

Don't be fooled by common energy myths

Eating carrots will greatly improve your eyesight, cracking your knuckles leads to arthritis and watching too much TV will harm your vision. We've all heard the old wives' tales, but did you know there are also many misconceptions about home energy use? Don't be fooled by common energy myths.

Myth: The higher the thermostat setting, the faster the home will heat (or cool).

Many people think that walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will heat the room more quickly. This is not true.

Thermostats direct a home's HVAC system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly you feel warmer. The same is true for cooling. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during

summer months and 68 degrees during winter months.

Myth: Opening the oven door to check on a dish doesn't really waste energy.

While it can be tempting to check the progress of that dish you're cooking in the oven, opening the oven door **DOES** waste energy. Every time the oven door is opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of your dish and, more importantly, costing you additional money. If you need to check the progress of a dish, try using the oven light instead.

Myth: Ceiling fans keep your home cool while you're away.

Believe it or not, many people think this is true. Ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Ceiling fans circulate room air but do not change the temperature. A running ceiling fan in an empty room is only adding

to your electricity use. Remember to turn fans off when you're away and reduce your energy use.

Myth: Reducing my energy use is too expensive.

Many consumers believe that reducing energy use requires expensive up-front costs, like purchasing new, more efficient appliances or making construction upgrades to an older home. The truth is, consumers who make small changes to their energy efficiency habits, such as turning off lights when not in use, sealing air leaks and using a programmable thermostat, can see a reduction in energy consumption.

Remember, energy efficiency doesn't have to be difficult. Focus on small changes to save big. Learn more about ways to save energy by visiting shelbyelectric.coop or calling 800-677-2612.



Cooperatives and Jobs...





Cooperative businesses are run by those who live and work in the community, keeping jobs at home.

In October, co-ops all across the United States are celebrating the benefits and values that cooperatives bring to their members and communities.

While co-ops operate in many industries and sectors of the economy, seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic

member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

We are in it for the long haul strengthening communities through jobs, service and community involvement.

Cooperatives
Owned by Our Members,
Committed to Our Communities

Cooperatives
BUILD

CO-OP MONTH 2016

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



An average household dedicates about 5% of its energy budget to lighting. Switching to energy-efficient lighting is one of the fastest ways to cut your energy bills. By replacing your home's five most frequently used light fixtures or bulbs with models that have earned the ENERGY STAR rating, you can save \$75 each year.

Source: energy.gov



P.O. BOX 560
Shelbyville, IL 62565
Phone: 217-774-3986
or 1-800-677-2612
www.shelbyelectric.coop
twitter.com/YourCoop
facebook.com/YourCoop

Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



REAL LIFE REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla and PWR-net Troubleshooting



This unfriendly dinosaur may rear its head at the most inconvenient times, mocking deadlines or turning a relaxing evening into a technology terror. What can a person do to regain access to their link to the cyber world and conquer the cave-man way of communicating?

Regardless of whether you choose to contact our PWR-net office, follow the tips located on the back of your PWR-net bill or listed within this article, it is helpful to be able to identify the internet equipment at your home to begin trouble-shooting (pictured below).

First, make sure nothing is blocking the path between the CPE outside your home and the tower from which you receive your PWR-net signal. Once you verify the signal is not being blocked by new growth on trees or other issues obvious by sight, you can try the following tips:

1. Unplug the wireless router from the electrical outlet for 30 seconds and then plug it back in. Try the Internet.
2. Restart the computer. Try the Internet.
3. Unplug the CPE power injector from the electrical outlet for 30 seconds and then plug it back in. It may take up to five minutes to reboot. Try the Internet.
4. Try bypassing the router. Unclip the cord from the router's Internet port. Some routers have this labeled. It will not be labeled with a number. Plug the cord directly into a laptop or desktop computer. Try the Internet.

The router may need to be replaced if the Internet works by bypassing the wireless router. A router that is more than five years old is considered outdated. Older routers were designed for passing data, while much of today's Internet use transmits video.

If these tips do not get you connected, please contact PWR-net, Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 1-877-994-2323, or by emailing troubleshooting@pwr-net.coop.
 ~Marla Eversole, Member Services





Touchstone Energy® BALLOONFEST at Lake Shelbyville

October 7-9, 2016

Columbus Day Weekend

Friday Evening

Event Kickoff | 5PM-Sunset | Dam West Recreation Area

Balloons will inflate and launch on site

Music by All Kindz of Soundz; Cromwell Radio Group LIVE Remote

Best viewing of balloons: Dam West | Sunset time: 6:30PM

Saturday Morning

Sunrise Fun Flight | 7-9AM | Shelby County Airport (W Hwy 16)

Balloons will fly over airport in a fun flight

Music by All Kindz of Soundz

Best viewing of balloons: Airport | Sunrise time: 7:00AM

6:30-10AM | Breakfast Fundraiser by Festival of Lights & Chautauqua Preservation Committees | Adults: \$5 AYCE; Kids ↓12: FREE

Young Eagle Flights | 8-11:30AM | Shelby County Airport

Registration begins at 8:00AM, Flights from 8:30-11:30AM, Ages 8-17

Introduction to general aviation—basic ground school & 20-25 minute **FREE** airplane ride over Shelbyville area

Legal guardian must be present to sign waiver of consent; All kids receive a certificate and flight log book

Saturday Evening

MAIN COMMUNITY EVENT | 4-9PM | Shelby County Airport

Balloon Glow & Cookout

BALLOON GLOW BEGINS AT DUSK

Several local food & drink vendors, Music by All Kindz of Soundz

4-6:45PM | Inflatables/bounce houses for kids: \$2 per wristband

4-9PM | Tethered balloon rides: \$10 per person to benefit local charities

Spectacular view of all sponsored balloons in **ONE** location | Sunset time: 6:28PM

Sunday Morning

Sunrise Fun Flight | 7-9AM | Dam West Recreation Area

Balloons will fly over beach in a fun flight

Music by All Kindz of Soundz

Best viewing of balloons: Dam West | Sunrise time: 7:01AM

Balloonfest admission is FREE & events are open to the public | Donations appreciated

ALL SCHEDULED EVENT TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE, WEATHER DEPENDENT & ARE AT THE PILOTS' DISCRETION

Follow the Touchstone Energy® Balloonfest at Lake Shelbyville on Facebook: @balloonslakeshelbyville

Call (217)774-3986 for more information OR go online

www.shelbyelectric.coop | www.lakeshelbyville.com/events/balloon.htm

Saving members money with the Co-op Connections Card



As a member of Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) you have a discount card that works at over 40,000 businesses nationally. The card also has a pharmacy discount, as well as Healthy Savings Benefits which provides you savings on dental, vision, hearing, chiropractic care and much more. As of July 2016, SEC members have saved approximately \$4,386 on their prescriptions year-to-date and over \$110,000 since the cards inception. Visit connections.coop for more information.

Here is a list of area businesses as of September 1, 2016:

Bloomington

- **Glass Specialty Company, Inc.** 309-664-1087
\$20 Wal-Mart gift card with any auto glass replacement.

Champaign

- **Glass Specialty Company, Inc.** 352-4258
\$20 Wal-Mart gift card with any auto glass replacement.
- **Wireless Mike's Verizon** 356-9300
50% off car cord or leather case when activating a new line or upgrading an existing plan.

Decatur

- **Glass Specialty Company, Inc.** 429-2371
\$20 Wal-Mart gift card with any auto glass replacement.
- **Scotty's Pest Control** 422-9372
10% discount on all jobs.

Findlay

- **Pad-N-Checker Gunstock Service** 738-2298
\$1.00 off per each \$20.00 spent above the first \$100.00. Card required for discount.

Forsyth

- **Herzog Quality Optical** 872-7710
20% off complete pair of prescription glasses, lenses only or Plano sunglasses. 10% off all other products for sale (purses).

Greenville

- **Enertech, Inc.** 618-664-9010
\$50 per ton equipment discount (max 5 ton) on GeoComfort or Paradise geothermal systems.

Mattoon

- **Seal & Save** 273-4638
\$49 Dryer-Vent Cleanings.
- **Wireless Mike's Verizon** 258-8771
50% off car cord or leather case when activating a new line or upgrading an existing plan.

Oconee

- **Hired Hands Services** 539-4218
5% off any carpet or resilient flooring.

Pana

- **Bland Heating & Air Conditioning** 562-4256
\$20 Wal-Mart gift card with any auto glass replacement.

Pleasant Plains

- **Paul Tree Farms, LLC.** 414-9556 971-7876
10% off pines, spruces, maples and oaks.

Shelbyville

- **Best Wedding Chapel** 774-7809
For any wedding, mention the Co-op Connections Card offer and receive a free 8x10 Mobile Wedding Chapel poster.
- **Beyers Chiropractic** 774-5313
10% off vitamins, braces and pillows.

Bogart Vision Care

- **Bogart Vision Care** 774-4422
20% off eyeglasses/sunglasses and 50% off second pair.
- **Canvas Art At Simply Yours** 273-5358
\$5 off any regular scheduled painting class (excludes private parties and open studio times).

- **Carl Grabb Motors** 774-2165
5% off of labor on automotive repairs. Excludes oil changes.

- **Coon Creek Lodge** 756-3147
10% discount on kitchenettes.

- **Custom Care Cleaners** 774-3422
\$1 off every \$10, \$2 off every \$20, \$3 off every \$30.

- **Druby's** 774-5143
2 free medium drinks w/ purchase of any everyday Family Deal.

- **Grammy's West Side Floral** 774-4644
10% off, some restrictions apply.

- **Iced** 774-2247
Free tea or soda with lunch purchase.

- **Just A Stitch** 774-2227
20% off regular priced merchandise.

- **Leach-Wilson Chevrolet Buick Co.** 774-3975
5% off parts and labor any day of the week.

- **Merle Norman Cosmetic's & Boutique** 774-4233
Save \$3 on a purchase of \$25 or more (some restrictions may apply).

- **Simply Yours Home Decore, Art & Boutique Clothes** 273-5358
10% off \$10 or more purchase.

- **The Hair Shack** 620-9346
10% off any hair service.

- **Wireless Mike's Verizon** 774-9559
50% off car cord or leather case when activating a new line or upgrading an existing plan.

- **Woodpile Primitives** 254-6955
10% off on any stock item.

Sullivan

- **Coyote Cabins** 728-7150
Regular price is \$125/night, discount price is \$99/night for weekend and \$89 Sunday - Thursday.

- **Wireless Mike's Verizon** 728-2504
50% off card cord or leather case when activating a new line or upgrading an existing plan.

Taylorville

- **A Classic Bouquet** 824-6556
10% off purchases - cash & carry.

- **Hear Well Hearing Care Centre** 824-5210
20% off all services.

- **Market Street Inn** 824-7220
10% off single night stay, 20% off two or more nights stay.

- **ProStitch Auto Interiors & Upholstery, Inc.** 824-3228
\$10 off any basic headliner replacement or free black vinyl for ag/commercial seat repairs.

- **Taylorville Community Credit Union** 824-9658
.25% off any new installment loan.

- **The Best 4 Less** 824-4003
10% off already discounted prices.

- **Yard Heating & Cooling** 824-4737
10% off on furnace and/or air conditioner checkup.

Urbana

- **Wireless Mike's Verizon** 365-9300
50% off car cord or leather case when activating a new line or upgrading an existing plan.