights at a county fairground to hanging barn quilts for a local display or taking donations for a local food bank, co-ops invest in local communities where their members live and work. Directors and employees want to see their communities succeed. Why? The answer’s simple: they live there, too. Local people working for local good.

Membership matters because members have a voice and a vote in how their co-op is governed. Through democratic control, members elect local individuals to serve on their board of directors. Control stays in the hands of fellow members, all of whom have strong community roots. Those individuals on the board of directors, along with those who work for your co-op, are your friends and neighbors.

Membership matters because the co-op's goal is to provide you with electricity at a price that is as close to cost as possible – that way, more of your money stays in your pocket, up-front. And, if there are excess revenues (called margins), they are returned to members in the form of capital credits based on electric use.

The bottom line: Membership matters because you matter to your electric cooperative -- you are one of its owners!

Family values

The first known cooperative in the United States was formed by Benjamin Franklin in 1752. That organization, the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire, still operates today.

Most early cooperative development efforts in the United States involved farmers trying to boost their buying and selling power. Of course, not all cooperatives engaged in agricultural marketing. The first irrigation cooperative was organized in California in 1853. By 1857, Ohio and New York had adopted laws enabling the operation of cooperative (mutual) insurance companies. In 1865, Michigan passed what is believed to be the first law recognizing the cooperative business model.

The cooperative movement we know today traces its roots to a set of business guidelines drawn up by Charles Howarth, one of 28 weavers and other artisans who founded the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers in Rochdale,

England, on Dec. 21, 1844. The tradesmen had banded together to open a store selling food items they could not otherwise afford, starting out with a meager selection of butter, sugar, flour, oatmeal, and a few candles but soon expanding to include tea and tobacco. Eventually, the enterprise was so successful that the group was able to open a cooperative factory and textile mill.

When introduced into the United States by the National Grange in 1874, these “Rochdale Principles” fueled a cooperative explosion. After being formally written down by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) in 1937 (and last updated in 1995), they evolved into the seven cooperative principles used today. Although stated in many ways, the seven cooperative principles hold that a cooperative must provide:

Open and Voluntary Membership —

Membership in a cooperative is open to all persons who can reasonably use its services and stand willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, regardless of race, religion, gender, or economic circumstances.

Democratic Member Control — Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Elected representatives (directors/trustees) are elected from among the membership and are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote); cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

Members' Economic Participation — Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Autonomy and Independence — Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control as well as their unique identity.



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— Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors/trustees), CEOs and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of their cooperatives. Communications about the nature and benefits of cooperatives, particularly with the general public and opinion leaders, helps boost cooperative understanding.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

— By working together through local, national, regional, and international structures, cooperatives improve services, bolster local economies, and deal more effectively with social and community needs.

Concern for Community — Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies supported by the membership.

These principles are underpinned by six ideals — the so-called cooperative values of Self-Help, Self-Responsibility, Democracy, Equality, Equity and Solidarity. In addition, ICA lists cooperative “ethical values” of Honesty, Openness, Social Responsibility and Caring for Others. ■

*Source: Megan McKoy - Noe, CCC,
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*



Associated Press

Cooperatives regularly touch our lives through the products and services they provide. These are just a few examples of cooperatives you may find on a daily basis.

America's 29,200 Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World

- Provide 2 million jobs with annual sales of \$652 billion
- More than 900 electric co-ops deliver electricity to 42 million consumers in 47 states
- Electric co-ops own and maintain 42 percent of the nation's electric distribution lines that cover 75 percent of America's landmass
- Two million farmers are members of nearly 3,000 farmer-owned cooperatives
- More than 7,500 credit unions offer financial services to 91 million consumers
- Approximately 233 million people are served by insurance companies organized as or closely affiliated with co-ops
- Around 50,000 families use cooperative day-care centers
- Roughly 1.2 million Americans in 31 states are served by 260 telephone cooperatives
- More than 1.2 million families live in housing owned and operated through cooperative associations

Source: International Cooperative Alliance

Protect your family

Take steps to prevent electrical fires in the home

The United States Fire Administration reports there are an average of 28,300 residential electrical fires each year, causing 390 deaths, 1,000 injuries, and nearly \$1 billion in direct losses. The National Fire Protection Association notes that 41% of those fires were related to home wiring, cords or lighting.

Safe Electricity wants consumers to be aware that the majority of electrical fires are preventable and offers some simple things to check for around the home:

- Make sure light bulbs are correctly rated for the fixture in which they are being used. Do not use light bulbs with wattage that is too high for the fixture. For example, using a 100-watt bulb in a 60-watt fixture creates the danger of overheating and fire.
- Keep lamps, especially those with halogen light bulbs, away from flammable materials such as drapes, clothing or paper. Turn them off when you leave the home.
- Look for cracked or damaged cords and loose fitting plugs on extension cords as well as appliance cords. Replace or repair damaged cords and plugs.
- If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet. Never remove the round grounding pin or force it to fit into a two-slot outlet or extension cord.
- Replace any appliance or tool if it causes even small electrical shocks, overheats, shorts out or gives off smoke or sparks.
- Switch plates and outlet covers that are discolored or warm to the touch indicate a problem that should be checked out. Immediately shut off



- light switches that are hot to the touch and have them professionally replaced. Have an electrician check the wiring in your home if you find popping and sizzling sounds in walls, lights that dim when other appliances are turned on or frequently tripped circuits.
- Use extension cords only temporarily, not as permanent wiring. Don't overload them.
- Do not place cords and wires in dangerous places such as under rugs, in high traffic areas where they can be trampled or in tight spaces where heat can build up.
- To prevent overheating, allow air space around heat-producing appliances such as TVs, plug-in radios, stereo sets, computers and high-wattage lamps.
- Do not exceed 1,500 watts of appliance load for each outlet or circuit.
- Know where your circuit breakers

and fuse boxes are and how to operate them. Make sure the panel door is securely closed.

- When buying electrical appliances, look for products evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). When using appliances, follow the manufacturer's safety precautions.

Finally, protect your family by checking the operation of your smoke detectors and have an escape plan for everyone in your family. Check detectors every month and replace the batteries twice a year. The National Fire Prevention Agency reports that roughly 60 percent of reported home fire deaths happened in homes with no smoke alarms or alarms that weren't working. Also,

develop and practice an escape plan twice a year in case of a fire. A good plan is known by all household members and includes an outside meeting location away from danger of the fire.

If you must attempt to put out an electrical fire, use a Class B/C or Class C rated dry fire extinguisher. Never try to extinguish an electrical fire with water!

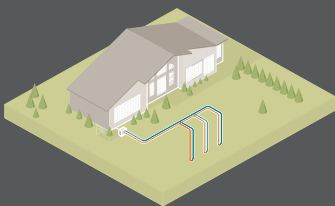
Safe Electricity urges everyone to understand how electrical hazards can contribute to fires and to take steps to keep your home and loved ones safe from electrical fires. Learn more at SafeElectricity.org. ■

Molly Hall is Director of Safe Electricity. E-mail molly-hall@SafeElectricity.org. Safe Electricity is a public awareness program of the Energy Education Council. www.EnergyEdCouncil.org



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It's grow time for trees roots

After a brutal summer trees and shrubs need water

While many take pride in their lawns, shredding hundreds of pounds in mental anguish this summer, the smart gardeners look at their trees and shrubs as something more important.

This is not to say that any misguided and misplaced intent to make sure the lawn remains green and lush through the worst summer in our recent memories, since they are limited to about five years, is wrong. What someone does with their time, energy and money is their business.

Still....

Trees and shrubs suffered this summer. Thankfully, the heat and drought did many of the harmful insects in, so damage to plants was somewhat abated. Somewhat. However, even a little bit of damage when the plant is down and out for the count is magnified a hundred-fold.

With apologies to Eric Idle, always look on the bright side of life, especially when it comes to the woody ornamentals.

While summer was brutal, fall and winter are more important. Vastly.

Tree and shrub roots hate hot temperatures. While tomatoes and cucumbers are thriving, the woody roots tend to shut down, just taking in enough water for the plant to survive. That's all well and good when there's ample moisture. When there isn't, the plant starts shutting down.

But cool fall temperatures and the dream of moisture turns the tree and shrub roots around.

As long as the soil temperature is above freezing but less than 65-70 degrees F., the roots will grow and grow and grow. In fact, most root growth occurs between October



and April, and not the other way around. All you have to do is take a trip into the woods during a January lull, scrape away the leaf litter on the ground, and look at all the new white roots growing.

So, our goal right now is to make sure there is ample water and nutrients for the plants to replenish their root system during the winter.

Moisture is crucial. Any rain is helpful. So is snow, but not this early. While it seems counterproductive, any sprinkling, irrigation or deep-root watering as the leaves are turning and dropping is the route to take. Water thoroughly, deeply and at least every two weeks until the ground freezes which usually happens around the first of December.

If Nature decides to provide several inches of moisture, you probably can cut your watering back. And while some is better than none, rains of less than a quarter-inch really don't help the trees and shrubs as much as it helps the lawn.

Mulch newly planted trees to keep the ground from freezing fast and allowing roots the chance to grow. On older trees, shredding the leaves with a mower instead of bagging is a way to provide mulching and some nutrients.

Fertilizing is also a way to stimulate root growth, but all the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium won't do a thing unless there's moisture.

And of all the trees and shrubs, the evergreens need the water more than the plants that shed their leaves.

Lastly, hope for lots of snow, or rain, or snowy-rain, but not sleet, and definitely not ice. Moisture during the winter will slowly replenish what's needed in the soil. ■

David Robson is Extension Specialist, Pesticide Safety for the University of Illinois. drobson@illinois.edu





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It may be time for geothermal

Doug answers his most often asked question

Congratulations once again to Larry and Nancy Ferrell who were the winners of the 2011 Energy Efficiency Makeover Contest.

What a great program to help a family and to teach others the practical ways to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

The Ferrells' house is a perfect example of what I wrote about in the September issue about the thermostat. When we first met the family, the thermostat was set at over 80 degrees to save money on their electricity bill. The house was hot and humid. When it was just too hot, the family would turn the thermostat down and let the air conditioner cool for a while and then turn it back up.

The house is now super efficient with the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system, and the family has agreed to leave the thermostat setting at 75 degrees. An installed meter tells us that it is costing about \$1 per day to cool the house, and it should be about the same for heating. Larry and Nancy are excited about the geothermal system. The house will be comfortable and the utility bills will be affordable throughout the year. Finally, Larry will not have to split any more firewood.

I am regularly amazed by the number of folks that read this magazine and my column and it is published in many other electric co-op magazines like this one. My wife and I visited an arts and crafts festival on Labor Day. While my wife was looking at some dresses, I asked the lady attendant about the show's attendance and if she was enjoying the nice cool morning. I also asked if she was from another state and she replied that she lived near Huntsville. I asked her if she was an electric cooperative member and she said she was. I asked her if



she ever read the Arkansas Living magazine and she quickly answered, "Yes, every month." Then she said, "I knew that you looked familiar. Mr. Rye, it is a pleasure to meet you. We have implemented several of the energy tips that you have suggested. And I think that the makeover program is amazing."

Wow, we love to hear comments like these.

My wife and I then proceeded down the path, past numerous tents, until we found something that we wanted to buy for one of our granddaughters. As we were paying for the items, the lady asked if I was the Doug Rye that wrote the energy articles for another electric co-op magazine, the Oklahoma Living magazine. I told her that I was and that the Arkansas electric cooperatives were kind enough to share the articles with other states. She called her husband over and they proceeded to tell us that they had moved from a large city to a place on a river near Smithville, Okla., for a simpler life. They wanted to make their new house as affordable as possible and were in

the process of implementing many of our energy tips. They were really interested in the feasibility of geothermal heating and cooling.

Well, there are many folks interested in geothermal. In fact, questions about geothermal are among the most common inquiries the local cooperative's member services representatives and I receive.

Why, you may ask? Because geothermal can provide comfortable heating and cooling at an operating cost far less than any other central system. It all has to do with the efficiency of the equipment. For example, a geothermal unit is four times as efficient as a gas furnace in providing heating for a house. That's because the Earth donates most of the heat. On the cooling side, geothermal is about two times as efficient as a regular air conditioning unit because it operates from the temperature of Mother Earth rather than the temperature of the hot outside air.

Geothermal heating and cooling really is simple, and with the possible 30 percent federal tax credit, it is more feasible than ever.

I suggest that you go to www.SmartEnergyTips.org and watch the workers drill the loops and install the geothermal unit at the Ferrells' house.

It really may be the time for you to install geothermal. And as always, feel free to call me at 501-653-7931 if you have other questions. ■

Doug Rye can be heard on several different Illinois radio stations. You can go to Doug Rye's Web site at www.dougrye.com, e-mail him at info@philliprye.com, or call 501-653-7931.





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The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives salutes . . .

United Utility Supply Cooperative Corporation

United Utility Supply Cooperative Corporation (UUS) is a name very familiar to those in the electric cooperative industry but one in which you may not be familiar. This cooperative affects you on a daily basis without you even knowing it. UUS supplies electric co-ops with everything from line equipment to hardware and materials for member systems.

Its origins go back to 1948 in rural Kentucky. The Kentucky statewide association began a group purchasing activity to help its co-ops get the best possible price on needed equipment. Group purchasing was so beneficial that the organization expanded by offering a marketing service in adjacent states, as they expressed an interest in participating and taking advantage of the benefits of working together.

As the organization grew it was able to expand its services by offering transformer repair, meter testing and a much-needed glove testing service for its members. In 1960 the Statewide Rural Electric Cooperative

Corporation was formed and became the trade name for the materials marketing activities of the statewide association.

December of 1960 saw Statewide RECC reached an agreement with the Ohio statewide association and in 1963 the organization expanded into the state of Illinois. It built a warehouse in Decatur, Ill. and that location continues to operate today. It also expanded into Tennessee, Alabama and Pennsylvania.

Statewide RECC became United Utility Supply Cooperative Corporation in 1974 as a result of a perception on the part of many that if you were doing business with Statewide RECC, you were doing business with the Kentucky Association. The other significant fact of establishing UUS as a separate corporation was the recognition that it should be owned and controlled by its own members and not exclusively by



Cooperatives

the Kentucky cooperatives.

The organization established a formula, which continues to exist today, which sets the number of directors each state or area receives based upon the volume of business it does with

United Utility Supply. This change has proven over the years to be a milestone in the development and expansion of the organization.

Today, United Utility Supply represents, in addition to its own line of distribution transformers, over 100 manufacturers of materials that are used by its utility customers across its 20-state service area.

In celebrating the International Year of the Cooperative, we want to show our support for the cooperative model. Please join us each month as we continue to feature a different cooperative that you may recognize or might also be a member.

Illinois Country Living

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Recipes for Life, Faith, Food & Fellowship



Corn Casserole

Who: Vermont Christian Church

Cost: \$15, including shipping

Details: soft-backed, spiral-bound

Pages of recipes: 91

Send checks to: Payable to Vermont Christian Church Youth, C/O Becky Kluthe, 8633 E. US 136, Ipava, IL 61441 or call 309-753-7576.

Pizza Soup

- 1 C. chopped onion
- 1 C. chopped green pepper
- 1 C. zucchini, halved and sliced
- 1 (14.5-oz.) can beef broth
- 1 (14.5-oz.) can Italian diced tomatoes
- 1 (8-oz.) can pizza sauce
- 4-oz. cooked smoked sausage
- 1/2 tsp. pizza seasoning
- 1 C. sliced mushrooms
- 1/2 C. shredded Mozzarella cheese

Combine onion, pepper, zucchini, mushrooms and 1/4 C. broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer covered for 5 minutes. Add remaining ingredients except for cheese. Simmer 5-10 minutes or until veggies are tender. When serving, sprinkle with cheese.



Reply Online

Tried a recipe?

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Corn Casserole (above)

- 1 (8-oz.) ctn. sour cream
- 1/2 C. unsalted butter, softened
- 1 (15-oz.) can creamed corn
- 1 (15-oz.) can kernel corn
- 1 box Jiffy corn bread
- 1 sm. bag shredded Cheddar cheese

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a mixing bowl, stir together sour cream, butter, creamed corn, corn kernels, 1/2 the cheese and corn muffin mix. Pour into a 1 quart casserole dish and bake for 40 minutes. Add remaining cheese to the top and bake until lightly browned.

Mac & Cheese Lasagna

- 1 (7-oz.) pkg. Macaroni and cheese
- 1/2 lb. ground beef
- 1-1/2 C. spaghetti sauce
- 1 C. shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 2 T. Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare macaroni and cheese as directed. Brown ground beef in a skillet and drain. Spoon 1/2 the macaroni and cheese into an 8-inch baking dish, top with 1/2 the meat, sauce and cheese; repeat layers. Bake for 20 minutes.

Raw Apple Cake

- 1-1/2 C. vegetable oil
- 2 C. sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3 C. flour
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3 C. fresh-diced apples
- 1 C. pecans
- Cool Whip or Ice Cream as garnish (opt.)

Mix oil, sugar, eggs, vanilla, flour, cinnamon, baking soda and salt; mix well. Add apples and pecans. Bake for 1-1/2 hour in an angel food cake pan or 1 hour in a 9x13-inch pan. Serve warm with Cool Whip or ice cream. Can also be served cool.

Photos by

Catrina McCulley Wagner

*Visit www.icl.coop
to see an archive of past
Illinois Country Living recipes.*

Haunted Potpie

4 C. cubed cooked chicken	1 C. sour cream
4 C. frozen cubed hash brown potatoes, thawed	2/3 C. milk
1 (16-oz.) pkg. frozen mixed vegetables, thawed and drained	2 T all-purpose flour
1 (10-3/4-oz.) can condensed cream of chicken soup	1/2 tsp. salt
1 (10-3/4-oz.) can condensed cream of onion soup	1/2 tsp. pepper
	1/4 tsp. garlic powder
	2 slices rye bread
	1 sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed
	Small ghost-shaped cookie cutter

In a large bowl, combine chicken, potatoes, vegetables, soup, sour cream, milk, flour, salt, pepper and garlic powder. Transfer to a greased 9x13-inch baking dish. Place the bread in a food processor, cover and process to make crumb; sprinkle over the chicken mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes or until bubbly. Meanwhile, on a lightly floured surface, unfold pastry sheet. Using a small, floured ghost-shaped cookie cutter, cut out 12 ghosts. Place on an ungreased baking sheet. Remove potpie from the oven; set aside and keep warm. Bake ghosts at 400 degrees for 10 minutes or until puffy and golden brown. Place on top of potpie; serve immediately.

Linguine with Picante Sauce (below)

8-oz. linguine	1/2 C. picante sauce
1 med. onion, chopped	1 tsp. chili powder
1 clove garlic, minced	1 tsp. ground cumin
1 (15-oz.) can black beans, drained and rinsed	1/4 tsp. dried oregano
1 T. vegetable oil	4-oz. finely shredded Colby Jack cheese
2-1/2 C. canned stewed tomatoes	1/2 C. chopped fresh cilantro

Cook pasta according to package directions; drain. Rinse with cool water; drain again. Cover to keep warm. Heat vegetable oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat until hot. Add onion and garlic and mix well. Sauté until onion is tender. Add undrained tomatoes, picante sauce, black beans, chili powder, cumin and oregano; mix well. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat to low and cover. Simmer the sauce, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes; remove cover. Increase heat to medium-high. Cook, stirring frequently, until the desired consistency, about 5 minutes. Place cooked pasta on a serving platter. Spoon sauce over pasta. Sprinkle with cheese and top with cilantro.

Linguine with Picante Sauce



Recipes to Remember

Who: Watson Baptist Church

Cost: \$12.50 including shipping

Details: soft-backed, comb-bound

Pages of recipes: 143

Send checks to: Paula Tieffel,
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or call 217-343-4320.

White Chocolate Chip Cherry Cheese Ball

8-oz. cream cheese, softened
1/2 C. butter, softened
1/2 tsp. almond extract
3/4 C. powdered sugar
1 C. white chocolate chips
1/2 C. sweetened, dried cherries, chopped
3/4 C. sliced almonds, lightly toasted

Beat together cream cheese, butter and almond extract. Gradually beat in powdered sugar. Stir in white chocolate chips and cherries. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours. Place mixture onto plastic wrap and shape into a ball. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Roll ball into almonds before serving.

Black Bottom Cups

6-oz. cream cheese
1 egg
1/3 C. sugar
1 C. chocolate chips
1/2 C. nuts
2 T. sugar
1-1/2 C. flour
1 C. sugar
1/4 C. cocoa
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla
1 C. water
1/3 C. oil
1 T. vinegar
18 cupcake liners

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a small bowl, mix cream cheese, egg and sugar together well. Add chocolate chips and set aside. In another small bowl, mix nuts and 2 T. sugar and set aside. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, 1 C. sugar, cocoa, baking soda, salt, vanilla, water, oil and vinegar and beat for 2 minutes on medium. Fill 18 paper lined muffin cups 1/2 full of batter mixture. Top each with 1 T. of cream cheese mixture. Top with the nut sugar mixture. Bake 25-30 minutes or until top is light golden brown. Cool 15 minutes. Remove from pans and cool completely. Refrigerate leftovers.

Wi-Fi is the FBI here?

Last month I gave you ways to know when you were surfing online securely. Continuing in that vein, this month I wanted to address another common security issue found in many people's homes. I'm talking about the lack of a password on your wireless network.

I know what you're thinking. What's the worst that could happen, right? After all, if you leave it open you're just promoting the common good. Free public Wi-Fi allows others to check their e-mail when they're away from home, or look for directions when they're lost. There have been some developments lately though that may make you think twice about leaving your network open.

Earlier this year, a man in Buffalo, N.Y. found out just exactly what can happen when you leave your Wi-Fi open to the public. Sometime in the early morning hours, law enforcement personnel broke down his door, and threw him to the floor amid accusations of downloading child pornography.

The man's lawyer said the agents kept screaming at the accused to admit what he had done saying, "We know who

you are! You downloaded thousands of images at 11:30 last night." The Buffalo resident kept pleading his innocence, but it was days before he could prove his story. It wasn't until a week later that one of his neighbors was arrested for hopping on the unsecured wireless network and downloading the illegal material. As far as I know, this case is still pending in federal court.

The Buffalo incident isn't an isolated case either. A man in Florida received a visit from the FBI after more than 10 million child porn images were downloaded using his network. Eventually, they found out that someone in a nearby marina was downloading the images while sitting on a boat.

These people can be very inventive in ways to get to your network. The Florida man assumed he was secure, because his closest neighbor was so far away, but the suspect was able to build an antenna to boost the signal so he could log in from outside the network's normal range. And, he did it with a potato chip can using simple instructions found easily online!

In yet another incident in New York, a North Syracuse man was accused by law enforcement agents of possession of child pornography. It was more than four months before his neighbor finally pleaded guilty to the crime.

I could go on. These cases are popping up more all the time. In short though, it's time to start protecting yourself by adding a simple password to your Wi-Fi network.

So, how do you go about doing that?

Let me first say, when you're trying to do this make sure you check your router's owner's manual first. Most of the time, you'll see very specific directions on how to set a password. That said, the following will more than likely work in most cases.

Try logging into your router using your favorite browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, etc.) There is a page that controls the router. For

many routers, you log in by typing in the IP address of the router into the address bar. That's the place you normally type in www.whatever.com. A pretty commonly used IP address is 192.168.1.1. Try to type that in. You should see a login page. (At this point, you may need a username and password. You should be able to find that in the manual.) Once you're logged in, the Wi-Fi password will most likely be located under the "security" settings.

There are going to be several options here. You will need to select the WEP or WPA setting. I recommend you choose WPA. It's more secure. Once you select the type of security you want, you should see a place to enter a password. **Write down the password you choose!** If you don't write it down, it will prove very difficult later to recover that password. You may even be forced to reset your router back to manufacturer defaults. Once you save the password, you are going to lose your Internet connection. That's normal! All you have to do to regain it is to add the password on your computer when it asks you.

That should do it! If you're not comfortable following the directions in your router's owner's manual, then find your local IT person and get them to help you. This is a pretty common practice, so someone should be able to get it done for you in a relatively short amount of time.

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Ed VanHoose is the Digital Communications Administrator/IT Manager for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in Springfield.



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Picking the right heat pump

By Brian Sloboda
Cooperative Research Network

Because heat pumps are the most efficient electric heating and cooling technology, they are an excellent choice if your home needs a heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrade. While electric resistance heaters are about 100 percent efficient, meaning all the electricity that goes into it is used to generate heat, heat pumps can claim efficiency of 200 to 400 percent.

But the proper heat pump for your home depends on a variety of factors. Following are some tips when considering air-source and ground-source heat pumps.

Air-source

There are two main types of air-source heat pumps: ducted and ductless. Both provide heating and cooling, and they can also create hot water.

In cooling mode, these appliances function similar to an air conditioner by moving heat from inside to outside your dwelling. In heating mode, the refrigerant flow is reversed and delivers warm air indoors.

When outdoor temperatures drop, the efficiency of air-source heat pumps

decrease. As a result, these devices are more commonly used in areas of the country that do not experience extremely cold weather for extended periods. A good rule of thumb for air-source heat pumps is that they are effective until the thermometer hits the 35 F to 42 F range.

For residents in the northern U.S., dual fuel setups, which combine an air-source heat pump with a natural gas-, propane- or heating oil-fired furnace, are often employed. During fall and spring months, the heat pump warms the home. When a prolonged cold snap hits, the supplemental furnace takes over.

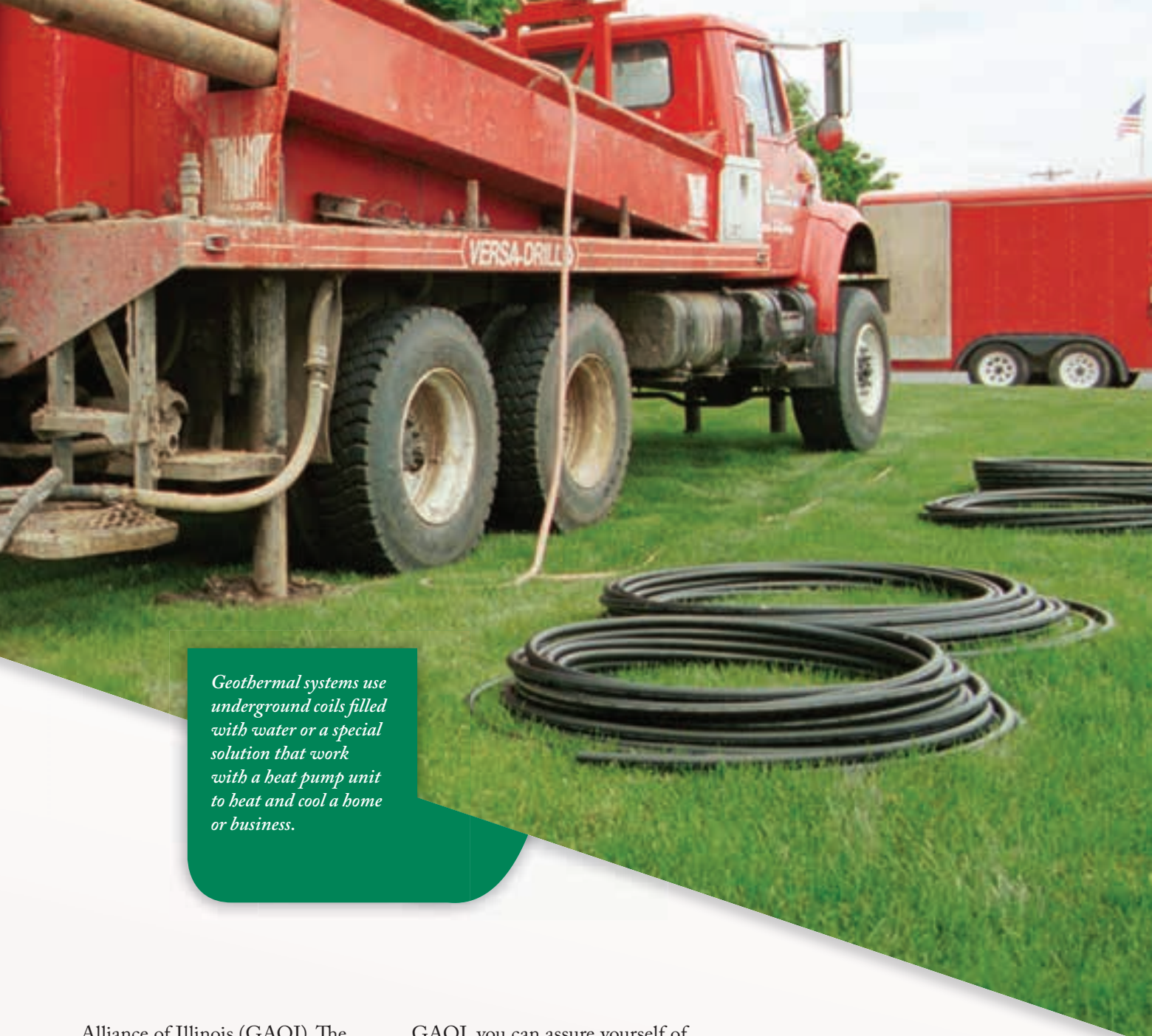
Ducted systems have been the traditional air-source heat pump route, but ductless systems are picking up steam because they require an estimated 50 to 60 percent less electricity than electric resistance heating. In addition, air-source heat pumps that achieve ENERGY STAR designation, meaning they meet or exceed federal energy efficiency standards, can be up to 9 percent more efficient than standard air-source heat pumps.

Geothermal heat pumps

Geothermal heat pumps use relatively stable underground temperatures to heat and cool a home, and even to supply hot water. They come in two types: a groundwater (open-loop) heat pump uses well water, while an earth-coupled (closed-loop) model moves a water and antifreeze solution through underground pipes to disperse heat. The choice depends on local conditions.

Geothermal heat pumps tend to be the most efficient heating and cooling technology available, but the up-front cost is higher than air-source heat pumps. The final price tag depends on where you live and what kind of system you have. A typical residential consumer selecting a geothermal system will save 30 to 60 percent on an average heating and cooling bill, with a payback period varying from two to 10 years, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

The Illinois electric co-ops believe so strongly in geothermal heating and cooling that they've taken a leadership role in forming a state-wide organization - the Geothermal



Geothermal systems use underground coils filled with water or a special solution that work with a heat pump unit to heat and cool a home or business.

Alliance of Illinois (GAOI). The goal of this new organization is to advance the usage of geothermal technology and to help better educate and train all those involved in the geothermal heat pump industry. This includes dealers, installers, designers, engineers and others.

Above all, GAOI wants to be THE SOURCE of good information and advice for consumers. Only those dealers that have been trained and passed a GAOI-sponsored examination will be members of the organization. What this means for you, the consumer, is that by finding a certified dealer through

GAOI, you can assure yourself of the highest standards in the industry. Chances are greatest that you'll get a good installation done the right way, by competent, well-trained people, compared to the possibility of an installer doing his first geo installation without receiving any training.

If you are interested in learning more, talk to your co-op's energy advisor and visit the GAOI Web site at www.gaoi.org. At the site you can find contacts for individuals who will help you locate a dealer, or make contact with key people in the industry and learn more about geothermal heating and cooling.

How to choose

Choosing a heating and cooling system for your home is a big decision with many variables. Be sure to call your local electric cooperative for advice on what type of unit will work best for you. Then, contact a reputable and knowledgeable HVAC contractor to discuss your options. ■

Brian Sloboda is a senior program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network (CRN), a service of the Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

2-3 Great Route 64/84 Holiday & Shop Hop Event “Quality with Heart” in the communities of Lanark, Mt. Carroll, Savanna, Thomson and Fulton, Ill. For more information email Heather Bennett at chamber@cityoffulton.us.

2-3 Chris Cringle Craft Sale at the Assembly Hall, 1800 S. First St., Champaign. Fri. 3-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adults-\$5, Children under 6-free. Free parking. One of the Midwest’s largest craft shows featuring more than 140 booths displaying a wide variety of handcrafted items by local and area artists. www.ihda.us/chriscringle.html or 217-333-5000.

3-4 35th Heritage Festival at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg. Sat. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. Enjoy arts, crafts, food and entertainment. Call 618-252-5400 ext. 3213 for booth or event information.

10-11 Christian County Historical Society Persimmon Party at the museum located at 325 Abe’s Way, Taylorville. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. This annual event features persimmons and the opportunity to step back into the past. Donations are accepted. Luncheon items available for purchase along with persimmon pulp, fruit and baked goods. 217-824-6922.

10-11 John A Logan College Autumn Fest, 700 Logan College Rd., Carterville. Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission and free parking. Event features more than 100 original arts and crafts, food, music and children’s activities. 618-985-2828.

16-18 Victorian Holiday Festival in Lebanon. Downtown merchants open Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sun. Noon-5 p.m. Free admission. Evenings promise a memorable event for all ages with carolers in the streets, musicians, madrigal singers and others dressed in Victorian attire. Located on West St. Louis Street. www.victorianholiday.org


11/16-12/30 Shelbyville Festival of Lights in Forest Park, off of 9th Street, Shelbyville. Displays open Sun.-Thurs. 6-9 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 6-10 p.m. Take a drive through Forest Park as it is lit up for the holiday season. Different themed areas delight with the centerpiece being a large carousel placed on the Historical Chautauqua Auditorium. www.lakeshelbyville.com/events/Victorian or 217-774-1342.



17 WCHCE 33rd Annual Craft and Home Show in Monmouth, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in three locations. Craft show at VFW, Harlem & G St. and at Lincoln School, 325 S. 11th St. Home-based business show and bake sale at Farm Bureau building, 100 N. Main St. Free admission and more than 90 crafters. cdfederow@frontiernet.net or 309-462-5063.

17-18 30th Annual Country Christmas Craft Show at Gordyville USA, Rt. 136 E, Gifford. Admission is \$1 donation to benefit the Country Health Nursing Home Auxiliary and parking is free. Hosted by Gifford State Bank, the annual show brings together more than 300 vendors and 8,000 shoppers. Offers two days of “shop til ya drop” fun, including pictures with Santa Claus. www.giffordbank.com.

23-25 Julmarknad – Christmas Market in Bishop Hill. Market hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Experience the sights, sounds and aromas of Christmas past. Swedish folk characters roam the village, music plays, shop the Swedish food specialties, abundance of handmade ware, folk art, etc. Select from a large array of homemade cookies at Colony School, 405 W. Main Street from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 309-927-3898.

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