

WATT'S HAPPENING

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

Storing Heat Electrically Makes More Sense Than Storing Wood

We have reached the end of our warm summer and the cooler fall nights already appear to be here. So why not use low-cost off-peak electricity at night to heat your home both night and day?

If you've been using wood as a primary fuel source, you don't have to be reminded of what a job it can be to keep the home fires burning.

Consider converting to a safe heating system that features electric heat storage, using off-peak electricity at night to heat your home both night and day.

A compact, attractive thermal storage heater works like a thermostat. Insulated brick-like material inside the chamber stores up heat at night when electricity costs less. When the heat is needed, a blower directs air through the heated brick and out into the room.

With electric heat storage units strategically placed, even the most

difficult-to-heat corners are warm and comfortable. The units adapt to any size room, and they can be located wherever you choose. There's no need for a central furnace or ductwork.

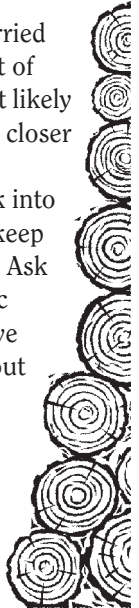
Electric heat storage is also one of the safest and most economical ways to heat your home. By storing heat during your electric cooperative's lower rate, off-peak periods for later use, you realize substantial savings.

I'm sure you've noticed the prices at the gas pump this summer; does it make you wonder what the price of your heating fuel will be by winter?

Most of us are pretty worried about it already. The cost of fuel is high now and most likely won't go down as we get closer to the heating season.

Now is the time to look into off-peak electric heat to keep your heating costs down. Ask a representative of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative for more information about electric heat storage.

Remember storing heat electrically makes a lot more sense than storing wood.



Insulated brick-like material inside the chamber stores up heat at night when electricity costs less.

Compact Fluorescents Save Money and Energy

ENERGY STAR labeled light bulbs, or compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), are up to 75 percent more efficient than standard incandescent light bulbs, give off the same light output and last up to 10 times longer.

CFLs have changed a lot in recent years. They are available in various sizes to fit almost any lamp, chandelier or other light fixture, including dimmable and motion detector fixtures. The bulb's appearance

ranges from a globe shape to two slender tubes twisted like a coil.

CFLs emit the same amount of light as standard bulbs, but because they use significantly less energy than incandescent bulbs, they have lower wattage ratings than people are accustomed to purchasing. For example, a 15-watt CFL replaces a 60-watt incandescent bulb, an 18 to 20 watt CFL replaces a 75-watt bulb and a 25 to 28 watt CFL bulb replaces a 100-watt bulb.

While all CFLs use less energy than incandescent light bulbs, it is a good idea to watch for the ENERGY STAR symbol when shopping around.

The potential savings on energy bills is significant. The typical household spends about 10 to 15 percent of its electrical bill, an average of \$110 a year, on lighting.

Source: Minnesota Department of Commerce



Currently Cooking



What's better during the fall than having your supper waiting for you? Here is a crock-pot recipe from member Jill Errthum; I took from the *St. Mary's* cookbook.

Crock Pot Ham and Potatoes



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 8 potatoes | 2 medium onions |
| 1 to 1 1/2 lbs. ham | 1 can cream of mushroom soup |
| 1 C. grated cheese | Paprika |

Peel and slice potatoes and onions. Layer ingredients in two layers of each in crock-pot, except soup and paprika. They are put on last. Cook in crock-pot on low for 8 to 10 hours. Serves 6 to 8.

Vitality NOTE

How to Stay Young

1. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
2. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle.
3. Enjoy the simple things.
4. Laugh often, long, and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
5. Tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with you your entire life is you. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
6. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
7. Cherish your health. If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, work to improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
8. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.
9. Tell the people you love that you love them—at every opportunity.
10. Don't sweat the little things.
11. And remember, there's no way you can look as bad as that person on your driver's license.

Source: Unknown

Just For Fun

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in front of the service station. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

“Reverend,” said the young man, “sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip.”

The minister chuckled, “I know what you mean. It's the same in my business.”

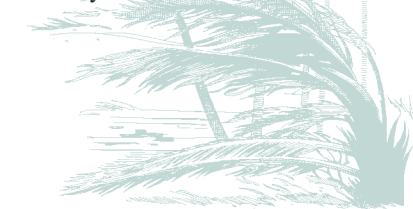


Cooperative Responds to Call for Help

Hurricane Katrina damaged the power lines and systems of the Louisiana and Mississippi rural cooperatives.

Wisconsin cooperatives responded to the need by activating our ROPE plan, this is Restoration of Power in an Emergency. In early September cooperatives sent linemen and equipment to the devastated areas.

Here at Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, two linemen and one basket truck left Lancaster on September 6th to help out at a cooperative just 70 miles north of New Orleans. We are now replacing them in two-week intervals. At this time, we plan on bringing everyone home by the 6th of October.



National 4-H Week

October 2-8, 2005 is National 4-H Week. “4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Youth in grades 1-13 may join. Adults are welcome to join 4-H as adult leaders or volunteers. Contact your local UW-Extension office to find out more.

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 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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