

Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 
The power of human connections

It was hot!!!

Last summer was exceptionally hot. According to 23 years' worth of weather data provided to New-Mac Electric from the Neosho National Fish Hatchery, July of 2011 was the hottest on record for that span of time.

Well, July of 2012 proved to be just as extreme and even more so in some respects. Unlike 2011, the daily high temperature never dipped out of the 90s in July, and that is the only time that has ever occurred since at least before 1989. The National Weather Service reported the average high temperature for our area in July was 99.7 degrees. Of course, this intense heat was also coupled with what many organizations have called the worst drought in over 50 years (*see "Drought" on pages 2-3*).

Thankfully, in recent weeks, temperatures have dropped significantly, however New-Mac customers should expect the bill accompanying this newsletter to reflect the additional air-conditioning costs associated with such heat. The current bill includes usage from July into August. Many customers' bills will take in a stretch in which temperatures reached at least 100 degrees in 19 of 22 days. Also, due to the dry conditions, many also had increased usage due to lawn sprinklers, providing water for animals, and/or the irrigation of crops.



Meter tampering illegal, dangerous

Nothing good can come from tampering with your electric meter.

First, the likelihood of getting away with altering or bypassing a meter's recording of energy use is becoming increasingly slim, if not impossible.

Secondly, it is illegal. In Missouri,

meter tampering is a Class A misdemeanor, and repeat offenders face a Class D felony charge. New-Mac treats every tampering incident as a serious matter. Not only are meter tamperers breaking the law, they're also stealing

See Meter tampering, page 4

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE NEW-MAC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Nominating Committee, elected at the Annual Meeting held October 29, 2011, did on August 15, 2012, meet at this office of the Cooperative, Highway 86, Neosho, Missouri, pursuant to Section 3, Article III of the by-laws of the Cooperative, to nominate a slate of candidates to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Cooperative, October 27, 2012, and did at such meeting nominate the following persons for Director of the Cooperative.

District #4
Southwest Section Larry Coiner
Newton County
For three (3) year term Beryl Kennedy

District #5
Southeast Section J. C. Embrey
Newton County
For three (3) year term Billy P. White

District #9
Southeast Section Dewey Allgood
McDonald County
For three (3) year term Vernon Keene

Published in accordance with Section 3, Article III, of the by-laws of the New-Mac Electric Cooperative, Inc., Neosho, Missouri.

Signed Lance Meador
George Kirk
Jamey Cope
Bobby Banks
Gary W. Bond

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Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

NEW-MAC ELECTRIC'S 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

• 10 a.m., Sat., Oct. 27 @ Crowder College Gymnasium • Registration 8-10:15 a.m.

It's New-Mac Annual Meeting time again, and we are excited about all we have planned this year.

We will have gift drawings for all ages, and babysitting is provided.

The meeting also features a free luncheon. Please help us in planning the food. If you are planning on attending, please clip and fill out this form, and mail it to P.O. Box



310, Neosho MO 64850. You may also return it with your bill payment.

We will place our meal order based on the number of forms we receive.

See you all at the meeting!

Mitch McCumber,
CEO/General Manager

Yes, I/we are planning to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting.

There will be _____ family members attending.

Please circle one: For lunch, I/we would prefer: **Pork** or **Beef**



Please detach and send in or return with your bill payment.

Please call before you dig

Digging in areas where there may be an underground electric line can be dangerous! So, before any project that requires digging, call the Missouri One Call System at 800-DIG-RITE.

Those who fail to make this call not only face the chance of electric shock; they also will be held responsible for any repairs that may be necessary if a line is accidentally cut or damaged.

Assistance is available

If you are having a problem paying your New-Mac account, please call us to make arrangements. Please don't disregard paying your bill. There are programs and options (such as budget billing) designed to assist you. So, please give us a call at 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
Jasper County
 (417) 781-0352
McDonald County
 (417) 845-6011
Newton County
 (417) 451-2206

Moving advice

When moving out of the New-Mac Electric service area, please don't forget to leave a forwarding address. You could be leaving capital credits behind.



Southwest Missouri has experienced historic dry weather

For many, the drought of 2012 is the worst ever experienced. For others, they've seen similar weather but it was a long, long time ago when they did.

"I can remember back in the Dust Bowl Days," said P.A. Jefferies, who will be 95 in October and has been on his Neosho area farm since 1962. "Back in the 30s, they'd fall a tree about every day and their cows would eat the leaves off."

He also remembers dry years in the 50s. "You think it's always the worst, then you look back and it's been bad."

Then, he believes it was during the 1988 drought, "We had to haul water. Our well just wouldn't take care of all the cattle we had," he said.

"We drilled another, deeper, well for a stock well and that took care of the problem."

Darren and Pam Wilson don't have the same range of years to think back on, but they can tell you 2012 has been bad.

It's been bad enough that a second well became a necessity and then became a reality with the help of an executive order signed by Governor Jay Nixon, making emergency funds available to farmers for

deepening existing or drilling new wells. The Wilsons even received a visit from Nixon, who wanted to see one of the farms benefitting from the program.

"This year has been the worst," said Pam. "The heat hit a little sooner. Those triple digits killed us. And they say we're not really going to have any good rain until October."

Everything about the current drought has been hard.

"Of course, problem No. 1 is no water," she

said. "Then there's hay. It didn't make like it usually does, and it didn't make last year. So, we were down on hay. Just the heat alone makes it tough on the animals just to survive. We haven't lost any, but it just kills milk production."

John Hobbs has been at the University of Missouri Extension office in McDonald County for 10 years, and before that, he taught high school agriculture for 30 years – with time spent both at McDonald County and Seneca. He's very aware of the magnitude of the 2012 drought.

"As far as lack of moisture in subsoil and topsoil, it ranks right up there with 1936, and for sure 1954," he said. "In Missouri, its recorded as the third driest

May through July of any recorded year, and it's the hottest and driest it's been January through July since 1936."

Hobbs said the problems associated with a drought are twofold.

"Lack of water is the biggest thing. A full grown mature cow needs 35-45 gallons of water a day. People are either hauling water or relying on a deep well source. Of course, a lot of wells have dried up....The second thing is lack of vegetation. Hay supplies were not above average this past

spring, and of course, last year we had severe drought in southwest Missouri, and we really hadn't recouped since last year. A lot of people just don't have enough hay to get through this summer and fall and winter too."

The Missouri Department of Agriculture and University of Missouri Extension do have a hay directory, or "Some call it the Hay Hotline," said Hobbs. Those desiring to buy or sell hay can use

“ “ This year has been the worst!

Drought

Continued from page 2

this service at no charge. Farmers can access the hay listings by calling 1-800-877-4HAY (4429) or online at: <http://agebb.missouri.edu/haylst>.

So, why is it this bad? According to Warning Coordination Meteorologist Steve Runnels, of the National Weather Service in Springfield, it all started with an exceptionally mild winter.

“You have to consider what’s happened with the weather going all the way back into last winter to the present time, and during that time, we were the warmest period ever. Residents of southwest Missouri certainly remember the 30s and the 50s as being an awfully warm period, and here we are the warmest ever. So, that kind of sets the stage, and then on top of that, between May and July, we really only saw localized rainfall. That included some seeing their driest conditions ever. So, it’s a combination of both the warmest ever weather and little-to-no rainfall during that late spring, early summer period that set the stage for the drought.”

Not only were January and

February relatively warm, the summer heat arrived sooner than it had in nearly five decades. The last time the area had triple digit heat in the month of June was 1963, and Joplin had four days in 100-degree heat in June of 2012. However, the closest year on record that match 2012 in terms of both rainfall and temperatures are 1988, 1954 and 1936. Across the state, average annual temperatures to date are around three degrees higher than the previously recorded all-time highs.

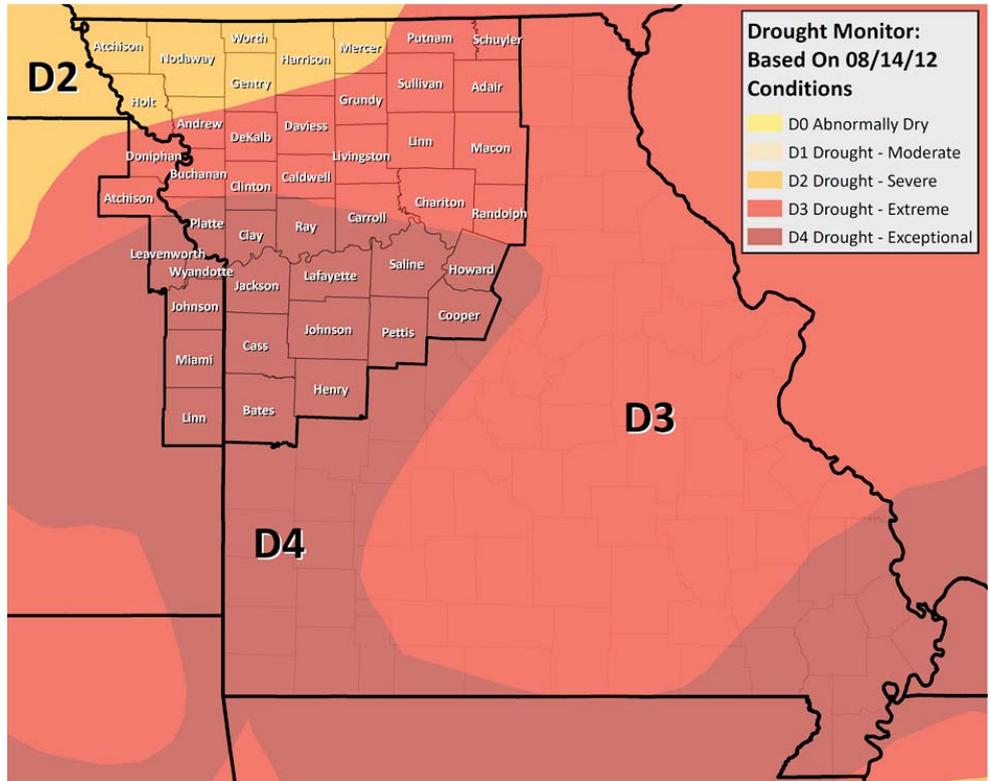
“The Dust Bowl Days of 1934 and 36 were certainly very dry years,” said Runnels. “1954 was a dry year, but that was the year everyone recalls because the heat was the main factor then. We set all time record highs. We are in very unique company when it comes to the drought of 2012.”

Another indicator of how extreme it has been comes from a new collaborative effort of several agencies, including the National Weather Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Drought Mitigation Center. It is called the U.S. Drought Monitor. This study classifies regions into categories based on the effects of dry weather, and southwest Missouri has been given the most extreme label, “Exceptional Drought (D4).” This classification description is as follows: Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses; exceptional fire risk; shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells, creating water emergencies.

Runnels also noted that the same scientists that produce the Drought Monitor rated Missouri, back in July, as the highest risk state for the spread of wildfires.

“That is just something that doesn’t happen,” he said. “That’s when, out west, the fire season really gets going, and here they are talking about Missouri.”

Hopefully, people can stop talking about Missouri soon, at least when it comes to drought.



graphic courtesy of National Weather Service

Southwest Missouri falls into the most extreme of classifications when it comes to the 2012 drought. The D4 rating is characterized by “widespread crop/pasture losses, exceptional fire risk, and shortages of water reservoirs.”

Energy Partners' Recipe of the Month:

CUCUMBERS & ONIONS

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Judy Fredde**

- 2 cucumbers
- 1 onion
- 2 cups vinegar
- 2 cups water

- 2 cups sugar
- salt to taste
- dill weed (optional)

Mix vinegar, water and sugar together until sugar is dissolved. Add sliced cucumbers and onions. Add salt and dill. Refrigerate.

Send your recipe, along with your name and account number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or recipes@new-mac.com. If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

○ Meter tampering

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energy from their fellow electric cooperative members.

Most importantly, tampering with a meter is extremely dangerous, as it could

result in severe electrical burns, shock, or even death by electrocution. Meddling with the meter base can be just as deadly, even if the meter has been removed.

If you suspect meter tampering, please call New-Mac at 451-1515 or 800-322-3849.



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Telephone: 417/451-1515 800/322-3849
Fax: 417/451-9042
Office Hours: Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at www.newmac.com.

Management

CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber
Manager of Administration Mary Hatfield
Manager of Operations Stan Irsik
Manager of Marketing Mark K. Rakes
Billing Supervisor Vickie Stuart

Board of Directors

District 1 Martin Youngblood
District 2 Kenneth Daniels
District 3 Bobby Fields
District 4 Beryl Kennedy
District 5 Billy P. White
District 6 Paul Sprenkle
District 7 Maurice Mailes
District 8 Virgil Winchester
District 9 Dewey Allgood

Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:
Autowithdrawal Payment
Levelized Billing
Rental Light
Meeting rooms available at both locations
Credit Card Acceptance
Safety Programs (upon request)
Surge Protection
Green Power

Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes
P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO
mrakes@newmac.com

when the last business day of the month rolls around, the cooperative will automatically withdraw the exact amount of your bill directly from your bank account.

All you have to do is fill out an "Auto-Withdrawal Authorization" form and provide a voided blank check, and New-Mac will set up your account so that there'll be no need for writing out checks again! — at least when it comes time to pay the electric bill.

For more information on the bank draft process, call the billing department at 451-1515 or 800-322-3849.

Bank draft option can make life easier

Auto-withdrawal means one less check to write

With the help of a bank draft, there's one more way New-Mac Electric Cooperative can help simplify your life.

If you would like to eliminate the need of writing and mailing a check each month, or making a trip to the New-Mac office to pay your bill, that can be accomplished by setting up your New-Mac account with a bank draft.

With a bank draft, each month you will still receive your bill from New-Mac, but



Clip and fill out this form and return it along with a voided check, and New-Mac will set your account up for bank draft.



AUTO-WITHDRAWAL AUTHORIZATION

I (We) hereby authorize New-Mac Electric Cooperative, Inc., to charge my (our) checking, savings and loan, or credit union account for the amount of my monthly bill. I (We) further authorize the bank, savings and loan, or credit union to debit the same to such account.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Account # _____ Map # _____

BANK OR SAVINGS INSTITUTION INFO.

Name of Bank, Savings & Loan, or Credit Union _____

City, State, Zip _____

Bank Transit Number _____ Account Number _____

Please enclose a voided check.

The deduction will be made on the last business day of the month.

Beginning Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature (if joint account) _____ Date _____

Mail this form and voided check to:
New-Mac Electric Cooperative
ATTN: Billing
PO Box 310
Neosho, MO 64850

