

WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Dairy Investment Tax Credit Popular

Preliminary statistics are available from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (WDOR) on the dairy investment tax credits (DITC) claimed during tax year 2005.

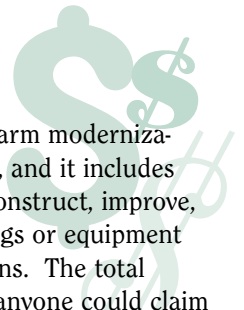
Claimants numbering 6,498 who filed individual income taxes claimed \$11,977,000 in tax credits for the year. Credits totaling \$26 million were carried forward to future tax years, as the claimants

either did not owe taxes or could not claim the full amount of credit available. Statistics on corporate tax filers will be available in early 2007.

In tax year 2004, the first year of the DITC, nearly 7,000 claimants filed individual or corporate tax forms and claimed a total of \$13.1 million in tax credits.

The DITC is equal to 10 percent of the amount a dairy farmer

spends for dairy farm modernization or expansion, and it includes expenditures to construct, improve, or acquire buildings or equipment for dairy operations. The total amount of credit anyone could claim is \$50,000, and the law will exist through tax year 2009. The legislature has since expanded the tax credit to the remainder of livestock, beginning with tax year 2006.



Have You Considered Electric Heat?

Avoid the roller coaster pricing of fossil fuels by installing a plenum heater or other electric heat source and joining Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative's Dual Fuel (off-peak) program. Listed below are electric heating products that could possibly qualify for this program if all the requirements are successfully met.

Electric Plenum Heater - A plenum heater can be installed on top of an existing propane or natural gas forced-air furnace. You can save money by switching your fuel preference when gas prices are high.

Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) - ETS systems are available as room units or furnaces that use "storage heat" technology and qualify for SREC's Dual Fuel program. Specifically designed bricks store heat generated during the night. The heat is then circulated throughout the room or home on demand, 24 hours a day.

Electric Boiler - Radiant in-floor heating is the fastest growing method of home heating for both new construction and remodeling projects. Living space is heated by circulating warm water through the tubing in the floor, heating the floor as well as the space above it.

Ground Source Heat Pump - This is the most energy-efficient whole-house heating and cooling system.

Please call our office at 800-236-2141 x105 if you are interested in learning more about the above heat sources and how they qualify for SREC's Dual Fuel program. There may also be an incentive available depending on the heat source that is installed and the requirements that are met.

Just For Fun

Ole says, You know you are over the hill when.....



- ▲ You and your teeth don't sleep together.
- ▲ You try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks and discover you aren't wearing any.
- ▲ At the breakfast table you hear snap, crackle, pop and you're not eating cereal.
- ▲ Your back goes out but you stay home.
- ▲ You're on vacation and your energy runs out before your money does.
- ▲ Your address book has mostly names that start with "Dr."
- ▲ Getting lucky means you found your car in the parking lot.
- ▲ Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- ▲ You look for your glasses for half an hour and they were on your head the whole time.
- ▲ You confuse having a clear conscience with a bad memory.

Richland Electric Cooperative, WEC news

Currently Cooking

Here is a Christmas candy recipe that can be prepared weeks ahead of time if needed.



Stained Glass Windows

- 1 stick of margarine
- 12 oz. bag of chocolate chips
- 10-1/2 oz. pack of colored miniature marshmallows
- 1 C. chopped nuts (any type)
- 1 C. shredded coconut



Microwave margarine and chips until nearly melted and then stir to finish. Cool until just warm; add marshmallows and nuts; mix together. Sprinkle a sheet of wax paper with coconut. On another piece of wax paper, form chocolate mixture into a long roll about 2 inches in diameter. Transfer roll onto the coconut and wrap wax paper around roll so that coconut transfers around the roll completely. Refrigerate for at least four hours or freeze. Slice roll into 1/4 inch slices to serve. Each slice will look like a snow capped stained glass window.

Senior Tai Chi Classes in Grant County

Come enjoy a fun, relaxing, low stress, exercise class designed for everyone's participation. Tai Chi has been proven to reduce falls, improve balance, increase endurance and improve strength for daily activities. A certified Tai Chi instructor who is very motivated and dedicated to improving your health and well being through exercise and instruction teaches Tai Chi.

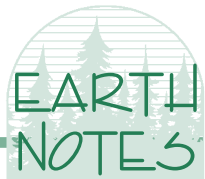


Classes will be offered in Boscobel, Lancaster, Montfort and Platteville starting in January. Please call Tanya at the Center on Aging, 608-723-6113, for more information or to sign up. Space is limited!

Energy Saving Steps...

Every little bit can help when it comes to saving energy. Here are a few simple steps to help you do just that:

- ▼ Turning off your computer when it won't be used for several hours not only cuts energy use, but also can lengthen the life of the computer. When you buy a new one, be sure to get a model with a "sleep" feature, which allows you to leave the computer on but greatly cuts the energy consumption when it's not in use.
- ▼ Think that little narrow space at the base of your exterior door isn't a big deal? A 1/4 inch gap at the bottom of a standard door drains away as much heated or cooled interior air as a three-inch-by-three-inch hole in the wall!
- ▼ It's commonly believed that leaving the thermostat at the same setting, day and night, uses less energy than turning the thermostat back and then raising it again in the morning. The idea is that reheating the cool house requires more energy than just keeping it at a constant temperature. The fact is less energy is needed to warm your house up in the morning than to keep it at the same constant warm temperature all night.



Don't Spread Germs

There's much you can do to stop the spread of cold and flu at work. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention you can help stop the spread of germs if you:

- ▶ Cough or sneeze into a tissue and then throw it away. Cover your cough or sneeze if you do not have a tissue. Then wash your hands.
- ▶ Wash your hands often. When available, wash your hands with soap and warm water, then rub your hands together vigorously and scrub all surfaces. Wash for 15 to 20 seconds. When soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based disposable hand wipes or gel sanitizers.
- ▶ Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches these areas.
- ▶ When you are sick or have flu symptoms, stay home, get plenty of rest and check with a health care provider as needed.
- ▶ Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food. Practicing healthful habits will help you stay healthy during flu season and all year long.

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Any questions or comments can be directed to Watt's Happening, c/o Joan Wagner, 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.

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