

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

LED Lighting and Focus on Energy Rebate

Americans love to decorate for the holidays with strings of lights. Light Emitting Diode (LED) holiday lights are a new product that offers significant advantages over conventional holiday lighting.

LED holiday lights reduce energy consumption by as much as 90% compared to traditional incandescent lights and produce a more durable light that can burn brightly for 50,000 hours, compared to up to 6,000 hours for incandescent bulbs. The energy cost of operating one of these strings is a fraction of the cost of conventional holiday lights. As they go into wider use, LED lights have the potential to make a significant dent in the electricity consumed by festive lighting each holiday season.

Energy-efficient light strings are superior to standard incandescent light strings by:

- ▶ using up to 90% less energy
- ▶ lasting up to 7 times longer
- ▶ being more durable, with no filaments or glass bulbs to break
- ▶ producing very little heat, reducing the risk of fire

Traditional screw socket bulbs use either 5 or 7 watts per bulb. With 25 lights per string, that translates to a lot of power – between 125 to 175 watts per string. And unfortunately, most of that energy is wasted. Less than 10% of the power used by an incandescent bulb goes into creating light – the rest is lost as heat.

The following chart compares the cost of LED holiday light usage to both mini and large incandescent lamps.

# OF LIGHTS	TYPE OF LIGHT	ENERGY USAGE OF BULB	450 HOURS (5 HRS/DAY DOR 90 DAYS)	AVERAGE OPERATING COST*
100	Large Incandescent	7.00 Watts	315 kWh	\$31.50
100	Mini Incandescent	0.45 Watts	20.25 kWh	\$2.03
100	LED Holiday Lights	0.043 Watts	1.94 kWh	\$0.19

*Calculated using an average residential rate of 10¢/kWh.

LED lights are available in strings from 20 to 150 bulbs with red, green, blue, white, yellow and multi-colored bulbs. There are many styles available including mini-ice, ball-shaped and C7 and C9 (candle-shaped) bulbs.

Do your part to keep this holiday season ‘greener’ by reducing the impact on our environment and keep a little more ‘green’ in your wallet by taking advantage of cash-back incentives from your energy provider. Now through December 31, 2007, you have two different options to save on energy saving LED holiday lights. One option is to shop at one of the participating ENERGY STAR program partners that offer an instant \$3 incentive through Focus on Energy. As of October 25th the participating retailers include Nelson’s True Value-Prairie du Chien, Heiser Ace Hardware- Platteville, and Craig True Value- Darlington. If you do not shop at a participating retailer you can still qualify for a \$2 cash rebate through Scenic River Energy Cooperative by simply filling out the enclosed rebate bill insert form.

“Now through December 31, 2007, you have two different options to save on energy saving LED holiday lights.”



Questions on the Line

I’ve heard about retailers offering compact fluorescent light bulbs for as little as 99 cents. How do I know which stores to go to?

This special promotion, called Change a Light, is sponsored by Focus on Energy and participating retailers and is only available while supplies last. (Some restrictions may apply.) Check the list below to find a participating store near you. 2496000

Crawford County

- Nelson True Value (Prairie du Chien)*
- Spahn & Rose Lumber Do it Best (Prairie du Chien)*

Grant County

- Eastman Cartwright Do it Best (Platteville)*
- Heiser Ace Hardware (Platteville)*
- Hermensens Ace Hardware (Bloomington)
- Langmeier Do it Best (Bloomington)*
- Walshs Ace Hardware (Muscodia)*

Lafayette County

- Craig True Value (Darlington)*
- Do It Best (Blanchardville)*

Retailers noted with an asterisk are also partnering with the Focus on Energy program to offer free recycling of your used compact fluorescent bulbs.

Call Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative at 800-236-2141 or Focus on Energy at 800.762.7077 for additional information about the Change a Light promotion or CFL recycling.

Darlington Office is Moving

On Monday, November 12, 2007, the Darlington office will be closed to move to 307 Main St., Darlington, WI. All Lafayette County calls will be forwarded to the Lancaster branch. The new office is just one block south of the current building on the same side of the street (the former Whalen Insurance office). Although office hours will remain the same (7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) there will be no drop box located at the new office. Dick’s Supermarket will still have a drop box. The address (PO Box) and phone numbers will also remain the same. The office will open again for business at the new location on November 13, 2007.

Currently Cooking



This recipe was taken from the Davies Memorial United Church of Christ printed in 2001. It is always nice to have a soup recipe for the cool fall days.

Cheesy Vegetable Soup

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 2 C. potatoes (diced) | 1 (10oz) pkg. Frozen cauliflower |
| 1 C. celery (diced) | 1 (10 oz) pkg. Frozen broccoli |
| 1 C. onions (diced) | 2 cans cream of chicken soup |
| 4 C. water | 1 can water |
| 1 (10 oz) pkg. Frozen mixed vegetables | 1 lb. Velveeta cheese |

Combine potatoes, celery, onions and 4 C. water. Boil 30 minutes. Add frozen vegetables, 2 cans of chicken soup and 1 C water. Simmer for 30 minutes. Add cheese and cook until smooth. Enjoy!

Fall Test of Electric Heat

Dairyland Power and Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative will be conducting their annual test of interruptible heating loads in preparation for winter control. This test is conducted each fall to assist the cooperative in determining if problems exist with their interruptible heating loads and remind members that loads will be controlled during the peak of the heating season. This test is performed at the request of the Dairyland Managers Association.

Strategies Affected: Strategies 2A and 2B - Dual Fuel Strategy 4B - Miscellaneous Heat

Test Date: Wednesday, November 14, 2007 (Thanksgiving is the following week)

Alert Notice: 2B & 4B - 4:50 p.m.

Control Starts: 2A & 2B, 4B - 5:00 p.m.

Restoral: 2A & 2B - begins at 9:15 p.m., all load restored by 11:15 p.m. 4B - begins at 8:05 p.m., all loads restored by 8:40 p.m.

Can you find it?

Find your account number hidden in the newsletter, call the office and win a \$5 gift certificate towards your electric bill.



Power Your Mind – Learn who is bringing you power

Merlin Kvigne, director

Representing Freeman, Haney-west of Kickapoo River, Seneca, Utica

Family–

- Wife: Francille (Williams) Kvigne
- Children: Mary Marlys (Dwight) Oldenburg Marcia (Warren) Haugen Mark
- Grandchildren: Jeremy and Kari Oldenburg Kelly, James, and Connor Haugen

Occupation–

Semi-retired Part-time driver for Crawford County Senior Resources

Hobbies–

- Watching Badger and Packer games on my quality Direct T.V.
- Caring for a large lawn & small vineyard.
- Attending our grandchildren's school events.

Why did you choose to become a Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative Director?

I was a director of Crawford Electric, retiring in 1994. I had experience working with feed and petroleum co-ops and had the opportunity to be a member of our Electric Co-op. I was encouraged to run for a director position. Thank you to my election supporters during my terms of office. 7115900

What do you enjoy most about serving as a director?

Being on the SREC Board has given me an opportunity to be more informed about the workings of our electric cooperative and the challenges that they face in the future. Electricity is a necessity to make our lives more comfortable. It is satisfying to me to help make decisions, which hopefully provide us with the cheapest electricity possible.



Did you know?

Do you need help with Energy Bills or Weatherization?

The Wisconsin Department of Administration offers programs to assist low-income families.

For more information contact the Southwest CAP Housing/Energy Program Director at 608-943-6909 ext. 222.

CLA- Community Leadership Alliance

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative members are eligible for a scholarship to attend the Community Leadership Alliance. The CLA program provides an opportunity for current and future leaders to become more aware of the dynamics of issues facing our communities and to expand opportunities for leadership. Members in Grant, Iowa, and Lafayette Counties are eligible for this program. For more information about the Community Leadership Alliance contact 608-348-8888. To inquire information about the scholarship please call 608-723-2121 ext. 105.



New solar system

Recently, a SREC member took advantage of the renewable incentives offered by Focus on Energy and installed this solar system. The set of panels facing the front heats hot water and the set of panels facing the left provides electricity. This project was completed by Prairie Solar Power and Light just a few weeks ago. For more information on renewable projects contact SREC at 800-236-2141 ext. 105 or Focus on Energy at 800-762-7077.



WATT'S HAPPENING

Watt's Happening is published monthly as an information service to the member-owners of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

Any questions or comments can be directed to Watt's Happening, c/o Megan Graney, Editor, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 North Sheridan, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free Lancaster 800-236-2141, Darlington 800-236-6656, and Gays Mills 888-735-4314.

www.sre.coop

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