

Join Us Annual Meeting of Members

Boone County Fairgrounds
Friday, July 10, 2009



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- * Free fried chicken or
barbecue dinner
- * Registration gifts
(first 2,000 members)
- * Children's carnival & petting zoo
- * Information booths
- * Glaucoma screening
- * Electrical safety demonstration

Schedule of Events

- 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Registration & meal
- 5:30 p.m.
Ironweed performs
on stage
- 6:45 p.m.
Door prize
drawings begin
- 7 p.m.
Business Meeting

*Boone Electric Cooperative will be closed Friday, July 3,
in recognition of Independence Day.*

Community Support Programs You Can Add to Your Bill

Operation Round-Up

Helps fund the Boone Electric Community Trust, which provides financial assistance to charitable organizations in BEC's service territory.

C.A.S.H.

Provides utility assistance to low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.

H.E.L.P.

Provides utility assistance to low-income families with children. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.



Published by:

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Member Information

No-Cost and Low-Cost Ways to Save this Summer

Use these strategies to help save money as the weather heats up this summer and you try to keep your house cool. Some of these have no out-of-pocket costs and can be used each day to lower your energy bill; others are inexpensive and can still help maximize savings.

Operate your thermostat efficiently

- * Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your cooling bill. Up to half of cooling costs are to remove humidity from the home.
- * Raise the thermostat (not to extreme) when you are away and lower it only when you are home. Don't turn the thermostat down dramatically, thinking the house will cool off quicker.

Keep hot air from leaking into your home

- * Seal cracks and openings to prevent warm air and humidity from leaking in.
- * Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

Use fans and ventilation to help cool your home

- * If you run an air conditioner, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the temperature setting without reducing your comfort. Remember to turn off the fan when you leave the room; the fan cools people, not rooms.
- * When you take a shower or a bath, run the bathroom fan to remove the humidity. Also, make sure bathroom and kitchen fans are vented to the outside, not just to the attic.

Don't heat your home with appliances and lighting

- * Avoid using the oven. Minimize activities that generate a lot of heat, such as running a computer or dishwasher. Even stereos and televisions will add some heat to your home. Also, turn off the printer when it isn't being used.

- * Install efficient lighting (compact fluorescent lighting) that runs cooler. Only about 10%-15% of the electricity that incandescent lights consume result in light; the rest is turned into heat.
- * When buying new appliances, make sure they are Energy Star rated, which means they use less energy to operate.

Keep the cooling system running efficiently

- * Schedule regular maintenance on your system and have a professional check it out before the cooling season gets underway. Remember to check the air filter monthly, replacing it when necessary. A dirty air filter causes the system to run less efficiently.
- * Avoid placing lamps or television sets near your thermostat. The thermostat senses heat, causing the system to run longer than necessary.
- * Make sure furniture and other objects are not blocking the air flow through your registers. Vacuum registers regularly to remove any dust buildup.

Other Ways to Save

- * Unplug seldom-used appliances, such as an extra refrigerator in the garage or basement.
- * Unplug chargers that are not charging anything.
- * Wash only full loads in the dishwasher.
- * In the clothes washer, set the appropriate water level for the size of your load and wash in cold when practical.
- * Close window shades during the day to reduce heat created by the sun.

Celebrating Arbor Day

Boone Electric recognized Arbor Day by planting a tree with students at Sturgeon Elementary and Renick Elementary.



Right-of-Way Foreman Ellis Choate helps a Sturgeon Elementary student put dirt around the redbud tree planted on school grounds for Arbor Day.

Boone Electric Cooperative celebrated Arbor Day 2009 with students at Sturgeon and Renick elementary schools.

This is the fifth year Boone Electric's Right-of-Way Department has recognized Arbor Day by planting a tree with students. Each student is also given a sapling to take home for their own yard.

Celebrating Arbor Day with the students is a good opportunity for the cooperative

to teach the students about the dangers of playing in and around trees that grow near power lines. Students are taught to look up before they play in trees or fly a kite.

Before presenting each student with their own sapling, cooperative employees explained the importance of planting trees away from power lines.

After the tree planting ceremony at each school, a Boone Electric Tree Trimmer put on the equipment he uses each day and offered a demonstration showing how the Right-of-Way Department employees use a bucket truck to reach, and then trim, trees that are near power lines.

The cooperative is a Tree Line USA Utility through the National Arbor Day Foundation. Boone Electric, and other utilities who qualify, demonstrate practices that protect and enhance America's urban forests. The Tree Line USA program promotes the dual goals of dependable utility service and abundant, healthy trees in America's communities.



Above, BEC celebrated Arbor Day with kindergarten, first grade and second grade students at Renick Elementary. At right, ROW Coordinator Richard Blumer presents a redbud sapling to a Renick student.



What's On The Menu



Todd Culley
General Manager/
CEO

Recently I traveled to Washington, D.C., along with a small group of cooperative delegates from around the state, to meet with Missouri's elected officials about four primary topics which could financially impact our members.

Climate Change Legislation

You've no doubt heard the term "Cap and Trade" on the news over recent weeks. In essence, this legislation puts a price on CO₂ emissions. Several bills have been introduced, each with a different type of cap and trade or carbon tax program.

Our goal is to help construct legislation that doesn't put a heavy cost burden on co-op members. One study, reviewed by congressional members, estimated the total cost per

residence for a carbon tax at \$3,900 per year. Given this estimate, cooperatives nationwide are urging Congress to pass legislation that keeps electricity affordable for co-op members.

However, if no legislation is enacted, there is a good chance the Environmental Protection Agency will regulate CO₂ emissions. Rep. John Dingell (D-MI) warned that EPA regulation would be a "glorious mess." Nationally, electric utilities favor moderate carbon legislation over EPA regulation, if action is certain to occur.

Renewable Energy Standard

A recently proposed bill would require power producers to generate six percent of electricity from renewable sources by 2012 and increase that amount to 20 percent by 2025. States that fail to meet the Renewable Energy Standard (RES) requirements could face fines payable to the federal government.

The RES could result in a substantial transfer of wealth as those areas or states unable to produce power from wind, solar or other renewable options would be required to purchase power from states that are able to generate it.

Cooperatives are urging Congress members to allow efficiency to count for at least 25 percent of the mandate's requirements.

Even though our power supplier is adding more renewable energy to our generation assets, they are careful to control costs. A stringent RES would remove our flexibility in cost control.

Energy Efficiency Resource Standard

As of press time, the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) was removed from consideration. We will continue to keep an eye on any proposed legislation to replace it.

As it was written, electric cooperatives opposed the EERS because the bill placed

a mandate on utilities that would have greatly driven up costs to our members.

Rural Utilities Service

Cooperatives

have partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for more than 70 years. Given the low customer (member) density of electric cooperatives, RUS loans have allowed co-ops to construct and maintain their distribution and generation systems.

As demand for power grows, RUS loans are critical for making sure adequate electric infrastructure remains available and new, cleaner technologies can contribute to the cooperative power supply portfolio.

Cooperative leaders urged Congress to maintain support of the \$6.6 billion level for the Rural Electric Loan Program and to support restoration of the RUS generation loan program. This level of support is consistent with that of the past, and cooperatives have a proud history of repaying the RUS with interest.

It is easy to see why it's important to have productive dialogue with all legislators. Even though there are good intentions behind most proposed legislation, it is more important than ever to keep our focus on maintaining affordable and reliable energy to our membership, while remaining conscientious of environmental concerns.

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Touchstone Energy

Boone Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy, a national alliance of local, member-owned electric cooperatives providing a high standard of service to customers large and small.

In order to qualify as a Touchstone Energy partner, electric cooperatives must be active members of their community and be dedicated to serving all customers with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to their community.