

Shelby Electric Cooperative sponsors upcoming “Youth Day” in Springfield and “Youth to Washington” Tour

James E. Coleman, President and CEO of Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) and the Board of Directors of SEC will provide two students from every high school in the cooperative’s service area the opportunity to attend the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day” April 6, 2011. During the day in Springfield, hundreds of students from all over Illinois will have an opportunity to meet with their elected senators and representatives at the Capitol. In addition, students will tour the Old State Capitol and visit other sites. Last year, 11 students from six area high schools attended “Youth Day,” representing Shelby Electric Cooperative. Shelby Electric will provide transportation and meals.

Two of the Shelby Electric student representatives for “Youth Day” will be selected to attend the “Youth to Washington” tour. The cooperative will sponsor these two students on a weeklong, all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The “Youth to Washington” tour will begin on Friday, June 10th and conclude on Friday, June 17th. During the week in the nation’s Capitol, the Illinois contingent will meet with Illinois senators and the downstate Illinois congressional delegation at a Capitol Hill luncheon. Meetings are also scheduled with leaders of



State Sen. Deanna Demuzio (pictured in center) met with 11 students representing Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 in Springfield. Students also met with State Sen. Kyle McCarter and State Rep. Robert Flider. Marla Eversole (pictured far right) coordinates the trip for SEC.

co-op organizations such as the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. In addition, there will be opportunities to tour many historic sites. For more information about the “Youth to Washington” tour visit www.youthtour.coop. In 2010, Alyssa Casner from Cowden-Herrick High School and Ryan Gant from Central A & M High School represented SEC on the trip to Washington, DC.

Area high schools have been informed about “Youth Day” and the “Youth to Washington” tour. Each high school has been asked to

select two students to represent its school at the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day.” Students should be a junior or senior. The manner in which students are selected is determined by each high school. Any student interested in participating in the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives “Youth Day” should contact the guidance counselor at their high school. For additional information, contact Marla Eversole at SEC at 217-774-3986 or 1-800-677-2612.

<p>Shelby Energy 1-217-774-2311 24-hours-a-day</p>	<p>PWR-net & WildBlue Internet 1-877-994-2323 weekdays</p>	<p>Shelby Electric Cooperative 1-800-677-2612 1-217-774-3986 24-hours-a-day</p>
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PWR-net launches new website

PWR-net recently launched its new website www.pwr-net.coop. Now, Internet surfers and current PWR-net users can learn more about PWR-net and read timely news and event information about the wireless broadband product. The site was originally only one page and linked via Shelby Electric Cooperative's website. The new PWR-net site contains seven tabs of information to choose from and two site maps. One map shows the 32 current broadcast points, which can be found under the "Troubleshooting" tab. The other map contains a service area cloud, map shown at right, that can be found under the "Who We Are" tab. If you are interested in learning more about PWR-net wireless Internet service from Shelby Electric Cooperative visit www.pwr-net.coop, call them toll free at 1-877-994-2323 or E-mail subscriberinterest@pwr-net.coop.



Pictured right is a PWR-net service area cloud. This is a line-of-sight product, so trees and terrain-challenged areas may not be able to receive a signal even though you may fall within our service area cloud. ▶



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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www.shelbyelectric.coop
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Office Hours:
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

 **Shelby Electric Cooperative**
 Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

OUTAGE REPORT				
LINE OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
12/8/2010	1.20	Velma	Broken conductor	408
12/12/2010	3.30	Velma	Miscellaneous	157
12/14/2010	1.10	Lakewood	Trees	52
12/18/2010	2.45	Shelbyville	Bad underground	55
12/19/2010	1.20	Shelbyville	Broken conductor	66
SUBSTATION OUTAGES				
DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
12/10/2010	0.10	Pana	Equipment failure	569
12/10/2010	1.00	Pana	Equipment failure	569
12/21/2010	0.20	Neoga	Planned work	1269

HomE funding continues into the New Year

The popular HomE program coordinated by Shelby Electric Cooperative has received additional funds and will continue into 2011. Initially funded with \$1.5 million in federal stimulus program funds in May, HomE is getting an additional \$1 million boost to promote energy efficiency in electric cooperative members' homes. The funding is coordinated through the State of Illinois Energy Plan.

HomE will continue to operate until the complete \$2.5 million has been utilized. The HomE program consists of two parts – a residential energy audit provided by the cooperative, followed by a series of



rebates for efficiency upgrades. The rebates range from \$250 for a heat pump water heater to \$1,500 for a geothermal heating/cooling system. A variety of heating/cooling upgrade rebates are available, as well as incentive rebates for adding insulation and weatherization products. The maximum rebate for any homeowner is \$1,500.

To learn more about HomE go to www.shelbyelectric.coop and click on the HomE icon at the bottom of the cooperative's home page.

Love Our Earth

February is the month of love. Show your love of our earth by recycling. Shelby Electric has sent over 16 tons of recyclable waste to MidState Salvage, our processor based in Taylorville, Illinois, since our first collection date in July 2010. We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your participation. We are so proud of the work we are doing and we couldn't do it without you.

Recycling Tip: Handing out Hershey's kisses this Valentine's Day? The aluminum wrapped around those chocolate kisses is recyclable!

The **POWER** of Green

Reminder to apply for one of three Shelby Electric Cooperative Scholarships

You have just over one month to apply for one of three \$1,000 scholarships from Shelby Electric Cooperative. Scholarships will be awarded to a son or daughter of a current Shelby Electric Cooperative member who is receiving electric service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted. March 15th is the deadline for receipt of completed applications for 2011. Scholarship winners will be notified in June.

High school seniors pursuing a college education in the United States are eligible to participate in

the program. Scholarships may be used for educational costs at any two-year or four-year accredited college or university, including vocational/technical schools.

Candidates are judged based on grade point average, college entrance tests scores, work and volunteer experience, participation in school and community activities, a biographical statement and a short essay that demonstrates knowledge of the organization and services of Shelby Electric Cooperative.

In 2010, the winners were Tamar Adcock, Lauren Adcock and Ethan

Simmons, all of Central A & M High School.

Applications can be obtained by visiting the Shelby Electric Cooperative website www.shelbyelectric.coop and selecting Scholarship Programs under the "Our Community" tab or by calling Marla Eversole, Member Services Representative. The telephone numbers for the cooperative are 217-774-3986 and 1-800-677-2612. Applications may also be obtained from high school guidance counselors.



Offices Closed Monday, February 21st in observance of Presidents' Day



REAL LIFE REAL POWER

Getting real efficient with Marla

As mentioned in last month's Real Life Real Power, I searched for opportunities to improve the efficiency of my own house. I did not have to search very hard. My oldest son was home from college and my youngest had time off from high school. We had several educational chats about energy efficiency and the importance of turning off lights, televisions, game systems, unplugging phone chargers and iPods, shutting down the computer at night and not standing in front of the refrigerator, with the door open, while hoping the fruits and veggies will turn into a double bacon cheeseburger. Relentless education (i.e. nagging) will sometimes help instill the energy efficiency message.

I also looked outside the house. One shed needed several light bulbs replaced. My husband and I chose to replace the 150-watt incandescent bulbs with 42 watt CFLs. A 150-watt bulb, used 30 hours a month, costs us about \$0.48 cents to operate. A 42-watt CFL, used 30 hours a month, costs about \$0.14 to operate. We replaced 6 bulbs. IF the lights are only left on one hour a day, we can save a little over \$2 a month. Now, if the lights accidentally get left on until someone goes outside the next morning, at least we are not wasting nearly as much electricity!

Another opportunity hit me like



a cold shower one cold morning. In fact, it WAS a cold shower. Our propane water heater's pilot light gets blown out when the wind blows very strongly from the northwest. This has happened numerous times – one too many times, as a matter of fact. It cannot be efficient for that cold air to have such a welcoming entrance into our home! Next up – replacing the existing water heater with a Marathon electric water heater.

Most people have a tendency not to think about our use of electricity, at least not until the power goes out or the bill comes. There is not a lot of control over a power outage but we do have control over how much energy we use (and waste). It starts with education and observation. Then start making the necessary changes. Every little bit helps. Take the energy efficient home tour and learn how little things can add up by visiting www.TogetherWeSave.com. *Marla Eversole, Member Services Representative - Shelby Electric Cooperative.*



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Ninety percent of the energy it takes to wash clothes is used to heat water. If you wash in cold water, you could save \$40 per year if you have an electric water heater and \$30 annually if you have one powered by natural gas.

Source U.S. Department of Energy

Top 5 ways to boost outdoor efficiency

Could your garage, shed, barn or other outdoor building use an energy efficiency boost? Try these tips to save energy and money:



- 1** The same rules apply for outdoor buildings as houses: add insulation, install energy-efficient windows and seal ductwork.
- 2** Unplug power tools and battery chargers at the end of the season.
- 3** Install an insulated door and seal the sides and bottom to reduce air leaks.
- 4** Install motion sensors on outdoor lights.
- 5** Look into LED retrofit kits for outdoor security lights. They cost more upfront, but payback is five to 10 years, and LEDs can last up to 20 years.

Source: Cooperative Research Network