

Starting Lines

YOUR FIRST STEP TO MEMBER BENEFITS

SUMMER 2010

MEMBERS TESTIFY

Load Management Program

Have you considered joining Adams Electric's Load Management program? See what one member thinks of the peak reduction program and its benefits.

"We have had our load control (receiver) for several years and we have always had hot water. It's never an inconvenience. And we really enjoy the discount on our electric bill."

– **Margaret Brauning,**
Member Advisory Committee Member

Co-op Connections

Are you a business owner? See what one business owner is saying about being a Co-op Connections business participant.

"The Co-op Connections card program has been a real positive experience. We value our customers the same way as Adams Electric. This program gave us a way to give something back to our customers, while also reaching out to new customers."

– **Kathleen Marinelli,**
Co-owner of Deliso Pizza in Gettysburg

REMINDERS

Keep in mind

The electric bills you receive from July through October will again include a summer energy charge (\$.022 per kwh) under the "ENERGY SUPPLY" section, reflecting your electricity use during the months of June through September. The charge is designed to recover the higher overall cost of energy supply* during those four months.

* The \$.083 per kwh you pay for energy supply during the summer months compares well with the \$.086 that First Energy Met-Ed customers pay for energy supply year-round. Your energy supply costs drop to \$.061 per kwh for energy supply during the eight months of October through May.



Get ready...
Get set...
Stop.

What's your biggest summer turn-on?

Summer equals turn-on's ... the air conditioner, the dishwasher, the dehumidifier. But, wouldn't it be great if some of these items could be your biggest turn-offs during the summer? They can, as long as you use them before 1 p.m. and after 7 p.m. through the week.

Turn Off and Save! Members who can move their use of electricity to early morning hours and later evening hours can save themselves money on future electric bills. On the hottest weekday afternoons, when energy costs are highest, members who turn off their electric appliances that use the most energy will see a difference in their bills as opposed to those who keep everything turned on through the day.

Even the smallest changes, such as setting a thermostat to 78 degrees during those scorching summer hours, can make a big difference on the cost of future electric purchases. Members are also encouraged to defer their use of dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers when temperatures are at their peak.

Want to Save More? Adams Electric members can volunteer to install a free load control switch on their water heater or heating and cooling system. The co-op uses its technology to talk to these switches to control power when electricity use is at its highest. In addition, we'll pay you \$5 a month to let us interrupt your service during these peak periods. Now there's a switch worth turning on!

To have a load control device installed at your home or business, call 888/232-6732. For more information on what you should be turning off this summer, visit <http://www.adamsec.com/readyssetstop.aspx> or use our online tools at adamsec.coop.



FEATURED PRODUCT: Control Phantom Load

Are you interested in one of the least expensive ways to cut your power bill immediately? Consider power strips and surge strips equipped with an on/off switch, which can help you, reduce "phantom load."

Phantom load is the energy used by a product when it is turned off, but still plugged directly in to a wall socket. Many appliances and electronic devices continue to draw power even when they are turned off, such as televisions, DVD players, stereos, computers, charging units, and power adaptors.

By plugging your appliances and equipment into a power strip, you may be able to reduce phantom loads by turning the power strip off when your equipment is not in use. This affords both the convenience of not having to unplug the individual unit from the wall and adds a measure of safety by prohibiting an electrical surge that could damage the unit.

New surge protection strips and power strips may be found for reasonable prices at local retail dealers and at Adams Electric's online store, www.adamsec.coop. Adams Electric also stocks a line of recommended surge protection devices, which can be reviewed at adamsec.com/surgeprotection.aspx.



FEATURED SERVICE: Help reduce peak loads

Visit www.adamsec.coop and sign up to receive email alerts in the morning of the hottest summer weekdays when heat and humidity combine with overall high electricity use on the regional power grid to create a "peak advisement day."

Emails will be sent as early as possible so that members have time to set thermostats at 78 degrees and can plan to run their major appliances before 1 p.m. or after 7 p.m. The cooperative is also using this email alert system to contact members about other important co-op-related issues such as planned power outages, changes to products and services and occasionally for unplanned major outages.

Adams Electric is also considering sending text messages on peak advisements days, but that service may not be available this summer. There would be no charge for this service; however, standard text messaging rates would apply as outlined by each member's wireless phone provider.

All alerts, whether by text or email, will provide members with an "unsubscribe" option. Personal information is held in strict confidence and not sold to third parties. Alerts will also be posted on the co-op's website and Facebook page.



60 SECOND SAFETY with Terry Hancock and Dave Bolton, energy use/safety specialists

Lightning: The Underrated Killer

Summer weather and high temperatures create many situations, one of which is severe storms. The National Weather Service estimates that there are 25 million lightning flashes each year in the U.S., killing an average of 58 people each year.

Since lightning usually claims one or two victims at a time and usually does not cause mass destruction, it is often underrated as a risk. Documented lightning injuries in the U.S. stand around 300 per year and undocumented injuries would take that figure much higher.

Here are a few ways to keep you from becoming an electric statistic:

- Watch the sky for developing thunderstorms.
- Seek safe shelter. Lightning can strike as far as 10 minutes from where it is raining. If you hear thunder, you are in striking distance.
- During outdoor activities, stop and move to a large building or an enclosed vehicle at the first roar of thunder.
- During indoor activities, avoid using corded phones, computers, and other electrical equipment that places you in direct contact with electricity. Also, stay away from pools, tubs, showers and other plumbing equipment.

A little common sense will go a long way in being safe around storms. At the first clap of thunder, seek shelter and wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap before resuming activities.

For more information, visit www.nws.noaa.gov/.

Thanks and stay safe.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY with George Taughinbaugh, marketing/energy use manager

Don't let a power surge ruin your day

Power surges can enter your home over phone lines, television antenna, cable, satellite dish lines, and electric lines causing damage to appliances, and sensitive electronics. For this reason, Adams Electric stocks a supply of surge-related equipment that members can purchase at low cost at any of our district offices. These surge protectors are top of the line surge protectors, and have warranties protecting the surge protector, as well as down line warranties that protect your equipment. Also available are some special application surge protectors, such as a well pump protector.


With so many ways for power surges to enter your home, it is critical to cover all routes of entry to ensure the protection of your appliances and equipment. The co-op has developed a brochure to answer your questions, and to give you the prices of the most common devices used. The same information is available on our website at www.adamsec.coop. If you still have questions after you review this material, feel free to give us a call and ask for an energy use specialist. We will be glad to talk with you and answer any specific questions that you may have concerning your needs.

YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

- Automated Meters
- Community Development Loans
- Convenient Payments
 - Budget Billing
 - E-Bill
 - Bill View/Pay
 - E-Check
 - Credit/Debit Card
 - ElectriPay (Bank Draft)
 - Pay by Mail
 - Pay in Person
- Co-op Connections card
- Co-op Owners for Political Action
- Dry Hydrants
- Energy Audits
- Energy Calculators
- Energy Conservation Loans
- Energy Saving Tips
- Generator Safety
- Heating and Cooling Units
- Incentive Rates
 - Geothermal Rate
 - Interruptible Rate
 - Time-Of-Day Rate
 - Water Heater Rate
- Informative Brochures
- Load Control
- Online Store
- Patronage Capital Credits
- Penn Lines Magazine
- Project Helping Hand
- Safety Information
 - Demonstrations
 - Presentations
- Scholarships
 - Adult
 - High School
 - Statewide
- Security Lights
- Starting Lines Quarterly Newsletter
- Stray Voltage Reduction (Earth-to-Neutral)
- Surge Protection
- Tree Clearing
- Water Heater Rebates
- Youth Programs
 - Curriculum
 - Envirothons
 - Mini High-Voltage Demos
 - Youth Tour

LITTLE CHANGES
ADDUP+

What can 2 do for you? Raise your thermostat just two degrees and save a cozy \$43 a year on cooling costs. To learn more, click on the "Little Changes Add up" icon at www.adamsec.coop and use the online tools.

 Adams Electric
Cooperative, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative