

Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

No general rate increase is planned for 2017

New-Mac Electric Cooperative has no plans for a general rate increase in 2017.

New-Mac’s CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber is particularly pleased for that to be the outlook for the new year. Not so long ago, he thought otherwise.

“Six months ago, if you were to ask me, I’d would have told you we were headed for a general rate increase,” said McCumber. “But you’ve got to give credit to (supplier) KAMO Power for working with us. Thanks to their efforts, it appears we are going to be able to put off a general rate increase for at

least this year.”

McCumber had informed the attendees of New-Mac’s annual meeting, held this past October, that details about 2017 rates would appear in the January edition of this newsletter. He also told members that a rate increase is very likely in 2018, and that still appears to be the case.

The cost of generating electricity continues to rise. Even though the Supreme Court put a hold on the EPA’s plans to change the nation’s mix of power generation, existing and potential regulations have forced the

industry to spend billions to meet or stay ahead of regulations. While costs have been absorbed by suppliers, KAMO Power (Vinita, Okla.) and Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., (Springfield), and by New-Mac, future rate increases are unavoidable.

Still, New-Mac has had only four general rate increases in the past 25 years and continues to stand behind the words of its general manager: “We will never raise your rates until we absolutely have no other choice” – said McCumber at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

More opportunity exists in co-op’s 2017 Youth Tour/CYCLE Contest

New-Mac sending additional high school junior to Washington D.C. and 2 students to Jefferson City

Exciting news for area high school juniors: The odds are now twice as good for winning an expense-paid trip to Washington D.C.!

In 2017, New-Mac Electric Cooperative

will send two students to our nation’s capital and two more on a trip to Jefferson City. The opportunities exist through the co-op’s Youth Tour/CYCLE Contest.

The contest is open to high school juniors in the following school districts: Carthage, Diamond, East Newton, Joplin, McDonald County, Neosho, Pierce City, Sarcoxie, Seneca and Wheaton. Home or private school 11th-grade students residing in the aforementioned districts are also eligible. Immediate family members of New-Mac Electric employees or board members are not eligible to participate.

Youth Tour is a week-long visit to Washington D.C. sponsored by electric cooperatives from all across the country. Delegates are selected by each co-op, grouped together with their peers from their state, and sent on to D.C. Missouri will send around 100 delegates to be part of over 1,500 that will be in our nation’s



Lani Ogle (l), from Sarcoxie, represented New-Mac Electric on Youth Tour in 2016, while Sarah Hill, from Seneca, attended CYCLE.

See Contest, page 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Youth Tour/CYCLEpage 1
- Rebates for 2017.....page 2
- Be prepared for winterpage 3



New-Mac Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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.

Stay away from downed lines

Heavy snows, ice and winds are all capable of bringing down power lines. New-Mac would like to remind everyone to stay away from downed power lines.

Please **don't** touch, attempt to move, or drive over downed lines. Also, **don't** touch anyone who is in contact with power lines.

Always report downed power lines to New-Mac Electric at 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

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

Please don't lock us out

Remember New-Mac Electric always needs to have access to your meter both for periodic inspections and in the event of an outage. So, make sure the co-op can get to your meter, and any existing lock arrangements with New-Mac need to be maintained.

New-Mac's energy efficiency rebate program will continue in 2017

Members receive bill credits for qualifying purchases of window A/C units, water heaters and various heat pumps

New-Mac Electric is pleased to continue its rebate program in 2017.

The co-op hopes members will use these rebates as incentives to make energy-efficient purchases, which will bring additional savings through energy conservation. Rebates are available for energy-efficient electric water heaters, window air-conditioning units, and three types of heat pumps.

In order to qualify for a rebate, New-Mac must receive a completed rebate form and a copy of the purchase receipt within 90 days of the date of purchase. Rebate forms are available online at newmac.com and at both the Neosho and Anderson offices.

Rebates will be applied to your New-Mac bill in the form of an energy credit.

If you have questions about any of our rebates or their qualifications, call Josh or Zane in our member services department at 451-1515 or 800-322-3849.

New-Mac Electric 2017 Rebates

WINDOW AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS – \$50

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be Energy Star rated
- limit one per address
- service where installed must use 6,000 kWh per year
- for residential customers only

WATER HEATERS – \$50

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must have an energy rating of .9 or better
- limit two per address
- must be a 40-gallon tank or larger
- tankless (on-demand) water heaters are not eligible
- service where installed must use 6,000 kWh per year
- for residential customers only

DUAL-FUEL HEAT PUMPS – \$150 PER TON

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be at least 16.5 SEER
- must be dual fuel (having natural gas or propane for back-up)
- for residential or commercial customers

MINI-SPLIT HEAT PUMPS – \$150 PER TON

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be at least 16.5 SEER
- must not have electric resistant heat as a backup
- for residential or commercial customers

GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS – \$300 PER TON

- must be submitted within 90 days of purchase
- must be at least 19.1 EER
- must provide documentation of Manual J load calculation
- If only the unit needs replaced and the looping is still present, customers can get \$150 per ton if the new unit is a gain of at least 3 EER.
- 10 tons or more must be pre-approved
- minimum insulation requirements (R-38 for ceiling, R-13 for walls)
- for residential or commercial customers

Proper installation is critical with generators

PORTABLE GENERATOR SAFETY

Generators offer a reliable back-up source for electricity during an extended power outage. However, they must be installed and used correctly to avoid very serious health and safety risks – not only

to your household but to the linemen working to restore power. The best way to ensure you and co-op line crews stay safe when you are using a generator is to educate yourself and plan ahead.

Generators come in a variety of sizes. They can range from 500 watts up to several megawatts of

See *GENERATORS*, page 4

It's been a **COLD** winter so far

Be prepared for whatever the season may bring

As of the time of press, December 2016 was the coldest the New-Mac Electric service area has experienced in over a decade.

The average temperature for the first 20 days of the month was 32.4 degrees. The past two Decembers had average temps of 46.4 and 41.5 in 2015 and 2014 respectively. So remember, heating bills will be up significantly this winter compared to the same period a year ago.

However, we have had minimal winter precipitation so far. We all know it can come at anytime in Southwest Missouri. Snow, of course, can bring about beautiful scenery and might make for slick roads, but freezing rain is what presents the greatest challenge for your electric cooperative. As freezing rain descends, ice forms on power lines and nearby trees. If enough accumulation occurs, lines can snap due to the weight of the ice, but more likely, trees weighted down by ice can fall into power lines.

So, New-Mac encourages you to always be ready for winter's worst. Please keep the following items on hand, and be prepared:

- Flashlight (with extra batteries) and candles.
- Battery-powered radio.
- Bottled water and non-perishable food items.

- Manual can opener.
- Extra medicine and baby items.
- First-aid supplies.
- Back-up heating source – NEVER use a charcoal grill to cook or heat inside!
- Fire extinguisher and smoke detector.
- New-Mac also reminds everyone to never approach downed power lines as they may be energized.

In the event of outages, New-Mac customers should have their map number (location number) ready and call 451-1515 or 800-322-3849. Don't assume that someone else has already called for your area.

During extended outages, customers can get updates on the restoration efforts by checking our website, newmac.com, and through local media outlets.

If you are on social media, updates will come right to your computer or smart phone by liking our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/NewMacElectric or by following us @NewMacElectric on Twitter. Please DO NOT report outages through social media, as it is not monitored 24/7. Outages must be called into our dispatch.

Security lights are available from New-Mac

Extend your day with a dusk-to-dawn light

If evening seems to be setting in before you've done all your chores, or perhaps you'd just like the security of some additional lighting, then New-Mac Electric has the solution for you.

Security lights, also called dusk-to-dawn lights, are available from New-Mac for a monthly fee.

New-Mac will install a 100-watt, high-pressure sodium light on an existing meter or transformer pole. The co-op will then maintain and supply the electricity to the light (it does not go through your meter) for a \$11 monthly rental fee. If the light ever stops working, New-Mac will repair or replace the light at no additional charge.

Higher wattage lights or installations requiring the setting of new materials may also be available for additional fees.

Also, if a light owned by a customer is in need of repair, New-Mac is willing to make those repairs for the cost of parts (if the co-op has the necessary parts). These repairs will take place as work orders permit when a truck is in your area.

If you are interested in a security light at your location, contact our billing department at 451-1515 or 800-322-3849.



Energy Partners'

Recipe of the Month:

JALAPENO CHEESE SQUARES

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Kelly Eck**

2 cups cheddar cheese (shredded)	½ cup all-purpose flour
2 cups Monterey-Jack cheese (shredded)	12 oz. can evaporated milk
¾ cup pickled jalapeno slices	Salt
2 eggs, beaten	

Mix cheeses together. Spread half of mixture in a greased 13x 9 baking dish. Top with peppers, then sprinkle rest of cheese mixture on top. In a bowl, mix eggs, flour, and milk. Pour over cheese mixture. Bake uncovered at 350° for 25-30 minutes. Let cool slightly before cutting into squares.

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

○ Generators

Continued from page 3

output, and run on gasoline, diesel, propane or natural gas. The size of generator needed can be determined by totaling the wattage of the lights, appliances, devices, etc., and then add about 20 percent for the increased start-up power requirements.

A whole-house generator – one that is tied directly into your wiring – must have a double-throw transfer switch installed at your breaker panel by a qualified electrician. Without the switch, a generator can backfeed 240 volts to the transformer, where it is then stepped up to 7,200 volts and sent down the lines, creating a life-threatening situation for the linemen trying to restore your power.

The double-throw switch makes it impossible to have both the generator and the power supplier service connected at the same time. It opens one in order to close the other.

Portable generators (usually with wheels) are smaller and can supply enough power for necessary applications but not the whole house. These generators also need a double-throw switch.

Another reason for having a qualified electrician hook up your generator is for the protection of everything you plan to have powered by it. Improperly connecting to the

generator could damage all of your appliances, electronics, etc.

When weather threatens, generators can provide peace-of-mind, but they must be installed correctly. Please consider the following safety tips involving generators:

- Follow the instructions included with your generator.
- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Never overload the generator.
- Never add fuel while it is running.
- Never use a generator indoors.
- Always keep a fully-charged class ABC fire extinguisher nearby.
- Turn off all appliances powered by your generator before shutting it down.



Portable generator

○ Contest

Continued from page 1

capital June 9-15.

The Missouri students will see sites such as the Jefferson Memorial, Washington Monument, Ford's Theatre, Iwo Jima Memorial, White House, Mount Vernon Plantation and many more. Also, they will learn about the workings of our government while developing life-long friendships with their fellow delegates. To learn more about Youth Tour, visit youthtour.coop.



CYCLE stands for Cooperative Youth Conference & Leadership Experience. It is a three-day trip to Jefferson City, where students learn about our state government, cooperatives and leadership in general. Highlights include touring the Missouri Supreme Court and State Capitol and the opportunity to debate a fictional bill from

the actual floor of the House of Representatives. CYCLE will take place July 12-14.

PARTICIPATION

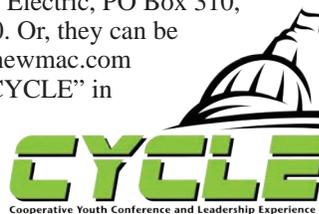
The contest entails writing a 400-600 word essay on the following topic: *Explain the difference between an electric company and an electric cooperative*. All essays must include a cover sheet with the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Parents'/Guardians' names
- School

Essays should be sent to: Youth Tour/CYCLE, New-Mac Electric, PO Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850. Or, they can be emailed to jkings@newmac.com with "Youth Tour/CYCLE" in the subject line.

All essays must be received by **March 10, 2017**.

Finalists will be selected from the essays and interviewed by a panel of judges at New-Mac's Neosho



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86
Neosho, Missouri 64850

Telephone: 417/451-1515 800/322-3849

Fax: 417/451-9042

Pay-by-Phone: 855/874-5348

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
Controller..... Lisa McMeen
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 Sprengle
District 7 Maurice Mailes
District 8 Jason Ruddick
District 9 Jamey Cope

Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

- Automated Phone Payment**
- Automated Withdrawal Payment**
- Green Power**
- Levelized Billing**
- Online Payment & Usage History**
- Rental Light**
- Meeting rooms available at both locations**
- Credit Card Acceptance**
- Safety Programs (upon request)**
- Surge Protection**

Questions? Comments?

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

office. The top two winners will attend Youth Tour, June 9-15, in Washington D.C. The third- and fourth-place participants will take part in CYCLE July 12-14 in Jefferson City.

New-Mac first made this contest available in 2016. Lani Ogle of Sarcoxie High School was selected to go to Washington D.C., and Sarah Hill from Seneca received the CYCLE trip. Both young ladies represented the cooperative admirably and came away with enjoyable, educational and friendship-forming experiences.

If you have additional questions about the contest, call our member services department at 417-451-1515 or 800-322-3849.