

Connections



A publication for the members and friends of Jackson Electric Cooperative ▲ Vol. 25, No. 4

December 2015

What You Need to Know About Space Heaters

All electric space heaters are 100 percent efficient, regardless of the manufacturer's name, and watt for watt, they all provide the same heat output and cost the same to operate. For example, a 1,500-watt milkhouse electric space heater produces the same amount of heat as a 1,500-watt household quartz or infrared electric space heater.

If you're planning to purchase an electric space heater, it's important to know how many watts the space heater draws. The higher the watts, the more heat it will deliver and the more it will cost to operate. Most portable heaters do not exceed 1,500 watts because a higher wattage would overload a typical 15-amp outlet and likely trip a breaker or blow a fuse.

BTU, a British Thermal Unit, is a unit of measure for the output of heating and cooling systems. Typical residential furnaces (whole house) range from 45,000 to 120,000 BTUs/hour. It would be impossible to heat your whole house with one electric space heater. We do not recommend the use of multiple electric space heaters as they will dramatically increase your electric bill.



"The higher the watts, the more heat it will deliver and the more it will cost to operate."

Know the size of your room you plan to heat with your electric space heater. A 1,500-watt heater, which can heat a room that's about 150 square feet, delivers approximately 5,120 BTUs/hour.

Scholarships Available to Graduating High School Seniors

Jackson Electric Cooperative offers a \$1,000 scholarship to each of the following high schools:

- Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan
- Black River Falls
- Blair-Taylor
- Melrose-Mindoro
- Neillsville
- Osseo-Fairchild
- Sparta
- Whitehall

Please contact your high school guidance counselor for scholarship requirements. Recipient is selected by the respective high school.

Home-Schooled, Private School, and Open-Enrolled Students

A \$1,000 scholarship is also available to students in this category. Scholarship applications can be downloaded at www.jackelec.com under the Community tab or from our office.



Holiday Hours

Jackson Electric Cooperative will be closed December 24, 25, and January 1. Power outages can be reported to 855.222.DARK (3275).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Water Heater Program Changes Coming in 2016

Due to federal government regulations on electric water heaters, Jackson Electric is revising its current water heater program. New program details will be revealed in next month's publications, www.jackelec.com, and Facebook.

The Holiday Season

Energy Use and Safety

Your electric bill may be higher during the holiday season because:

- Holiday lights and decorations use electricity. You may want to consider switching to energy efficient LED holiday lights.
- Holiday entertaining involves extra cooking and baking, which uses more energy.
- Holiday guests use more than the usual hot water for showers, laundry, and dish washing.
- Shorter days and longer nights mean the lights stay on longer.
- Space heaters may be used in garages, basements, and small rooms for extra warmth.

Safety Tips:

- Place fresh-cut trees away from heat registers, fireplaces, and radiators.
- Make sure extension cords are in good condition.
- Keep outdoor extension cords and lights clear of snow and standing water.
- Do not connect more than three light strings.
- Always unplug decorations before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Stay clear of power lines when hanging outside decorations.

Mailing of Electric Bills

Jackson Electric mails its electric bills on the 11th day of every month. Dairyland Power prints the bills and mails them from the La Crosse Post Office. We have received complaints from members that they do not receive their electric bill. If that has happened to you, please contact your local post office.

If you want to ensure timely payment of your electric bill, please consider online payments at www.jackelec.com. Once you have your account established, you can make a one-time payment using your checking account or credit card, schedule

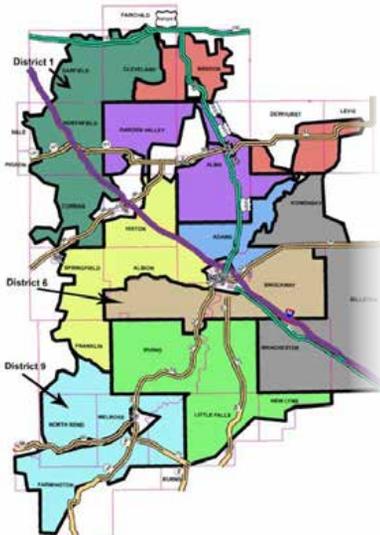
your payment, receive paperless statements, or sign-up for recurring automatic payment withdrawal. This option draws your payment from your savings or checking account on the 5th day of every month.

If you have any questions on how to sign up for electronic billing statements, online bill pay, or mobile bill pay, please contact our office.

Coming in February...

District Meetings

Members who live in Districts 1, 6, and 9 will have an opportunity to elect their district director at an upcoming district meeting to be scheduled in February. Members who have a meter in these districts will receive notification in January as to where the district meeting will be held, date, and time. More information will be published in the February issue of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*.



Rebate Deadline – December 31

Jackson Electric Cooperative offers rebates on qualified Energy Star appliances, lighting, heat pumps, and energy efficient home improvements. Rebate forms are available at www.jackelec.com or at our office. Deadline for rebate submission is December 31, 2015.

Watch for the February issue of the *Wisconsin Electric Cooperative News* for 2016 rebates and incentives.

Let's Keep in Touch

Current phone numbers and e-mail addresses are needed to keep in touch with our members. If you haven't done so already, please contact the office to update your information.



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information and news from
Jackson Electric Cooperative,
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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.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Jackson Electric Cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.