



Connections



A publication for the members and friends of Jackson Electric Cooperative ▲ Vol. 23, No. 4 July 2013

GREETINGS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

As a cooperative, we are looking forward and developing long-range plans. Part of our long-term plan is to expand our renewable energy portfolio. Currently, our power supplier has a strong renewable energy portfolio, but we would like to do more on a local level.



One of our renewable energy visions is to develop a community solar project for our membership. A community solar project is designed for members who can't or don't want to install solar panels on their own property. Rather, members have an opportunity to invest in shares or panels in a proposed solar development constructed at Jackson Electric Cooperative. The concept is very similar to owning a solar panel on your property. If your panel generates electricity, you receive kilowatt-hour credit on your electric bill. However, you don't have to worry about the installation and maintenance of the panel in a community solar project.

We are in the researching stage of this project to determine if our membership is interested in community solar. Some of you may have randomly received in the mail a questionnaire regarding this project. If you have, please complete the survey and return to us by July 31. It's important for the cooperative to determine what direction our membership wants us to take so that we can move forward with plans.

If you have any questions regarding renewable energy, please feel free to contact me or Steve Meyer at our office.

The Jackson County Fair will be starting at the end of this month. Take your family and enjoy a day at the fair.

Safety always!

Plan to Attend
Jackson Electric Cooperative's
 Annual Member Picnic in the Park
 Tuesday, August 13, 2013
 Lunda Park Upper Shelter, Black River Falls, Wis.
 3:30—6:45 p.m.

Serving pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, cole slaw, beans and beverage.

Picnic Celebrates Members for 13 Years Annual Member Picnic – August 13

It was August 19, 2000, when the employees of Jackson Electric Cooperative served brats and hot dogs for a noon lunch to cooperative members at the first-ever member appreciation picnic. In addition to the picnic, members viewed the 17,300-square-foot shop facility, completed in May of 2000 and located on Vaudreuil Road in Black River Falls. That building is now home to West Central, Inc.

What began as an open house celebration now continues as an annual member appreciation picnic, 13 years later. Even though the picnic has gone through some facelifts throughout the years, the concept remains the same – to thank members for their loyalty and business.

On Tuesday, August 13, 2013, Jackson Electric Cooperative will hold its annual member appreciation picnic at the Lunda Park Upper Shelter in Black River Falls. Members are invited to enjoy shredded pork sandwiches, potato salad, cole slaw, beans and beverage, served from 3:30 to 6:45 p.m. Bring your lawn chair and listen to music at the park's band shell following the picnic starting at 7 p.m.

Celebrate Earth Day Every Day...

Support Renewable Energy by Participating in Evergreen

Evergreen is a voluntary renewable energy program available through Jackson Electric Cooperative. In addition to your normal electric bill, you pay a small extra charge each month to offset the additional cost of renewable generation.

Sign up before December 31, 2013, and receive a reusable tote as our way of saying "thank you" for supporting renewable energy.

Jackson Electric Cooperative
www.jackelec.com

Please sign me up for Evergreen.

- 1 block (\$1.50 per month)
 - 2 blocks (\$3.00 per month)
 - 3 blocks (\$4.50 per month)
 - 4 blocks (\$6.00 per month)
 - 5 blocks (\$7.50 per month)
 - ___ blocks at \$1.50 per block per month
- * One block = 100 kilowatt-hours

I understand that this amount is in addition to my monthly energy bill and that I may cancel my purchase at any time.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Account No.: _____



Cool Your Home With an Air Source Heat Pump

Control the summer heat and humidity in your home by installing an air source heat pump. Serving as a dual unit, a properly installed air source heat pump not only can cool and dehumidify your home in the summer but also heat your home in the winter. An air source heat pump can deliver two to four times more heat energy than the electrical energy it consumes, thus making it very efficient and economical to operate.

Add your air source heat pump to Jackson Electric Cooperative's dual fuel rate and receive a rebate for additional savings on your heating and cooling expenses. To learn more about air source heat pumps, go to www.jackelec.com/programs/electric_heat_options/air_source_heat_pump or contact Steve Meyer at our office.

Cost Comparison: Air Source vs. Fossil Fuels

Air Source System (375% efficient)	Propane Furnace (92% efficient)	Fuel Oil Furnace (70% efficient)	Natural Gas Furnace (92% efficient)
\$0.06/kWh	\$0.39/gallon	\$0.46/gallon	\$0.43/therm

For example: By participating in Jackson Electric Cooperative's dual fuel program, the winter dual fuel rate is \$0.06 per kWh (summer rate is \$0.09/kWh). That is comparable to paying \$0.39/gallon for a 92% efficient propane heating system, \$0.46/gallon for a 70% efficient fuel oil furnace, and \$0.43/therm for a 92% efficient natural gas furnace.



Even though the appearance and cooling are very similar to a central air conditioner, an air source heat pump can cool and heat your home efficiently and save you money.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Join Jackson Electric Cooperative's Youth Ambassador Program

- ▲ Open to all area high school juniors and seniors
- ▲ Build leadership skills, learn about cooperative principles and careers, meet new friends
- ▲ Tour Dairyland Power Cooperative's Administration Building and Genoa Power Plant
- ▲ Apply for a \$1,000 scholarship
- ▲ Apply for an opportunity to attend the Electric Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

For more information, go to www.jackelec.com or contact Carol at cblaken@jackelec.com. Applications due August 16, 2013.



Do we have your current contact information?

We are updating our member records. Please update your phone numbers (cell, work and home) and email addresses on your billing statement or contact our office with updates. Thanks!

**DO THE SUMMER SHIFT
11 am - 7 pm**

It's so simple. Shifting energy use to before 11 am or after 7 pm weekdays helps keep electric rates affordable for everyone.

- Delay the dishwasher.
- Turn up the thermostat.
- Shift the start of laundry.

TOGETHER WESAVE

Green LifeXpo

**Saturday, August 24, 2013
TIME: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Milt Lunda Memorial Arena adjacent to the Jackson County Fairgrounds, Black River Falls

Stop by the Jackson Electric Cooperative booth to learn how to heat and cool your home with geothermal and air source heat pumps. Information regarding our Evergreen program will be available.

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Connections newsletter is published for members and friends of Jackson Electric Cooperative. Questions or comments should be directed to Carol Blaken, Editor, at:

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Outage Only Number:
855-222-DARK (3275)

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

Jackson
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner