


# COOS-CURRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. ..... FOR MEMBERS ONLY



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
*The power of human connections®*

**November/December  
2010**

## Contact Us

### Port Orford

541-332-3931

### Coquille

541-396-3118

### Gold Beach

541-247-6638

### Brookings

541-469-2103

### After Hours

### Emergency and Outage

866-352-9044

### Call B4 You Dig

811

[www.ccec.coop](http://www.ccec.coop)

### Office Hours

7:00 AM—5:30 PM

Monday—Thursday

Closed Fridays and Holidays

## From General Manager/CEO Roger Meader

We've made a lot of changes over the past year in our efforts to be the best electric service provider around. We've raised the bar, so to speak, and we're constantly on the lookout for ways we may raise it even more. The one improvement I'd like to mention in this month's newsletter is the Member Services Portal (MSP) because I believe many of you will find the new portal a real convenience and value-added product.

In a survey we conducted earlier this year, we learned that over 70 percent of you are now on-line. The number of members using the On-Line Bill Presentment feature available through our website at [www.ccec.coop](http://www.ccec.coop) has grown accordingly.

The new MSP will do more — much more — than the bill presentment feature we had. Now, you will be able to check the local weather, sign up for the Round Up program to help your neighbors and friends pay their power bills, sign up for paperless billing, budget billing or automatic payments. Worried about what really happens in cyberspace? No need to anymore with the new MSP. If you sign up for Alerts and Reminders, you will receive a notification if the payment doesn't go through as expected or when a new bill is produced — even if it's a paperless one.

We have even more in store for you. With the next software upgrade our vendor is now testing and has scheduled for release next spring, we will be offering a Meter Data Management (MDM) console. The MDM will have your daily energy consumption, which will give you additional tools to save energy — and money.

I hope you'll check out the new MSP. And, let me know what you think. If something isn't working the way you think it should, and we are able to make improvements, we most definitely will. We're not interested in just selling you electricity, we want to find ways to add value to your daily lives.

## DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER?

There are times when we need to contact you. Perhaps your payment didn't reach us. Or, we may have a scheduled outage and we want to call those affected ahead of time. Don't assume we have your most current information on file. It will only take a minute of your time to give us a call and make sure. We strive to provide excellent service — but we need your help too. Thank you for helping us provide the best service possible!



Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup>  
Cooperatives

Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative (CCEC) has been offering a variety of member rebate programs since early 2006. The programs are part of the Conservation Rate Credit (CRC) and your Board of Directors has approved multiple programs; all part of the Bonneville Power Administration's portfolio of programs.

The rebate programs have very specific fiscal year time lines that CCEC must comply with. For example, the 2006 CRC was a three-year program which ended on September 30, 2009. On October 1, 2009, a new two-year CRC program began. There were many changes to the programs; qualifying measures, eligibility and documentation requirements, and incentive amounts.

For each program year, CCEC has worked diligently to keep our rebate program forms current and up to date. We know there are still many old forms floating around out there, but we will only accept the latest revised forms; available online and in each office.

The current forms are valid from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2011. CCEC will no longer provide any incentive for items purchased or installed before October 1, 2009 nor will we accept any old rebate forms. Again, the reason for this has to do with significant program changes.

Please contact any local office or visit us online at [www.ccec.coop](http://www.ccec.coop) for up to date information or to ask us questions about the current rebate programs.

## TOGETHER WE SAVE — DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Holidays are a festive time of the year with gifts, fun decorations, family visits and lots of laughter. But they can also ring in extra energy use for heating, decorative lights and more. So, what steps can you take to make sure the holidays don't leave a surprise "gift" on your next electric bill?

One of the most popular ways to save energy without dimming holiday cheer is switching to light-emitting diode (LED) holiday lights. These long-lasting and energy efficient lights have been used for years in vehicles to let you know when you're low on gas or need an oil change. Over the past few years, prices have dropped low enough to make these bulbs cost-effective for decorative use.

On the plus side, LEDs last longer than traditional incandescent lights. They run cool and colors don't fade over time. Best of all, they use about a tenth of the energy for the same amount of light.

Per string, LEDs can be a bit more expensive than incandescents. Depending on the size of bulb you prefer — up to \$40 or more to outfit a tree, according to Consumer Reports. But over time, the higher investment pays off. When Consumer Reports compared LEDs and incandescent holiday lights in 2007, they found LEDs use between 1 and 3 kilowatt hours (kWh) of energy compared to between 12 to 105 kWh for traditional lights. This translates into a savings of up to \$11 every year. Because LEDs are more durable, lasting more than 4,000 hours while incandescent bulbs burn out by the 2,000 hour mark, the initial investment pays dividends over the long haul.

Whether or not you fork out extra bucks to switch to LEDs, it's a good idea to turn off your holiday lights before you go to bed. Consider installing timers to reduce the amount of time your holiday lights are on. Just 10 incandescent strands lit for 13 hours a day can easily add more than \$50 to an electric bill. Limit light displays to no more than 6 hours nightly.

Lights aren't the only holiday addition impacting your electric bill — family guests add to your costs too. Extra guests translate into extra water to heat for hot showers. Consider installing low-flow showerheads to reduce the amount of water used and try to keep showers to 6 minutes or less. And, because everyone wants to stay toasty during colder holiday months, heating usually accounts for the lion's share of cold-weather energy costs. Make sure to set your thermostat as low as comfort permits. Each degree above 68 degrees adds 2 percent to 3 percent to the amount of energy needed to heat your home.

To learn more about ways to cut home energy use and save money on your electric bill, visit [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

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