

Free Home Energy Efficiency Workshop coming to Taylorville March 6th

Featuring Doug Rye the King of "Caulk and Talk"

Members of Shelby Electric Cooperative are invited to attend a free Energy Efficiency Workshop to be held on March 6, 2012 in the Janice Hopper Auditorium located in the Taylorville Memorial Hospital, Taylorville, Illinois. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for registration, with the program starting at 6 p.m. and concluding at 7:30 p.m. Light snacks will be provided.

Doug Rye is America's leading and most trusted "Energy Expert." Doug writes the articles found in the "Energy Solutions" section in this Illinois Country Living Magazine and he conducts over 150 energy savings seminars across the United States each year.

Doug is also host to his own weekly radio show "Home Remedies" providing practical insight into home construction ideas and energy efficiency measures. Doug is known nationwide for his honest, down-to-earth and friendly style.



Doug Rye's "Home Remedies" can be heard on WSMI 1540AM on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

He has made many presentations across Illinois and other states, in an entertaining but straightforward style. One of his famous comments is, "If you build a house with high energy costs, it's your own cotton-pickin' fault!"

At this workshop Doug will teach practical ideas and tips to help you save money and make your home more comfortable.

If you're searching for the most effective methods to make your present house more energy efficient or are planning to remodel or build a new home, then please join us at Taylorville Memorial Hospital on March 6 in the Janice Hopper Auditorium.

RSVP by March 5 to be eligible to win one of three great prizes to include:

- a free energy audit for cooperative members (a \$299 value),
- a \$100 Walmart Gift Card or
- a free month of service from Shelby Electric Cooperative (not to exceed \$150).

Some restrictions may apply and free month of service is for an average residential household. RSVP by calling 1-800-677-2612 or via e-mail rsvpdougrye@shelbyelectric.coop. You must RSVP to enter into drawing and you must be present to win.

Co-op Connections Card program unveils My VIP Savings

The arsenal of Co-op Connections Card member benefits continues to grow thanks to My VIP Savings. Through this exciting new feature, members will be able to take advantage of special savings at more than 1,000 online stores including Walmart, Best Buy, GAP, Office Depot, Old Navy, Overstock.com, KOHLS and Target. If you shop online, this is for you! If you've never shopped

online or thought about it, this is your incentive to start. Best of all, participants will receive cash back on every qualifying purchase. When you've reached a certain amount in your account, you'll receive a check.

It's easy to start saving. All you have to do is visit shelbyelectric.coop, click on the My VIP Savings icon, then click on the link to register. You'll need the group number



found on the back of your Co-op Connections Card. After registering, users will automatically earn cash back rewards and get access to special money-saving deals. My VIP Savings offers updates daily so sign up today; start saving and receive CashBack on qualifying purchases. If you have questions please contact the cooperative toll free at 1-800-677-2612.

Remember

**Daylight Saving Time
begins Sunday
March 11, 2012,
at 2 a.m.**

*Set your clocks
ahead one hour.
(Spring forward)*




Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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**Office Hours:
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**



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REMINDER:



Shelby Electric scholarship applications are due Friday, March 16, 2012. Applications may be found on our website www.shelbyelectric.coop. Go to the "Our Community" tab and select Scholarship Programs (see inset). Applications have also been sent to area high school guidance counselors.



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(tax not included in prices shown)

Now Thru April 20th
Call 774-2311 for more information

OUTAGE REPORT

LINE OUTAGES

DATE	HOURS	SUBSTATION	CAUSE	MEMBERS AFFECTED
01/01/2012	2.00	Velma	Unknown	75
01/01/2012	2.45	Velma	Trees	152
01/17/2012	1.20	Velma	Lightning	532
01/17/2012	3.45	Taylorville	Lightning	82
01/20/2012	2.57	Elwin	Unknown	87
01/22/2012	2.00	Elwin	Miscellaneous	50
01/23/2012	0.50	Richland	Broken conductor	46
01/28/2012	2.30	Elwin	Unknown	88

Shelby Electric Cooperative to sponsor "Youth Day" in Springfield and "Youth to Washington" Tour



Senator Kyle McCarter visits with students from Shelby Electric Cooperative during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day last year. Pictured, l-r, row 1 are: Amanda Evans, Lexie Mahaffey, Courtney Lawrence, Kristina Weeden, McCarter, Mikayla Mendenhall, Marie Beasley, Stine Eskesen and Shawn Beck. Row 2: Shelby employee Marla Eversole and students Tyler Quick, Tanner Bowers, Raymond Cummins, Dylan Reed, Timothy Petty, Eli Simmons, Andrew Mathis and Maxwell Fransen.

James E. Coleman, President and CEO of Shelby Electric Cooperative and the Board of Directors of Shelby Electric Cooperative, 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" March 28, 2012. 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 other sites. Last year, 15 students from eight area high schools attended the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives "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. Shelby Electric 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 15 and conclude on Friday, June 22. 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 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.

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 their school at the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives "Youth Day." Students should be a junior or senior and 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 Shelby Electric Cooperative at 217-774-3986 or 1-800-677-2612. Like us on Facebook ~ facebook.com/YourCoop.

Shelby Energy
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PWR-net & WildBlue Internet
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weekdays
(closed from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

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REAL LIFE REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla

The weatherization work that I committed to and discussed in last month's article has been completed. Before I get to the drumroll and results, here is a list of the work that was completed by Pioneer Homes, Taylorville:

- Blower door test to simulate a 20 mph wind hitting the house from all sides
- Infrared camera imaging and use of diagnostic tools to locate areas that were letting air infiltrate
- Air sealing, air sealing, air sealing – gaps, cracks and crevices caulked prior to adding insulation (this is an important step that often gets neglected.)
- Cellulose insulation blown into the attic, increasing insulation R value to R38 (R value is a measurement of a material to resist heat transfer)
- Crawl space weatherized
 - Rim joist was caulked with two-part foam spray
 - Plastic vapor barrier installed on crawl space floor
 - R14 insulation board installed for crawl space wall insulation
 - Humistatic vent added for ventilation when humidity is high
- Thermostat for the house was moved to a more central location
- One supply register was added to a large room

While the Pioneer Homes crew was working, they made some interesting discoveries such as absolutely NO insulation above a bathroom, a leak around a plumbing air supply (which they sealed) and a leak into the crawl space from the utility room pipes (this had to be repaired by a plumber). Unfortunately, they did not find a cache of money... however my pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is coming! In com-



Above: Curtis Ryen from Pioneer Homes explains to homeowner Marla Eversole what he detects using his infrared camera.

Below: Blower door apparatus used to simulate wind hitting the house from all sides to help expose air infiltration.



paring days with similar weather patterns and occupants being at home, I found a 19 percent decrease in our electricity use on some cold, windy days. In addition, our home feels much more comfortable at a lower thermostat setting.

There is even more good news (I think). Our home still has room for improvement. I called upon Brian Kumer of Thermal Imaging Services to help me analyze the data. Our home, per the blower door test results, was experiencing 18.5 air changes per hour when the blower door test simulated a wind speed of 20 mph. The good point

of this, I mused, was that we were breathing a lot of fresh air? Kumer laughed at my optimistic view. That has now been reduced to about 6.5 air changes per hour, a 65 percent reduction in air infiltration! We should be able to reduce this number as we continue making improvements to our home, such as adding insulation to the walls.

If you would like to learn more about my experience, please call me at 1-800-677-2612 or watch video and view pictures at [facebook.com/YourCoop](https://www.facebook.com/YourCoop).

–Marla Eversole, Member Services Representative



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Adding insulation to your home? An R-value indicates insulation's resistance to heat flow—a higher R-value means more effective insulation. Every type of insulation has a unique R-value depending on material, thickness, and density. Your ideal R-value depends on whether your home is new or existing, your heating fuel and where you live. Learn more at www.energysavers.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy