

Taylor Report

January 2012

Why does my electric bill go up during the holidays?



Many co-op members use more energy during the holiday season, making January bills higher than usual. Here are some reasons:

- Holiday lights and decorations use energy; switch to energy-efficient LED holiday lights.
- Holiday entertaining involves extra cooking and baking, which requires extra electricity.
- Holiday guests mean more hot water for showers, laundry, and dishwashing; more heating and lighting in guest rooms; and more cooking.
- Shorter days and longer nights means lights stay on longer, both inside and out.
- With colder temperatures, space heaters are often used in garages, basements, and other places to provide warmth.
- Even if you don't use electric heat, many heating systems use electricity to power fans and functions.

Mark your calendars: Taylor Electric's annual meeting will be held Saturday, March 31st at the Medford Area Senior High starting at 9:30 AM.

Peak Alert Season is Here

Winter is upon us and with that comes the time for peak alerts for cooperative members. A peak alert is likely to occur on colder winter days. On these days, the demand for electricity is highest, which also brings the need to conserve energy use whenever possible. The level of demand determines a large portion of the cooperative's energy costs during this time. Reducing or delaying your electrical usage during a peak alert helps lower this cost.

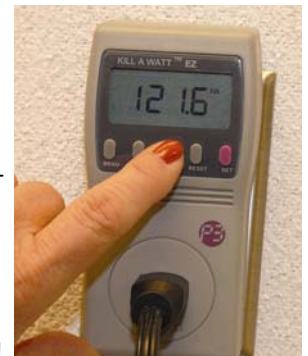
The key is to reduce your consumption between the hours of 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm on the coldest winter days. This helps Taylor Electric Cooperative save on our wholesale power bill, which is passed along to the members. By turning off unneeded lights, electronics, and appliances during times of peak alerts, you can help us save a substantial amount of money.

TAKE CHARGE

of your electric consumption with Kill-A-Watt

Take charge of your electric use with a Kill-A-Watt electricity consumption monitor. It's a unit that you plug directly into the wall. Then you plug your 120-volt appliance into it. The monitor will help show you which appliances and equipment are consuming more power and draining more dollars. You can calculate your electricity expenses by the day, week, month or year. Start making decisions about your lifestyle and save on your energy bill.

Taylor Electric Cooperative has some of these units in stock that you can purchase at the cooperative for \$31.95 (including tax). This is a great way to see where you can save!



Board Report—Dec. 2011

- Approved November disbursements totaling \$734,559.15, accepted 5 new member applications, and October construction in the amount of \$70,282.82.
- Reviewed financial results through November 30, 2011 and projections for year-end 2011.
- The Dairyland Power report included a review of the 2012 budget, with wholesale power costs projected to increase 7.0% on May 1, 2012 to just over 7½¢ per kWh. Main reasons for the 2012 increase include higher costs of environmental compliance, increased fuel and operating costs at generating plants, and reduced margins from sales to others.
- Reviewed 112 delinquent accounts processed for collection in December with a total balance owing of nearly \$38,000. Small claims court actions are being used to file liens against delinquent customers during winter months.
- Approved forfeiture to Federated Youth Foundation of unclaimed 2009 capital credit refunds in the amount of \$982.22 and \$235.39 for uncashed 2010 general fund checks. The forfeiture amounts may be used for future scholarship and charitable donation programs.
- Heard a report on the success of the 15th annual Christmas Wish Program, sponsored by Taylor Electric Cooperative, other area cooperatives and K99/WIGM Radio, which provided more than \$8,000 of assistance to needy persons in the area.
- Reviewed the preliminary 2012 budget with projected deficit operating margins of more than \$200,000, primarily due to the May 1st projected 7% wholesale power rate increase. The Board directed management to update the budget for the January board meeting, to determine further rate and margin impacts.
- The Board approved the “Safety Improvement Plan (SIP)” that was drafted from input of the employees’ Safety Committee. The SIP is the final step of this year’s Safety Achievement Program that provides about a 5% discount on the Co-op’s property and liability insurance.
- Director Kulas provided a review of the December safety meeting. The safety meeting included inspection of trucks and equipment, testing of ladders, review of lineman injuries at utilities across the state, hydraulic leaks and avoiding a high-pressure spray, and the need to update Material Safety Data Sheets on all chemicals in use at the Co-op.
- The Board approved hiring to fill two lineman positions, one for a recent lineman departure to another utility, and another for getting familiar with the Co-op’s distribution system in anticipation of a year-end 2012 retirement.
- The Board heard a presentation by Dennis Huotari of Huotari Construction, Medford, with estimates on construction costs for proposed shop, garage, and storage needs. After consideration of options presented, the Board approved management working with Huotari on a less-costly steel building option, and asked to have more detail plans for another discussion and consideration.
- The 2012 Office Capital Budget in the amount of \$68,275 was approved. A line construction and equipment budget in the amount of \$1,170,000 was approved. The line construction budget includes approximately 22 miles of line rebuilds and replacements.

Save Time in 2012



Don't forget that we offer you the convenience and ease of having your monthly payment made automatically from your checking, savings account or credit card (ACH). And, you won't have to change your present banking relationship to take advantage of this service.

The ACH Plan will help you in several ways:

- It saves time—fewer checks to write
- Helps meet your commitment in a convenient and timely manner—even if you're on vacation or out of town
- No lost or misplaced statements, your payment is always on time and it helps maintain good credit
- It saves postage
- It's easy to sign up for, easy to cancel
- No late charges

Here's how the ACH plan works:

You authorize regularly scheduled payments to be made from your checking, savings account or credit card. Then, just sit back and relax. Your payments will be made automatically on the specified day. A statement will be mailed to you each month so you are aware of the amount being withdrawn from your account or applied to your card.

The ACH Plan is dependable, flexible, convenient and easy. To take advantage of this service, simply give us a call and we will be glad to send you a form.



2012 Taylor Electric Incentives

ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES

(receipts required for all and Energy Star label as applicable)

Clothes Washer	\$25
Refrigerator	\$25
Dishwasher	\$25
Room A/C	\$25
Dehumidifier	\$25
Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling*	\$25
Room A/C Recycling*	\$25
Energy Saver Power Strip/Smart Strip	\$5
Low-flow shower head	\$5
Low-flow faucet aerator	Cost up to \$1

ELECTRIC WATER HEATER

(receipts required for all and load controls where applicable.

Water Heater SEER and EER ratings must meet or exceed those specified below)

49 Gallon or less	\$25
50+ (including those not meeting 80+ gallon efficiency)	\$50
80-99 gallon-E.F. 0.90 or above	\$150
100+ gallon-E.F. 0.85 or above	\$250
Solar storage, electric back-up	\$300
Heat pump water heater	\$300

LIGHTING

(New or Retrofit)-receipts required for all and UPC's required for the first five)

CFL bulb	\$1 per bulb
High-wattage CFL (60+ watts)	\$5 per bulb
Cold Cathode CFL	\$2 per bulb
LED Holiday light strings (limit 12) (minimum 25 bulbs per string & UPC labels required)	\$2 per string
LED bulb or fixture	\$2 per bulb/fixture
Hard-wired ENERGY STAR CFL fixture	\$5 per fixture
Metal Halide (Replacement only)	\$15 per fixture
Ceramic Metal Halide Fixtures (retrofit only)	\$15 per fixture
Hi-pressure sodium (Replacement only)	\$15 per fixture
T-8 Fixtures (Retrofit only)	\$5 per lamp per fixture

T-5 Fixtures	\$7.50 per lamp per fixture
LED Yard lights (min. 30 watts per light)	\$15 per fixture
LED Exit Sign	\$5 per sign
Occupancy Sensors	\$5 per switch

A/C & HEATING

(receipts required and load controls where applicable)

Central & Split system A/C (14 SEER)	\$40 per ton
Central & Split system A/C (15 SEER)	\$60 per ton
Central & Split system A/C (16+ SEER)	\$80 per ton
Air-Source Heat Pump (14+ SEER)	\$150 per ton
Geothermal Heat Pump	\$250 per ton
Commercial A/C & PTACS(11+ EER)	\$40 per ton
A/C Summer load control	\$20 one time Installation
Dual Fuel (8 KW min. - new installations)	\$100 bill credit
ETS units	\$30 per KW
Electric hydronic or slab	\$20 per KW

AGRICULTURAL & C&I

(receipts required and other information as requested)

Plate Cooler/Well Water Pre-cooler	\$500/unit
High Efficiency Livestock waterer (< or= 500 watts)	\$50 per waterer
Dairy Heat Recovery w/controlled water heater	\$300/unit
Scroll Refrigeration Compressor	\$30 per HP
Variable Frequency Drive (Max. \$500/drive)	\$30 per HP
Variable Speed Compressed Air (Max. \$500/drive)	\$30 per HP
Ag Fan-Exhaust (21 CFM/Watt or more)	\$1.00 per inch diameter
Ag Fan - Circulation (20 lbs. thrust/KW or more)	\$1.00 per inch diameter
Ag Fan-Hi Velocity Low Speed	\$1.00 per inch diameter

PLEASE NOTE: All water heater, heat pump, and electric heat rebates require installation of Load Management controls (time clock control when under the time of day rate is acceptable).

*Signed certification required

Taylor Report USPS 998-400 published monthly by Taylor Electric Cooperative, N1831 State Hwy 13, Medford, WI 54451. Periodicals Postage Paid at Medford, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Taylor Report, N1831 State Hwy 13, Medford, WI 54451. Subscription rate \$2.50 per year.

Michael Schaefer, President & CEO
Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor

OFFICERS

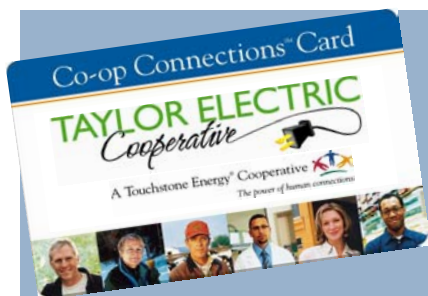
Brian Kulas, Chairman,
Dean Tesch, Vice-Chairman
Patricia Waldhart, Secretary/Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Ray Henrichs, Chuck Zenner
JoAnn Smith, James Smola

Vol. 39	No. 01
Jan.	2012
Publication	No.
USPS	998-400

Return Service Requested



Make it your resolution to save money in 2012 with Co-op Connections

It's the new year...if you need any kind of "tune-up", get a discount at one of these local participating businesses. Just show your Co-op Connections card or key fob and ask for their deal! For a full list of participating business, plus hundreds more nationwide, go to www.connections.coop. Or call our office at 715-678-2411 and we can send you a list.

FOR YOU:

Hoffman's Fabric, Floral & Craft—Medford • 715-748-4770 • 10% off Tuesday's

Health Mart Pharmacy—Medford • 715-748-4477 • 20% off any private label Sunmark products priced \$20 or less

FOR YOUR CAR:

Carquest Auto Parts—Medford • 715-748-4380 • 10% discount on purchases up to \$200.00

Ron's Auto Body Repair—Medford • 715-748-4167 • 20% off for anyone over 55 or older on labor

Pomp's Tire Service—Medford • 715-748-2606 • \$5.00 off per tire—must present card before work is started

FOR YOUR FINANCES:

Taylor Credit Union—Medford • 715-748-2447 • Free rental for one year on 3"X5"x22 1/2" safe deposit box—new rentals only. Requires existing savings account or initial savings account with \$5.00 balance. Limit one per family.

FOR YOUR HOME:

Black River Transport—Medford • 715-748-3100 • \$5.00 off pumping service

Stetsonville Lumber—Stetsonville • 715-678-2171 • 5% off single purchase over \$500—not good in conjunction with other coupons or offers

GUESS WHICH HOUSE HAS BETTER INSULATION IN THE ATTIC



Heat rises. And when it slips past your ceiling, it melts snow on the rooftop. It's an easy way to tell if you need new insulation.

Find out what you can do at:
TogetherWeSave.com

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM