

### Electric Payments on the Go

Are you always on the go? Do you find you don't have time to pay your electric bill? Do you use a smart phone? Electric bill paying just got more convenient with an electric bill paying mobile app from Jackson Electric Cooperative. This is a free service offered to Jackson Electric's members.



Once you have your account set up on the Bill4U site through [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com), you can pay your electric bill from your smart phone. Go to either the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Store, search for "Jackson Electric Bill4U," and install the app.

Enter your username and password and you'll have access to your account summary, statements, and electric usage, and you'll be able to schedule a payment using a credit card or automatic payment withdrawal. *Please note that credit card information needs to be established on Jackson Electric Cooperative's*



*Bill4U site before being accessible on the mobile site.*

Does this app work on your iPad? You bet it does! Search for Jackson Electric Cooperative's Bill4U and locate it in the iPhone section.

For more information or questions regarding this service, please contact Jackson Electric Cooperative. ■

### Jackson Electric Names Interim Co-Managers as Recruitment Continues

Jackson Electric Cooperative, a Dairy-land Power member, has been in the process of recruiting for the position of general manager/CEO.

During this transition period, the cooperative's board of directors appointed Kevin Babcock and Jeff Cook, current operations and finance managers, respectively, as interim co-managers of the general management duties of the cooperative.

Recruitment information can be found at [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com). ■

### Dual Fuel Test November 19

Jackson Electric Cooperative members on the dual fuel heating program will experience an interruption in their electric heat on Wednesday, November 19, starting at 5 p.m. At 8 p.m., a gradual restoration of heating systems will begin, with all heating systems back on by 10:30 p.m. **Please make sure your backup heating system is operational before this date.** If you have any questions regarding this test, please contact Steve or Don at the cooperative office. ■

### Jackson Electric Cooperative Director Passes

Roger Hansen, Jackson Electric Cooperative's director for District #6 (towns of Albion and Brockway), passed away at his home on Saturday, October 4, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Roger served on Jackson Electric's board of directors since 1996. In addition, Roger's passion for cooperatives was exemplified through his dedication to service on the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association board, Federation Youth Foundation board, and the Cooperative Network board. He also served on the local Federation Cooperative board of directors.

Roger is survived by his wife, Judy, two daughters, and four grandchildren. His passing will leave a void at Jackson Electric; his caring attitude and insight of the cooperative principles will be missed. ■



## Budget for Another Cold Winter

Last year, in the November issue of *WEC News*, we reported that the *Farmer's Almanac* predicted below average temperatures for the winter. Because the prediction was correct, we looked to the *Farmer's Almanac* again to gain insight on this winter's outlook. Be prepared for frigid temperatures to roll across the Great Plains to the Great Lakes. If this holds true, heating bills will once again be on the rise.

Jackson Electric Cooperative may arrange payment plans with members who are having difficulty paying their electric bills during the winter months. To avoid disconnect fees because of delinquent payments, it is important for the member to contact Jackson Electric Cooperative as soon as possible to discuss their situation. Energy assistance is available to those who need help in paying their electric bills. If you believe you would benefit from energy assistance, please contact the agencies listed below.

By not paying your electric bill during the winter months, you only put off the inevitable until spring. Disconnection of your electric account may occur in April if sufficient payments have not been credited to your electric account during the winter months. In addition, late fees will add to the burden of paying off a delinquent account. ■

### Energy Assistance Available

During times of hardship, there are programs available to help families and individuals financially endure the heating season.

Western Dairyland Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. administers the low-income portion of Jackson Electric Cooperative's Commitment to Community funds for electric bill assistance and home weatherization. Contact 800.782.1063, ext. 231, for more information on this program.

### Other Agencies That May Provide Assistance

Jackson County Health & Human Services.....	715.284.4301
Clark County Social Services .....	715.743.5233
La Crosse County Human Services .....	608.785.6050
Monroe County Human Services.....	608.372.8900
Monroe Community Action Program .....	608.269.5021
Trempealeau County Social Services .....	715.538.2311
Consumer Credit Counseling.....	888.771.4673
Energy Help Hotline .....	800.522.3014



### Electric Bill-Paying Options Available to Members

- Pay online using your bank account or credit/debit card. Go to [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com) and look for the "Your Online Bill Payment Service" tab. This is a secure site.
- Download our new mobile electric bill-paying app available for Apple and Android smart phones. Read more about this free service on page 4 of this issue.
- Mail your payment. Please include your signed check and payment stub. Due to delays in the mail service, please allow enough time for your payment to reach our office.
- Pay in person at Jackson Electric Cooperative. Because of the federal Red Flags Rule, please be prepared to show your current electric bill or confirm your mailing address and the last four digits of your Social Security number. Our office hours are Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
- Use the 24-hour secure drop box located at Jackson Electric Cooperative's headquarters.
- Pay by phone using your credit or debit card.

### Electric Space Heater Reminder

Before the weather turns cold and the electric space heater ads begin to pummel the media outlets, Jackson Electric Cooperative wants to remind you that even



though electric space heaters are 100 percent efficient, they still use a significant amount of electricity. Electric space heaters will increase your electric bill if used regularly.

If you must, use an electric space heater for supplemental heat in a small area. They are not designed to heat your entire house.

Looking for ways to lower your heating bill this season? Contact Jackson Electric Cooperative and ask about electric heating options and the dual fuel program. ■

## How Much Energy Are You Using?

Several times throughout the month, our office fields phone calls in regards to high electric usage. The "Use Energy Wisely" brochure, provided by Touchstone Energy Cooperative and available from our office by request, is designed to educate you on how to evaluate your energy use.

The chart at right will give you a general idea of how much electricity an appliance uses in a month's time. The cost per month is calculated using Jackson Electric Cooperative's winter rate of \$0.1130 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Several more appliances and devices are listed in the "Use Energy Wisely" brochure.

If you are interested in learning how much electricity an appliance uses in your home, Kill-A-Watt meters are available at our office for either loan or purchase. ■

APPLIANCE	DEVICE USAGE	kWh/MONTH	COST/MONTH
Coffee Maker	30 pots/month	11.25	\$1.27
Dishwasher	30 loads/month	30	\$3.39
Microwave	15 hours/month	22.5	\$2.54
Slow Cooker/Crock-Pot	12 hours/month	2.4	\$0.27
Refrigerator Side-by-Side (after 2000)	24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	54	\$6.10
Refrigerator Top Freezer (after 2000)	24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	40	\$4.52
Freezer Chest (after 2000)	24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	27	\$3.05
Computer and Monitor	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	20.4	\$2.31
DVD Player	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	2	\$0.23
DVR	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	3.6	\$0.41
Satellite Dish	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	1.7	\$0.19
Television - Plasma	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	40.7	\$4.60
Television - LCD	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	25.7	\$2.90
Television - LED (46")	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	13.2	\$1.49
Clothes Dryer	20 loads/month	46	\$5.20
Clothes Washer (standard top loading)	20 loads/month	42	\$4.75
Clothes Washer (front loading)	20 loads/month	28	\$3.16
Dehumidifier	12 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	216	\$24.41
Humidifier	8 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	28.8	\$3.25
Water Heater (average for 4 people)	1800 gallons	450	\$50.85
Cell Phone Charger	24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	0.72	\$0.08
Gaming Console (varies by model)	4 hrs/day, 7 days/wk	2.4-21.36	\$0.27 - \$2.41
60-watt bulb	4 hours/day/7 days/wk	7.2	\$0.81
CFL (13 to 15 watts)	4 hours/day/7 days/wk	1.56	\$0.18
CFL (25 watt equivalent to 100 watt incandescent)	4 hours/day/7 days/wk	3.2	\$0.36
LED (6 to 8 watts)	4 hours/day/7 days/wk	0.72	\$0.08

## Right Light Guide for General Use Bulbs



Today there are many lighting options available. The right bulb for you depends on how much light you need, what color light you want, and its costs and features.

### STEP 1 Decide How Much Light You Need

**Focus on Brightness.** Different amounts of light are needed for different uses. Instead of thinking about light bulbs based solely on the amount of energy they use, focus on their brightness level.

**Lumen** is the measurement of **brightness**. Higher lumen bulbs produce brighter light.

**Watt (W)** is the measure of **power consumption**. Lower wattage bulbs can lower your electric bills.

If you like your bulb's current brightness, choose a CFL or LED with similar lumens to reduce your energy use. You may also consider a bulb that is less bright to save more.

Note: Lumen output listed on packages may vary. Light bulbs listing anywhere from 800 to 860 lumens are similarly bright, for instance.

Brightness	Incandescent	CFL	LED
450 lumens *	40W	9-13W	4-8W
800 lumens *	60W	13-16W	8-13W
1100 lumens *	75W	17-23W	11-15W
1600 lumens *	100W	23-28W	16-20W

← Least Efficient      Most Efficient →

### STEP 2 Decide What Color Light You Want

**Choose Light Appearance.** You'll be pleased with your new bulb by choosing a light appearance that you like. All of these colors are available for LEDs and CFLs and at most brightness levels.

Note: Choose warm or soft white (2700-3000 K) to match the color of incandescent bulbs.

**Different Colors, Same Brightness**

Soft White, Warm White Living Room, Bedroom  
Bright White, Cool White Kitchen, Bathroom, Dining Room  
Natural, Daylight Office, Laundry, Workshop, Garage

← Warm Color      Light Appearance      Cool Color →

2700K    3000K    3500K    4100K    5000K    6500K

### STEP 3 Think About Costs and Benefits

**Compare Types of Light Bulbs.** You can think about product, replacement, and energy costs over 20 years for different bulb types. Why 20 years? Because LEDs can last that long. Some incandescent bulbs are being phased out and will soon be unavailable. The pros and cons of LEDs and CFLs will help you pick a bulb that is right for you.

Cost Over 20 Years	Bulb(s)	Energy	Pros (+) and Cons (-)
LED	1 bulb in 20 years \$40 total cost		+ Saves 85% of energy use over incandescent + Lasts 25 times longer than incandescent + Great for dimmed, recessed, or enclosed fixtures + Performs well in cold temperatures - Higher bulb cost
CFL	3 bulbs in 20 years \$50 total cost		+ Saves 75% of energy use over incandescent + Lasts 10 times longer than incandescent - Recessed & enclosed fixtures reduce bulb life - Performs poorly in cold temperatures - Contains mercury (recycling required)
Incandescent	22 bulbs in 20 years Bulb & Replacement Cost      Energy Cost \$270 total cost		

Note: Cost comparison is based on a 20-year life and takes into account power consumption, hours of use per day, residential electric cost, bulb cost, and replacement cost. For detailed cost calculations and a full price list, visit <http://Lighting.MnCERTS.org>.

**Buy Your New Bulbs.** The *Lighting Facts* label on all bulb packaging clearly shows light appearance and brightness. The label also includes the ENERGY STAR logo when a bulb meets the required certification levels for high efficiency, performance, and reliability.

**Lighting Facts** Per Bulb

Brightness 800 lumens

Estimated Yearly Energy Cost \$1.14  
Based on 3 hrs/day, 11¢/kWh  
Cost depends on rates and use.

Life Based on 3 hrs/day 22.8 years

Light Appearance Warm      Cool

2700 K

Energy Used 9.5 watts



### STEP 4 Find Rebates and Resources



Contact Jackson Electric Cooperative at 800-370-4607 or [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com)

Learn, ask questions, and recycle CFLs  
<http://Lighting.MnCERTS.org>  
Minnesotans building a clean energy future





## You Commented. We're Responding.

*Member Comment: "When we built our home, they had some good incentives with the water heater and heating system."*

All members of Jackson Electric Cooperative are encouraged to take advantage of the available rebates and incentives, whether it's for a new or existing residence. Submission deadline for rebates and incentives is December 31, 2014.

Jackson Electric offers generous rebates on the purchase of electric heat pumps—air source and geothermal. Heat pumps are the most energy efficient way to heat and cool your home. Because of that, Jackson Electric offers \$250 per ton rebate on air source heat pumps and \$500 per ton on geothermal heat pumps. Most homes require a three-to-four ton heat pump. Qualifications do apply.

These rebates help make the price for a heat pump purchase more affordable for most members. In addition, if you add your heat pump to Jackson Electric's dual fuel rate, you'll see your heating and cooling savings add up even sooner.

Jackson Electric offers quality water heaters to members. If you

are not a participant of the dual fuel program, members receive a \$3 per month credit on their electric bill when a load control receiver is installed on the water heater. This receiver shuts down the water heater during a peak electric demand period, when electrical usage is at its highest. This helps to minimize wholesale power costs to the cooperative.

Water heaters are in stock at the cooperative and are available in several sizes. The cooperative does not deliver or install the water heaters. Water heater prices are as follows:

Water Heater Prices With Load Control Receiver		Water Heater Prices Without Load Control Receiver	
50 gallon	\$200	50 gallon	\$444 + tax
80 gallon	\$300	80 gallon	\$888 + tax
85 gallon	\$300	85 gallon	\$932 + tax
105 gallon	\$300	105 gallon	\$1,034 + tax

To learn more about available rebates and incentives, go to [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com) or contact our office. ■

### Ask Your Cooperative

**Steve Meyer, Member Services Director**

**Q:** What is the dual fuel test and why is it conducted?

**A:** Homeowners on the dual fuel program receive a special low rate for their separately metered electric heat. Under this program, the electric heat is switched off during our winter peak periods that usually occur on the coldest days of the year.

Because the electric heat is switched off on the coldest days of the year, this program requires the use of a non-electric backup heating system for use during the peak control

periods. Every fall, we conduct a dual fuel test by switching electric heating systems off so that dual fuel participants can be assured their backup heating systems are operable. Jackson Electric also uses this opportunity to verify the operation of its load control equipment. ■

*If you have a question to ask Jackson Electric Cooperative, please submit to our office at P.O. Box 546, Black River Falls, WI 54615 or email [cblaken@jackelec.com](mailto:cblaken@jackelec.com), and put in the subject line "Magazine Question."*



**Don't Forget the Rebates!**  
Jackson Electric Cooperative offers rebates and incentives on qualified Energy Star appliances, lighting, heat pumps, and energy efficient home improvements. Go to [www.jackelec.com](http://www.jackelec.com) or contact our office for more information.

Jackson Electric Cooperative's office will be closed November 27 and 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. If you should experience an outage during this time, please call our toll-free outage-only number at 855.222.DARK (3275).



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