

# 13 Ways To Save Energy and Cut Winter Heating Bills

1. Caulk and seal air leaks inside and around the exterior of your home, targeting fixtures that penetrate walls like exhaust fans and outlets. Homes may lose 15-30 percent of their heat through air leaks. Check gaps near dryer vents, chimneys and around plumbing lines.
2. Weather-stripping is very affordable and prevents heat loss along doors and windows. Weather-stripping on doors and windows may last for up to 15 years.
3. Turn down your thermostat to a tolerable temperature and install an energy-efficient CONVECT AIR room heater from Wayne-White in the room where you spend most of your time. These heaters will evenly heat a room in your home without a fan or a motor...thereby using 30 percent LESS electricity than a baseboard heater or typical hardware store space heater. No special wiring is needed. They mount on your wall about four inches above the floor. The 1250 watt model will evenly heat a 500-square-foot area. Display models are in stock, stop by our Fairfield office and take a look or see a video demonstration on our Web site at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com).
4. Burning fireplaces suck air from some areas of the house, leaving other rooms cold. Adjust your furnace thermostat to correspond with the lower temperature. Install a glass door on the fireplace and close the damper when not in use.
5. Clean air filters in the furnace monthly, more frequently if pets live indoors. A dirty filter prevents efficient air movement and causes the furnace to run longer. Furnaces more than 30 years old usually are less than 50 percent efficient.
6. Use ceiling fans, especially in rooms with high ceilings. Blades should be switched to draw air up from the living space and push warm air down along the walls.
7. Turn off room lights when not in use. Consider replacing many of your most widely used incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). Many 100 watt
- bulbs can be replaced with 23 or 27 watt CFLs and reduce energy consumption. CFLs also last longer than traditional incandescent bulbs.
8. Flooring above unheated spaces, such as the crawl space and garage, should be treated like a ceiling. Insulate these areas. Is your attic well-insulated? If not, consider adding insulation to the attic. This is one of the primary barriers to the cold outside temperatures.
9. Replace screens with storm windows and doors. Double-paned glass is preferred and will play an important role in reducing your heat loss.
10. Be aware of the many "phantom power loads" you may have in your home. These are devices that may appear to be off, but are actually draining power 24 hours a day, such as computers, printers, VCRs, big screen TVs, cordless phones, dust-busters and answering machines. See our feature story in the January 2006 center section of Illinois Country Living Magazine for more details. You may view that issue at our Web site [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com).
11. Lower the temperature on your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit, or between low and medium on some models. Each 10-degree reduction in temperature will cut your water heating costs by 3 to 5 percent.
12. If you replace an appliance such as a refrigerator, dishwasher, dryer, washing machine or freezer, be sure and shop for models with the Energy Star symbol. Many Energy Star appliances and home electronics can save you 20 percent over older non-efficient models.
13. Request a "blower door test" from Wayne-White to determine where the air leaks are in your home. This \$25 test can provide you with knowledge about your building's envelope that you can modify or repair with minimal expense. The end result will save you money for many years to come. To understand how a blower door test is conducted, watch an actual test on our Web site at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com).

**Wayne-White**

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## NEWS

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Digital Remapping of System Underway .16b

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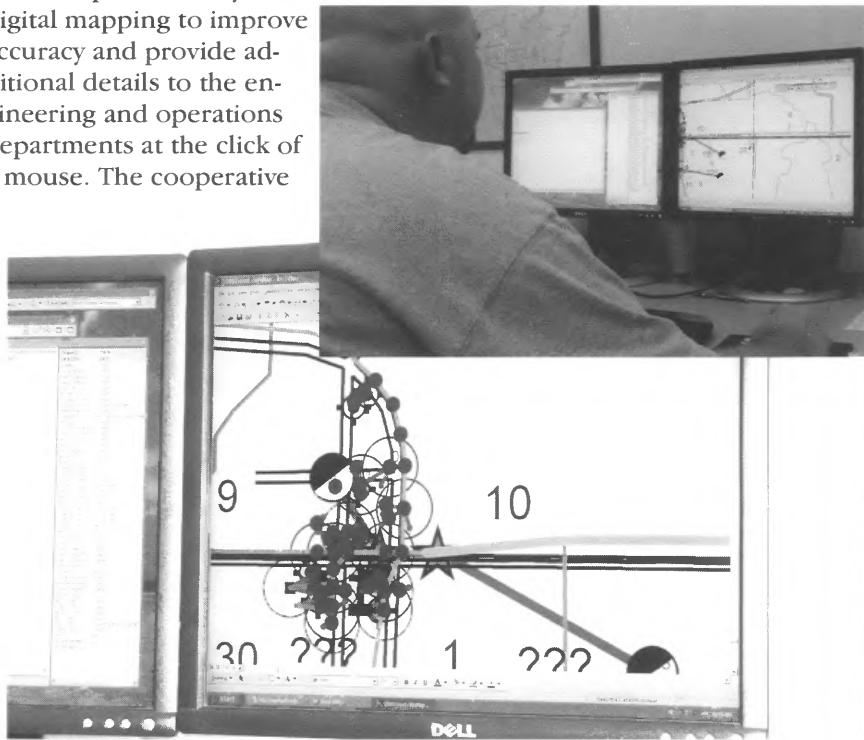
# Digital Remapping Of System Underway

New digital technology is enabling Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative to improve the mapping of our system, which will also result in other future improvements. Dennis Estes, Staking Engineer, is pictured above utilizing the new ESRI system at the cooperative to digitally remap the entire system. Estes and Chris Hopfinger, System Engineer, have spent many weeks working on the remapping project. "The old maps were originally done with AutoCad, which were just dummy lines on a page," said Estes. "Now all the lines on the digital map will have data behind them that will tell us important details such as the originating feed, substation, etc."

When completed, the mapping project will be the hub for many purposes, such as an improved outage management system and engineering studies. "This will give us complete connectivity on the screen,

showing us the flow out of each substation to each of the member consumers," said Estes. The cooperative is also incorporating aerial maps to overlay with the digital mapping to improve accuracy and provide additional details to the engineering and operations departments at the click of a mouse. The cooperative

has more than 3,200 miles of energized lines, so the project is expected to take several months to complete.



## Are You Switching To All Electric Heat?

In recent months, many people have converted their homes to all electric. As the winter months approach, electricity will continue to be an affordable energy source for heating your home. The "all electric heat rate" at Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative is in effect from November 1 to May 1. If you are an "all electric

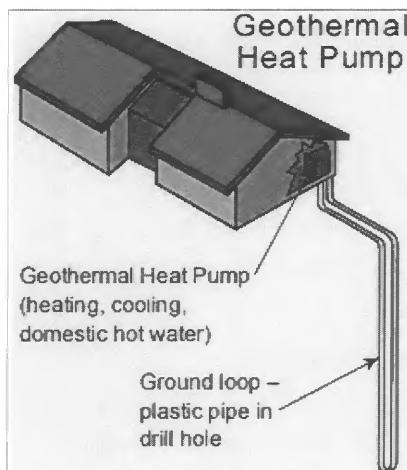
residential account," you qualify for a rate of just .05 per kWh hour on electricity consumed above 1,500 kWh per month during this time. If you convert to all electric heat, or build a new home with all electric heat during this period, contact Wayne-White at 842-2196 to receive this special rate.



# Federal Tax Credit Available For Heat Pump Purchases

If you're buying a new heating system, consider a high-efficiency electric air source or ground source heat pump. The energy efficiency is rated according to a federal standard called the Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF). Heat pumps with an HSPF of 10 are almost three times more efficient than the most efficient gas furnaces. By law, air source heat pumps manufactured since 1992 may not have an HSPF lower than 6.8. Air source heat pumps are also rated by their seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER). New standards for heat pumps were released in January 2006. Most of the modern air source heat pumps have an HSPF of at least 9, and a SEER of 15.

Ground source heat pump, or geothermal, units use the earth as a heat source in the winter and as a heat sink in the summer to cool your home. Ground source heat pumps are rated in terms of Coefficient of Performance (COP) for the winter. The higher the COP, the higher the efficiency. Gas furnaces have COP values in the 0.78 to 0.94 range, whereas ground source heat pumps have COP values in the 3.0 to 4.0 range. Installing a geothermal system often reduces heating and cooling bills by 30 to 50 percent, thereby paying for itself in four to seven years. They are NOT recommended for use



in manufactured double-wide mobile homes due to the special duct work that is necessary for optimum operation. If considering such an installation, please consult with your HVAC dealer. While a geothermal system can be retro-fit to existing homes, it is especially attractive for new home construction.

You can qualify for a federal tax credit of \$300 in 2007 for the purchase and installation of an ENERGY STAR air-source or ground source heat pump. To qualify, the air source heat pump must have an HSPF of at least 9, and a SEER of at least 15.

If purchasing a geothermal unit, it must have a COP of at least 3.3 to qualify for the federal tax incentive. If you have additional questions about heat pumps, contact the cooperative at 842-2196 or visit our Web site at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com).

## WELCOME NEW COOPERATIVE MEMBERS



- Jennifer & Jeremy Burkeen, Carmi
- Adam & Angela Cannon, Wayne City
- Robert D Connaway & Kimberly K Williams, Norris City
- Scott Creighton, Wayne City
- Roy & Karen Dorsey, McLeansboro
- Nathan & Suzanne Fowler, Norris City
- Benjamin L Gill, Ellery
- Holly A Gray, Mill Shoals
- Larry & Betty Grissom, Omaha
- Dwight F, Sr & Patricia Hibner, Cisne
- Mark M & Cheryl R High, Wayne City
- Shawna Hollen, Albion
- Russell & Rachel Huntsman, Enfield
- Treva Matthews, Geff
- Lucinda M Meyer, Fairfield
- Robert L Millenbine, McLeansboro
- Jerry L & Sheila A Miller, Wayne City
- Raymond M Morris, Geff
- Elizabeth M Pecot, Grayville
- Rebecca Santoyo, Enfield
- Kevin & Nikki Seyferth, Wayne City
- Casey Skidmore, Mt Erie
- Debbie Vangilder, Geff
- Steven C & Jenny L Ward, Wayne City
- David A Warren & Michelle Rogers, Fairfield
- Rachel Withrow, Wayne City

## Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative

Route 15 West  
P.O. Drawer E  
Fairfield, Illinois 62837  
618-842-2196  
Office hours: 8 a.m. — 5 p.m.  
Web address:  
[www.waynewhitecoop.com](http://www.waynewhitecoop.com)

## Cooperative Employees Participate In Safety Training

All employees at Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative recently participated in CPR, AED and First Aid training as part of our ongoing safety program. The cooperative believes that it is important for employees to be aware of and prepared for possible emergency situations that may arise in the office or out in the field. As a result, the fleet of Wayne-White Field truck units have been equipped with AEDs where applicable. The recent training was conducted through Frontier Community College in conjunction with the American Red Cross.



## Lights For The Holiday Season

The Holiday Season was made brighter in Wayne City recently through the efforts of Wayne-White personnel. Jason McKinney (above) and L.D. Locke installed Christmas Light decorations in Wayne City along the main highway. The cooperative assisted the City of Wayne City by providing a bucket truck and the two linemen to install the lights.



# Wayne-White

## NEWS

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## Wayne-White Annual Meeting Is Set For Friday, March 30

Recent small group meetings provide input



The Annual Meeting for the membership of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative will take place on Friday, March 30 at Wayne City High School. There will be dinner served in the cafeteria with entertainment and information booths set-up in the gymnasium. The annual business meeting will also be in the gym.

An official notice for the annual meeting will be arriving soon in your mailbox.

A series of five area member meetings were recently held in December to enable Wayne-White members to sit down informally and visit with President/CEO Daryl Donjon and learn about the current financial status of the cooperative, the results of the recent Ameren power auction, possible long-term effects on our power-supply costs, and available options that the board is currently considering.

These options include a 4 percent rate hike, possibly in July of 2007. The Board of Directors will continue to study the cooperative's financial position, make a final decision and present that decision to the membership at our annual meeting on March 30, 2007.

The recent area member meetings were held in Fairfield, Albion, Carmi, Wayne City and Mcleansboro. Although relatively small groups attended the meetings, the dialogue and input provided by the membership was very valuable. Attendees were also given a brief survey after each meeting and the opportunity to win a \$50 credit on their electric bill as door prizes. Ten members (two per meeting) were drawn as door prize winners.

# New Garage/Shop Heater Now Available

**M**any members have been asking for an electric heater that would be applicable to a larger area like a garage or workshop. As a result of your requests, Wayne-White is now carrying a 4,000-watt ceiling or wall mount heater unit that is marketed by the same people who bring you our popular Convect Air heaters. These powerful garage heaters are already wired for 240 volts (220) with a traditional 240 plug at the end for easy installation. The attached bracket on the unit can be tilted at the angle that meets your needs.

How much does it cost to operate this heater? You do the math. If you run the 4,000-watt

heater for an hour, that's 4 kWh. Multiply that by an average of \$0.09 per kWh, and you can see that the heater will cost about 36 cents an hour to operate. Most people wouldn't need to run a garage or shop heater continuously, so this heater might be just the heating alternative you are searching for in that unique work space or storage space. Just like our Convect Air heaters for the home, these units feature a thermostat that ranges from 1 to 9 so you can easily find your desired temperature setting and leave it if desired. Stop by our Fairfield office to see the unit on display. This heater unit sells to our members for \$199.



## Four Employees Receive Service Recognition

Four employees at Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative were recently recognized publicly for their years of service to the cooperative. Employees include Jerry Houser -5 years, Richard Attebery -10 years, Judy Wood -15 years and Kathy Tracy -20 years. On hand to recognize the employees were Daryl Donjon, CEO/Manager, and Andy Glover, Board Chairman.



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# How Much Is That New Hot Tub Costing You?

**E**ach year at this time we often hear from a member who questions an increase in their electricity bill. Upon further inspection, we often find that the member has just installed a new hot tub or whirlpool in their home as a Christmas gift.

Sinking into a hot tub after a long day is quite soothing and relaxing, but it can also add more expense to your electric bill than some people realize. Hot tubs are in essence a huge water heater with an open face. Some owners don't even take



the time to cover them up when they are not in use. That requires even more energy to keep the water at the desired temperature. Hot tubs will consume 250-400 kWh of electricity per month which means an additional \$25 to \$40 a month on your electric bill (based upon \$0.10 a kilowatt).

## Cooperative Participates In Corn Growers Seminar at Geff



**T**he Wayne County Corn Growers Association had a good turnout of area farmers at their recent seminar held at the Geff Ruritan Building. The event featured numerous speakers and presentations with topics ranging from Ethanol to Fungicides and Japanese Beetle control. Senator Jones and Representative Reis also provided Legislative Updates. Information booths were also set-

up during the day.

Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative provided a display table with useful information about many products and services offered at the cooperative, as well as energy-saving tips. For the most up-to-date information about the cooperative, visit our Web site anytime at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com)

# Have You Visited The Wayne-White Web Site Lately?

**C**ooperative members have instant access to a variety of useful information through the Wayne-White Web site at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com). During our recent surveys, many people commented about using the Web site on a routine basis, while others are just now discovering the many pages of information and useful links that are contained on the site each day.

For example, you can....

- Submit your monthly meter readings at the click of a mouse.
- Check the current temperature and weather radar.
- See new recipes updated regularly.
- Participate in a daily devotion.
- Buy and sell items in our free classified ads.
- Click through the business directory.
- Read past feature stories that you might have missed that were published in Illinois Country Living Magazine.

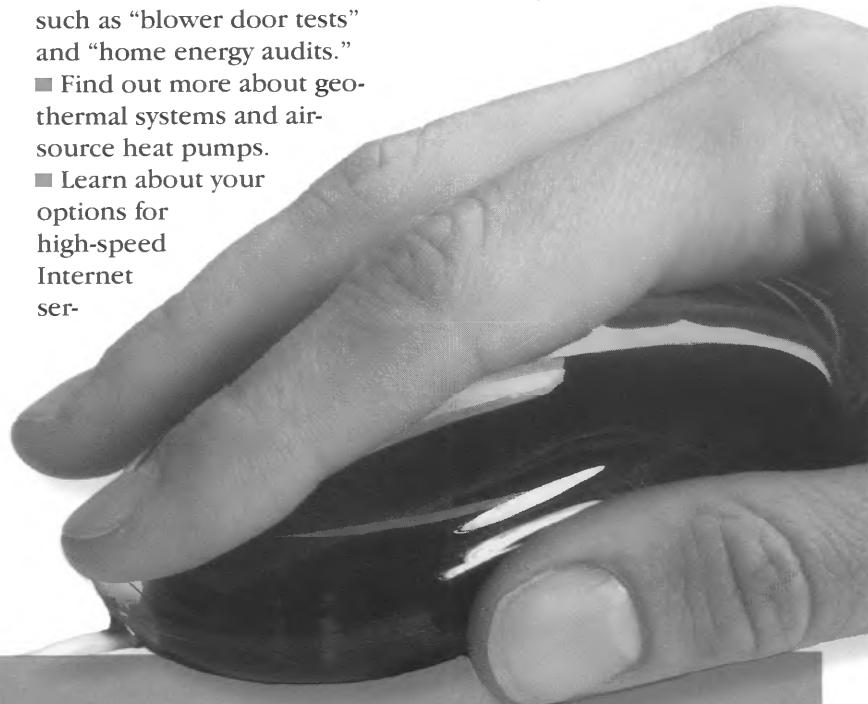
- Get energy-saving tips and surf through many energy-related links.

- Shop for a water heater or Convect Air room heater.
- Read some of the area's top newspapers online through our free RSS feeds from The Evansville Courier, The Southern Illinoisan, Decatur Herald and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, which are updated daily.
- Learn about our services such as "blower door tests" and "home energy audits."
- Find out more about geothermal systems and air-source heat pumps.
- Learn about your options for high-speed Internet ser-

vice.

- Play games in our online game room.
- Get the latest sports information from our ESPN sports feeds and area newspaper RSS feeds updated daily.
- Check the "What's New" page for the latest happenings at the cooperative.

**Make us part of  
your regular routine at  
[www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com).**



## WELCOME NEW COOPERATIVE MEMBERS



- Thomas J & Mary Allen, Flora
- Kenneth L & Annie Beckham, Fairfield
- Bernita Clarkson, Olney
- Compass West Inc, Vandalia

- Nicole DeSanti & Jeffrey L Venters, Geff
- Chad Edmison, Wayne City
- Jim Fuller, Wayne City
- Richard W & Joy Greenwalt, Keenes
- Rodger D Groff, Olney
- Dion P Gross, Omaha
- Wesley & Lacey Harms, Carmi
- Vern Hutson, Fairfield
- Heather D Jones, Ellery
- Tim Keepes, Crossville
- John & Rebecca Kinder, Dahlgren

- Grayson King, Olney
- James W & Judy Milford, Freeburg
- Robert Milner, Cisne
- Richard A, Jr & Amanda Owen, Fairfield
- Craig L Rennier, Noble
- Ryan K & Kimberly Rubenacker, Dahlgren
- Alice Shell, Keenes
- Barbara K Williams, McLeansboro

# Wayne-White

## NEWS

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## Shepherdsman Quartet To Highlight Annual Meeting March 30

**T**he Annual meeting of the Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative is set for Friday, March 30 at Wayne City High School.

All members of the cooperative can enjoy a free dinner of pork chops and fish in the cafeteria, prepared by Don Tucker of Wayne City. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m.

After dinner, information booths will be set-up in the gym, in addition to gospel entertainment provided by the Shepherdsman Quartet. This well-known group has performed on tour in Texas and at Ground Zero in New York City. They will also have CDs available for purchase. The concert will be followed by a short live-line safety demonstration just before the business meeting.

Information booths will range from acute to long-term healthcare needs, high-speed Internet access, Air-Evac ambulance service, geothermal and air-source heat pumps, hot water heaters, Convect Air room heaters, and services provided by the cooperative.

Door prizes will also be given away. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your registration card with you - it is attached to the back cover of the official Annual Meeting notice that is mailed out to each member.



## Power Surge Protection Now Available

The cooperative is now offering power surge protection by Tesco. Stop by our booth at the Annual Meeting on March 30 at Wayne City to learn more, or watch for more information coming here next month.

# *Ice Storms Can Cause Big Outages.... Be Prepared!*

By Randy Olson



**F**or electric cooperative employees, ice is the biggest fear that stays in the back of our minds this time of year. The recent ice storms in central Illinois, metro-east Illinois, and east of Springfield, Missouri have all been reminders of just how fortunate we have been up until now in the Wayne-White service area.

Ice can cripple a system in a very short period of time, and it can be widespread. The weight of the ice can snap lines, poles, topple limbs and trees into the lines, and create havoc for everyone along the grid.

"Sometimes it's hard to grasp the magnitude of what an ice storm can do to your system and the length of time it can take to get everything back to normal," said Erin Halley, Operations Manager at Wayne-White. "We had crews over in Missouri for almost 12 days working continuously to try to get power restored in that area. It has been devastating to those electric cooperatives."

Since we are at the mercy of Mother Nature, ice storms cannot be prevented. If the weather develops just right, we also might be faced with a major challenge, just like our neighboring cooperatives have suffered. Even though we think that Spring is on the way, ice storms have also been known to hit in March and April. It's really not a matter of if it will happen to us, but when? Therefore, we must ask the following questions: How can the cooperative lessen the effects of an ice storm on our membership? How can we communicate outage information with our membership in case of a widespread ice storm?

First of all, our ongoing vegetation management (right-of-way) crews are in the field everyday trimming trees and brush and/or spraying along the 3,300 miles of energized lines that we serve. While this alone cannot prevent outages during an ice storm, hopefully it will lessen the impact on our system, by reducing the number of trees and limbs that fall into the lines. However, the weight of the ice alone, on the lines and poles is often sufficient enough to cause widespread outages.

Another potential benefit in Wayne-White's system is the manner in which all the substations are fed. Our substations have a certain amount of redundancy. We have a scenario of loops on the main circuits that can enable us to switch feeds from one direction to another, allowing us to back feed an area from another direction in order to restore power. That method works well, if multiple substations are not affected. However, the damage caused by ice storms can often be widespread, preventing that scenario from being a quick fix.

Another benefit to our system is designing shorter wire spans on many areas of the system. Shorter spans can withstand a greater coating of ice than longer spans without falling prey to the weight.

Other potential advantages of the Wayne-White system are the two service yards, one in Fairfield and one in Enfield. That gives us two staging areas to service outages. The benefit of being a cooperative is that other cooperatives are also willing to send some of their crews to lend a helping hand in a time of cat-



astrophic outages, just like we have done many times for other cooperatives. The cooperative spirit is a vital asset in time of need.

Wayne-White has both transmission lines and distribution lines. Priorities are established to restore power to the most people as efficiently as possible. Therefore, if you happen to live at the end of a line feed, it is possible that your power may not be restored as quickly as others, but we will certainly do everything we can to keep all members outage time to a minimum. The key is for everyone to have patience during an ice storm outage.

Even with all these measures in place, it is important to realize that ice storm outages often leave people without power for days, not hours, due to the sheer number of lines and poles that often have to be replaced before the lines can be safely energized. Some numbers from the recent ice storms are mind-boggling.

For example, Shelby Electric Cooperative recently lost power to half of their membership, about 4,500 homes in the Taylorville, Nokomis and Macon areas. They had seven substations down and other electric cooperatives from downstate Illinois answered the call for help. Even with all the extra labor, it still took seven days to get all of their power restored.

Corn Belt Energy in Bloomington endured damage that was even worse. They had 15,000 members without power at the storm's peak, and had to replace 450 poles along with several miles of line. Linemen David Vaughn, Jason McKinney, Joe Holman and Carl McKibben went to assist Corn Belt.

Dave Johnson and Chad Hinkle went to help with power restoration at nearby RECC in Auburn during December.

One of the biggest ice storms as of press time occurred in January at Laclede Electric Cooperative in Lebanon, Missouri where the system damage was catastrophic. Wayne-White sent Mike Richardson, Gerry Kinney, Alan Kincart and Lindy Simpson to help restore their power. This 30,000 member cooperative lost power to virtually their entire system, and after 13 days, they still had between 1,500-2,000 members out of power. They lost nearly 500 utility poles.

Approximately 200 out-of-town linemen and 30 right-of-way crews responded to their aid. It's important to note that the costs involved in sending linemen to help other cooperatives is reimbursed to Wayne-White by the cooperative requesting assistance.

It's important to realize the fact that once power has been restored, all the problems may not be over. Sometimes when ice begins to melt off of the lines, it can cause a "bouncing" effect which can force some lines to come in contact with other lines, thereby causing more outages. This can take additional time to reset throughout the system.

So, how will we communicate with our members during an ice storm?

We will depend upon traditional media like regional radio stations, TV and newspapers, but we will also utilize our Web site as a constant means of updating members in a timely manner at [www.Wayne-WhiteCoop.com](http://www.Wayne-WhiteCoop.com).

Web site updates can be immediate, and were proven to be very helpful in the case of both Shelby Electric Cooperative and Corn Belt Energy during their recent ice storm. You may ask, how can I access the Web site or the Radio/TV if my electricity is off? Since many members would likely be employed somewhere that DOES have power or a back-up generator, or you may be staying in another home with friends or family members that DO have power, access to electronic media and our Web site could be possible.

We also have a back-up generator at the cooperative office to power our facilities if affected by an ice storm outage. This will enable us to update the Web site with timely outage information and progress that is made along the way.

What if the radio station is out of power? Many radio stations in our service area also have back-up generators and transmitters, which allow them to get back on the air, although sometimes at a lesser signal strength.

None of us want to see an ice storm, but the reality is that we are likely to be hit by Mother Nature's wrath sometime in the future. Whether it happens in a week, a month, or four years from now, the cooperative will continue to try and be as prepared as possible. It's important for you as a member to be prepared as well.

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- Bradley A Aman, Enid, OK
- Lisa Wicke-Baker, Rinard, IL
- Miranda Bozarth, Wayne City, IL
- Duane A & Peggy Davis, Homestead, FL
- Jason L Davis, Wayne City, IL
- Robert M Duncan, Casey, IL
- Joshua Easton, McLeansboro, IL
- Dale Healy, Carmichaels, PA
- Brandon Hooper & Rachel McCulley, Fairfield, IL
- R Keith Hoskins, Norris City, IL
- J Brandon Jacobs & Nikki Brown, Crossville, IL
- Kevin & Lezlie McVaugh, Wayne City, IL
- Walter Lee Martin, West Salem, IL
- Stephen A & Linda L Morgan, Huntsville, AL
- Kory R Naas, Norris City, IL
- William H & Angie M Peyton, Norris City, IL
- R Luthe Farms, Inc., Lawrenceville, IL
- Wesley & Julie Renn, McLeansboro, IL
- B & Debbie Rich, Noble, IL
- Matthew R Rogers, McLeansboro, IL
- Heath A Rush, Springerton, IL
- Matthew Rush, Fairfield, IL
- Dusty N Savage, Fairfield, IL
- Robert & Debra L Simmers, Fairfield, IL
- Freddie S, Jr & Janie Vaughan, Fairfield, IL
- Christine Vinson, Norris City, IL
- Roger M & Carol M Weiss, Pocahontas, IL
- Justin & Victoria Woodrow, McLeansboro, IL

## Cooperative Promotes Long-Term Health Care Plan

**A**s a public service to our membership, Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative is providing dependable information on planning for your future and retirement needs.

Many of us don't think about getting older, or even think that we will grow old. However, it is important to begin preparing for the probability that as we age, we will need help performing routine tasks such as bathing or dressing.

Unfortunately, the truth is that there is a 50 percent chance that you will need to utilize some type of long-term care assistance, whether it be home health care, assisted living, adult day care or even a nursing home, in our later years. Although this is a normal part of aging, most people do not plan adequately, or at all.

Since the average Long Term Care stay can cost \$60,000 a year, this can create a crisis for many American families today.

In order to maintain concern for the community, member/

owners are invited to participate in the same voluntary program that Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative has made available to its employees, retirees and directors.

As a member/owner of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, you are offered this coverage at a DISCOUNTED rate. The goal of this program is to educate member/owners about Long Term Care needs, so that they can avoid the devastation of the number one financial burden facing Middle America today.

Cooperative Care Planning Services will have an information booth set-up at the Wayne-White Annual Meeting on Friday, March 30 at Wayne City High School. A representative will be able to answer your questions and provide additional details about this program. We encourage you to stop by and learn how you and your family can benefit from this valuable information.



## New Lineman Hired By The Cooperative

**W**ayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative is pleased to welcome Tom Flannigan as a new Journeyman Lineman working out of our Enfield office. Tom and his wife, Rebecca, and their two sons, Zachary and Braden, are relocating to our service area from Salem, where Tom was previously employed by Tri-County Electric Cooperative. He began his new duties at Wayne-White on January 22. He replaces Lee Johnson, who moved with his family to Indiana.



# Wayne-White

## NEWS

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## New Roofs On Cooperative Buildings



**T**wo main buildings at the cooperative headquarters in Fairfield were recently improved with new traditional truss roofs to cover the flat roofs that had been in existence for many years. The roofing project was completed by Thomann Construction of Noble, and is expected to provide many years of maintenance free protection.



## Co-op Receives Two Awards at State Conference

**W**ayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative received two safety honors recently during the Safety/Supervisory Technical Conference held in Springfield. The awards were given to cooperatives with outstanding "no lost time" and "accident/illness" safety records for 2006.

The conference is sponsored annually by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC). From left are Manager of Engineering and Operations Erin Halley, Operations and Safety



Coordinator Jerry White and AIEC Manager of Safety and Loss Control Ken Macken.

# Cooperative Now Offers TESCO Surge Protection

**E**ffective immediately, you can begin to protect your home and your sensitive electronic components and appliances with Surge Protection equipment available at Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative.

We are handling the TESCO brand of surge protection for highly effective powerline surge protection under your outside kilowatt meter, or members can choose from two different point-of-use surge suppressors to use inside the home. The cooperative has chosen TESCO because of their warranty program and the reputation of success with other electric cooperatives across the nation.

## Why do I need AC surge protection?

AC surges are not only caused by lightning. Utility work, adverse weather conditions, or even something as simple as electric motor activity within a building (air conditioners, elevators, copiers, printers and refrigerator) can cause power fluctuations, which can cause damage.

Surge protectors extend the

lifetime of sensitive electronic equipment by protecting it against harmful power surges and over-voltage problems. TESCO's surge protectors add the advantage of buffering electronic equipment from everyday fluctuations. This is critical, because "invisible" power disturbances have a cumulative effect, and can lead to premature failure of all or part of an unprotected electronic system.

## How Long Can I Expect My TESCO Surge Protection to last?

After extensive laboratory and field testing, TESCO is able to provide a warranty on their entire line. These surge protectors have been proven to withstand repeated lightning hits and AC line overvoltages (373 Volt peak). TESCO surge protectors will not protect against low voltage situations. You can rely on their solid-state technology to protect your critical electronics under worst-case power disturbances.

## How much will it cost me?

The cooperative offers a rental program on the meter-base powerline protection unit (TES-240 MSA) for just \$6.99 a month. The unit mounts under the base of your kilowatt meter. We will install it for no cost with the rental program. Your only out-of-pocket expense is \$6.99 for the first monthly rental. Members must sign a 24-month rental

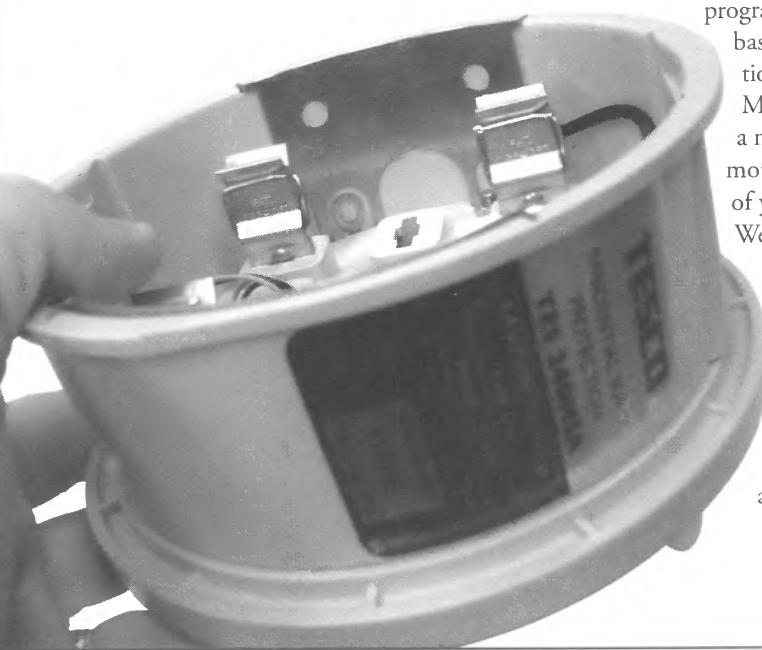


agreement. Another option is to buy the meter-base unit for \$100, with an installation fee of \$75.

If you just want to protect individual electronic components such as a computer or entertainment center, you may opt to buy the TES 4PCT model. This point-of-use surge suppressor features four AC outlets, four AC transformer outlets, two coaxial connections, and two phone jacks. This unit is self-installed by the member and sells for \$46.

A smaller unit designed to protect phones and answering machines is the TES 1PT model. It features one AC outlet and two phone jacks. This model sells for just \$16 and is self-installed by the member.

For more information, call or stop by the cooperative office anytime Monday through Friday, or visit our Web site at [www.WayneWhiteCoop.com](http://www.WayneWhiteCoop.com) and click on the TESCO Surge Protection link.



# Cooperative Truck Provides Unique Photography Perspective



**W**ayne-White lineman Carl McKibben operates a bucket truck for photographer Ron Hallam of Witter Studio (in bucket) as he prepares to take an aerial photo of students at Center Street School in Fairfield. The photo will be combined in a collage with

similar photos taken at Jasper, North Side, New Hope and Geff schools to be placed on the cover of the new Fairfieldopoly Boardgames, which are being sold locally. The game is a take off of the popular Monopoly game with local businesses featured on the spaces of the board.

## WELCOME NEW COOPERATIVE MEMBERS



- Amanda Albright, Wayne City, IL
- Rebecca E Blanchard, Crossville, IL
- Gilbert & Janice Carrell, Thompsonville, IL
- Christopher L Conard, Fairfield, IL
- Philip F & Sherry Cotton, Fairfield, IL
- David & Tiffany Cowger, West Salem, IL
- David L Dehlinger & Julie Bell, Rinard, IL
- Neal & Tara Donoho, Xenia, IL
- Jaime Fenton, Wayne City, IL
- Timothy & Jennifer Fulkerson, McLeansboro, IL
- William Gallagher, Calumet City, IL
- Jason & Erin Hardy, Ellery, IL
- Cory Holleman, Xenia, IL
- Tim & Joyce Isaacs, Mill Shoals, IL
- David M & Kathy Jo Lane, Carbondale, IL
- Jeremy & Kristin Leu, Norris City, IL
- Lynch Farms Inc, West Salem, IL
- Musgrave Barbara Estate, c/o Brenda
- Musgrave, Adams, TN
- Melissa & Sam Myers, McLeansboro, IL
- Kevin Pearce, Norris City, IL
- Amy E Pfister, Enfield, IL
- Erin Phillips, Geff, IL
- Torrence L Porter, Carmi, IL
- Jason Pruitt, Norris City, IL
- Lori D & Christopher Smith, Norris City, IL
- Superior Steel, Wayne City, IL
- Milissa Thrane, McLeansboro, IL
- Eleanor M Towns, Fairfield, IL
- Harold & Diana Tubbs, Fairfield, IL
- Pamela J Walker, Skowhegan ME
- Williams Family Grain Farm Inc, Carmi, IL
- Terry Windland, Wayne City, IL
- Bethanie Wood, McLeansboro, IL
- Woodrow Trucking LLC, Enfield, IL
- Ruth A & Leslie Young, McLeansboro, IL

## Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative

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# Purchasing And Safely Operating Generators for Home or Farm Use

**M**embers often call or stop by the cooperative to ask about back-up generators. While nobody likes to be without power for an extended period of time, the fact remains that sometimes a longer power outage caused by high winds, ice storms, flooding or brownouts can occur. During these times, many people become concerned about refrigeration, heating and cooling, sump pumps and some people also may have life support systems like oxygen units or dialysis systems which require electricity.

As a result, a back-up generator gives many people piece of mind in case a lengthy unexpected outage occurs. There are two different kinds of generators. Portable and stand-by. So what is the difference between a portable generator and a stand-by generator? A portable generator, just as the name implies, is designed for mobile use. It is lightweight and often has wheels attached. They are intended for temporary use and they run off of gasoline or diesel fuel.

A portable generator is usually much smaller in wattage output, typically 3,000 to 6,000 watts, compared to the larger stand-by generators. This may be enough power to run some appliances, sump pumps and lights in your home, but probably won't be enough to power your entire house for an extended period of time. A manual transfer switch is the key to safe and convenient operation of portable generators for temporary power in your home. By properly installing a transfer switch at your breaker box, you can isolate selected circuits that you wish to power.

However, it's very important to understand that your portable generator must be connected properly to protect backfeeding into the cooperatives electrical grid, which can cause severe injury or death to electrical workers, family members or pets, as well as property damage to your home or farm. Improper connection can also void your homeowner's insurance in case of accident or injury. It is recommended that you consult with a licensed electrician for proper installation.

Here are some other important safety tips about portable generators. Never operate an internal combustion

engine inside your home, basement, garage or any other enclosed area. A portable generator needs a minimum of 3 to 4 feet of spacing on all sides (including the top). A generator needs an unlimited supply of fresh air for proper cooling during operation. Properly locate the generator outdoors away from doors and windows. An open door or window will allow dangerous exhaust fumes to enter the building. Since combustion engines create carbon monoxide, which can be lethal, good ventilation is critical. Keep the generator dry and always operate it on a level surface. Never add fuel to your generator when it is running and always store additional fuel in approved gasoline containers.

Another safe way to use portable generators is to use a heavy-gauge extension cord and surge protected power strip directly from the generator to the appliance that you want to power. Never feed power from your generator into a wall outlet. This can cause dangerous backfeeding into the electrical grid system like we discussed above. Portable generators over 2,000 watts are usually sufficient enough to power microwave ovens, toaster ovens and other 120V electrical cooking devices. It is best to talk to your generator dealer to determine the wattage output size of portable generator that will best meet your individual needs.

## What is a Stand-By Generator?

It is a larger, more powerful unit that can operate automatically whether you are home or away to quietly protect your home or business with an immediate reliable response to a power failure. Stand-by generators operate on liquid propane or natural gas so there is no need to run a maze of extension cords, or bother with filling gasoline. Stand-by generators are safe and automatic, usually responding within 30 seconds. In fact, when the utility power returns, the generator automatically shuts down and waits for the next future outage in "stand-by."

Stand-by generators are much larger in output size. The most common sizes range from 7kw to 16kw to provide ample whole-house power for most homes of 1,200 to 3,000 square feet, including your climate control and water



heating needs. Stand-by generators sit outside just like a central air conditioning unit. It is important to consult with your generator dealer to properly select the size of unit that best meets the needs of your home or business. Depending upon the brand and size, there are a variety of transfer switch options for inside or outside your home. Many stand-by generators also run a periodic self-test so you know that they are ready when they are needed. If you purchase a unit, be sure that the transfer switch is installed by a professional licensed electrician.

Stand-by generators also come in both air-cooled and liquid-cooled models. Air-cooled generators provide a more economical solution that can cover the most essential circuits in your home. Liquid-cooled generators meet larger power requirements such as whole house electrical coverage and commercial applications. Stand-by generators do require a periodic oil and filter change. While a stand-by generator is more expensive than a portable generator, the larger output size and automatic ease of operation provide piece of mind to many people. For more information, consult the stand-by generator dealer nearest you.