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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

All Together Now

We're counting on you to put tips in handy booklet to good use

IN THE CENTER OF THIS MONTH'S MAGAZINE, you'll find a booklet, *101 Easy Ways to Save Energy and Money*.

It's part of a comprehensive national energy-efficiency campaign, Together We Save, rolled out simultaneously across 46 states by Pee Dee Electric Cooperative and other Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. Together We Save is a multi-faceted, multimedia approach to showing co-op members how little changes can add up to big savings.



Think of the *101 Easy Ways* booklet as the CliffsNotes version of the campaign.

101 Easy Ways condenses many of the key recommendations of Together We Save into 12 informative pages that you can pull out and put to use right away. Some tips are seasonal, so keep your copy handy for reference throughout the year.

Thought into action

What we're showing is how simple these energy-saving techniques are. The key, however, is for you to go from just thinking about changing habits to actually taking action.

Most tips are very easy to act on: Tip 41, for instance, is "Turn off unnecessary lighting." Some might need a little explaining. Tips 64-67, for example, recommend caulking, which can be sticky business if you've never done it. Never fear. Help is just a few clicks away. Go to TogetherWeSave.com, the campaign's website, for "Watch and Learn" videos on energy audits, lighting, sealing and insulation and more. The video "Seal the Deal"

covers caulking.

TogetherWeSave.com also offers more than a dozen interactive applications linked to a virtual home tour. By the way, you can access TogetherWeSave.com through a link on our site, PeeDeeElectric.com.

Adding value

101 Easy Ways and TogetherWeSave.com add value to your membership in Pee Dee Electric. Another way the Touchstone Energy brand adds value is with SiteAcrossAmerica.com, which promotes available industrial sites in areas served by co-ops such as ours.

The brand represents a nationwide alliance of more than 700 independent consumer-owned electric co-ops. Touchstone Energy co-ops collectively deliver power and energy solutions to more than 40 million members every day. We're proud to be in that number.

Now, we're counting on you to put these 101 easy tips to work in your home or business.

E. LeRoy "Toy" Nettles Jr.

President and Chief Executive Officer



Capital Credits Allocation Look for your check in early October

REVENUE RECEIVED BY PDEC OVER THE ACTUAL OPERATING expenses is returned to member-owners as capital credits. This money is a result of constant adherence to prudent, sound management practices. Capital credits are returned to member-owners based on a schedule determined by the Board of Trustees.

For the year 2009, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative allocated \$6,893,703.10 back to member-owners. A residential



member-owner using an average of 1,200 kWhs per month was allocated \$183.51 for 2009. This is

approximately 10.2 percent of the amount the member-owner paid for electricity in 2009.

Capital credit checks for previous years' allocations will be issued in early October of 2010. This is just one of the many benefits of being a member-owner of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Green Power sales up at PDEC and across U.S.

GREEN POWER SALES ARE UP AT PEE DEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, thanks to member support, and that growth reflects a national trend.

Nationwide, utility sales of power generated from renewable resources exceeded 6 billion kilowatt-hours in 2009 – a jump of about 20 percent from 2008 – according to the latest annual assessment of utility renewable energy programs released by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

Locally, a total of 230 residential members of Pee Dee Electric purchased Green Power in May. That's up from the sum of residential members in January 2008. Residential Green Power supporters purchased 332 100-kilowatt-hour

(kwh) blocks of Green Power in May, up from 281 blocks in January 2008. PDEC also has commercial and industrial participants, which purchased a total of 62 blocks of Green Power in May, up an amazing 268% from January 2008.

Pee Dee Electric Cooperative offers Green Power in cooperation with Santee Cooper, the state-owned utility and chief power supplier for co-ops statewide. Santee Cooper generates Green Power at five landfill generation plants around South Carolina. Naturally occurring methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is captured for use as fuel. Green Power facilities are, in general, more expensive to install than power plants that generate electricity using traditional fuel sources such as coal.

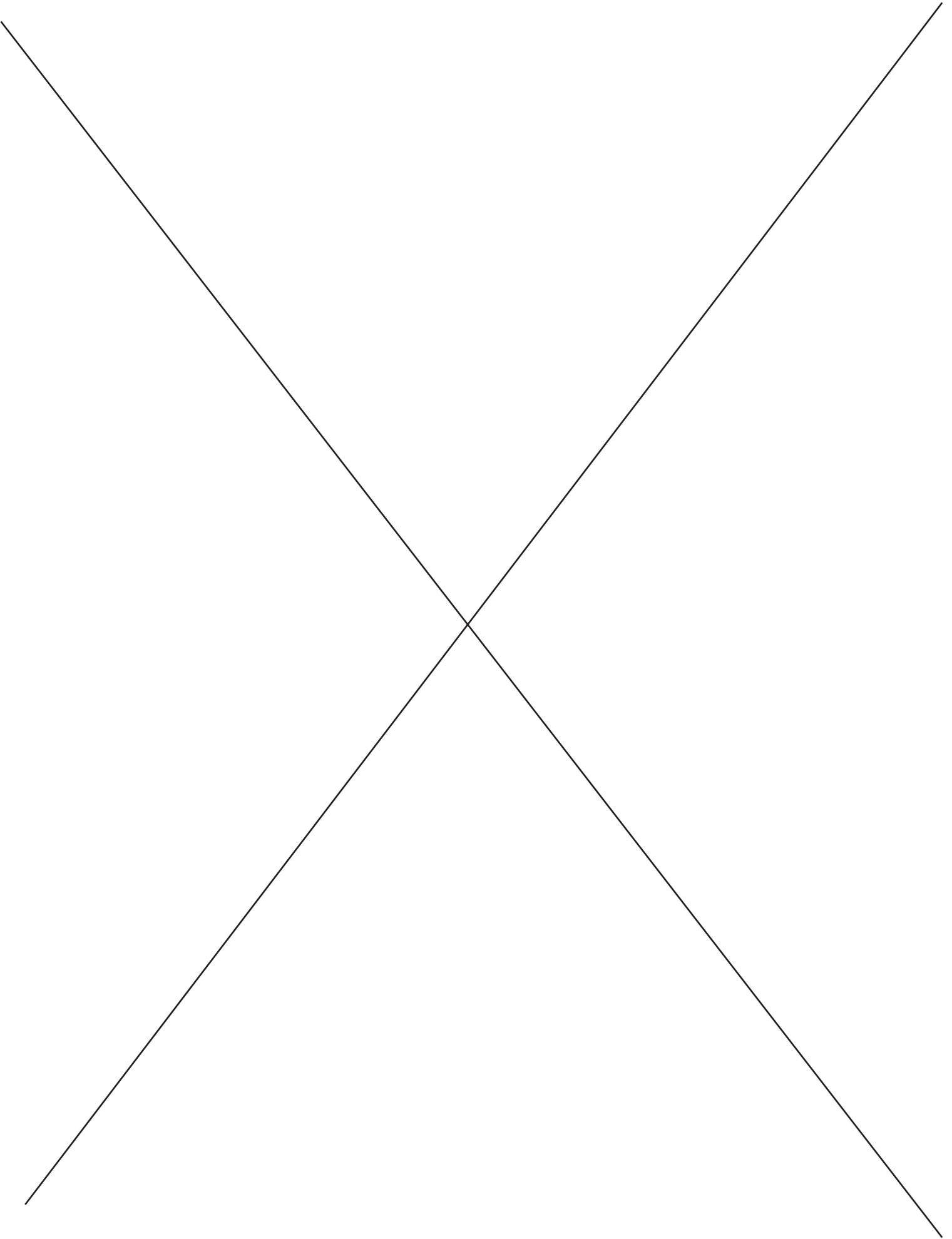


One of the five landfill electricity generation plants around South Carolina built by Santee Cooper. Methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is captured from the landfill and used as fuel to power the generators that produce the electricity. At this time, it is more expensive to install this kind of facility than traditional power plants. However, this could change over time.

To support the Green Power effort, call Pee Dee Electric at 843-665-4070 or toll free 866-747-0060. Each block of Green Power will add \$3 to a residential supporter's monthly bill or \$6 for commercial and industrial supporters.

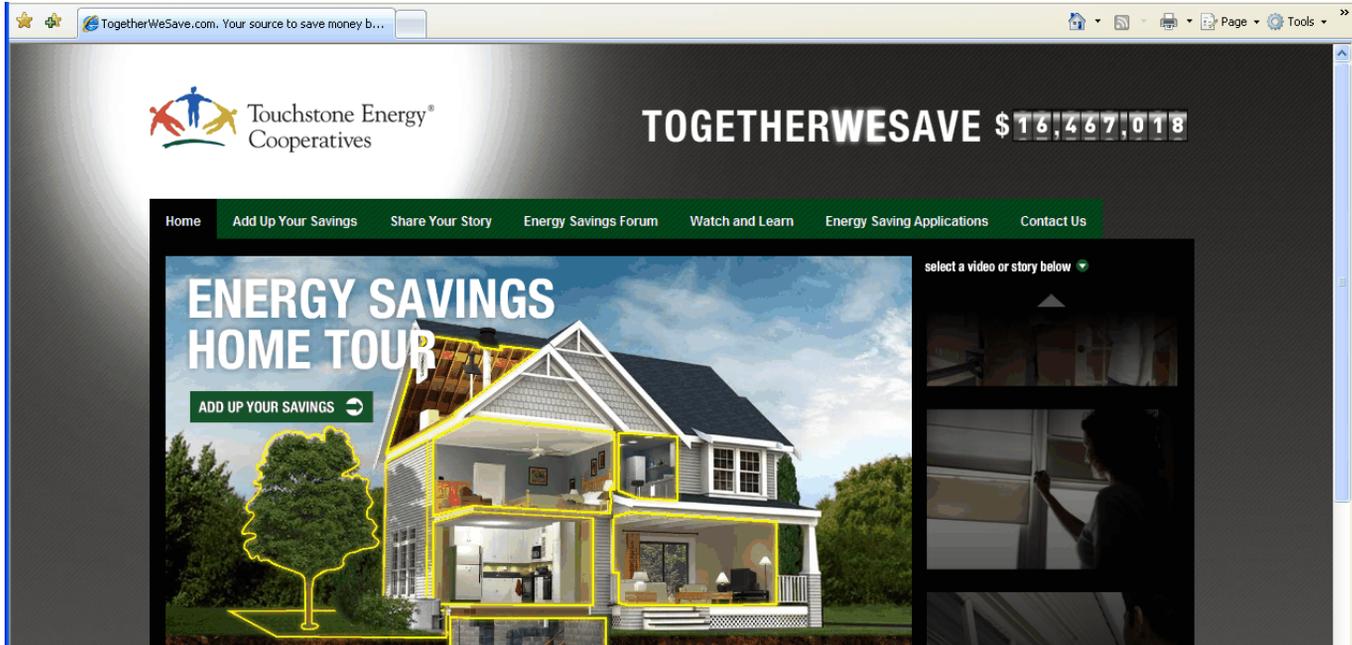
Pee Dee Electric Green Power offering is part of the on-going "Growing Green Together" initiative.





TogetherWeSave.com

Now More Interactive



Two new sections on TogetherWeSave.com lend a social media aspect to the site and give co-op members additional tools to help them save energy.

“Share Your Story” invites users to post individual energy- and money-saving success stories to the site. “Energy Savings Forum” allows users to submit questions to Touchstone Energy’s team of energy experts. Questions and answers are then posted to the section so all visitors can benefit from the expertise.

The sections are user-friendly and self-explanatory. One, the Energy Savings Forum, engages members in energy-saving dialogue. Members can select a topic to find energy-saving tips

I SAVED BY INSTALLING CFL BULBS WHEN THE OLD-STYLE BULBS BURNT OUT

Steve submitted on 08.04.10

OLD BULBS: Cost \$1 each (at 3 bulbs / year = \$3.00 / yr)
Last 4 months before replacement.

NEW CFL's: Cost \$2.50 each (2.5 times more expensive).
Last over 24 months (6 times longer).

RESULTS:

1. CFL's are cheaper to install (on average).
2. CFL's last 6 times longer.
3. CFL's use 1/4 the amount of energy.
4. Less time is spent on purchase and replacement.

from Touchstone Energy co-op members or submit their own suggestions.

Informally known as the place “Where experts and weekend warriors compare notes,” the forum gives co-op members a chance to “Share Your Story”—and, sometimes, flashes of wit! For instance, a member named Tim completed the sentence, “I Save Energy by...” adding, “sending my daughters to college. Amazing what it can do to your electric bill... bank account is another story.”

Access TogetherWeSave.com through a link on our website, PeeDeeElectric.com.

PEE DEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TOGETHERWE

Home Add Up Your Savings Share Your Story Energy Savings Forum Watch and Learn Energy S

AIR COND. 05/16/10

DEAR SIR, MY QUESTION IS ABOUT THE AIR COND. IS IT BETTER TO TURN IT OFF AND LEAVE FOR THE DAY AND TURN IT BACK ON WHEN YOU COME HOME, OR LEAVE THE TIME SET ON 75-77 PLEASE TELL WHICH IS BETTER AND WILL KEEP THE THANK YOU 😊

- Sandra

REPLIES:

tws_coops - 05/17/10

UNTITLED POST

Thanks for your question about whether it is best to turn off your air conditioner when you leave for the day or 77 F all the time.

Jeff's Tips

by
Jeff Singletary
PDEC Energy Expert



On a hot July afternoon, coming in from picking vegetables in the garden or coming home after a round of golf, it sure feels good to enter a home with nice, cool, air-conditioning.

We keep stressing you should leave the thermostat on 78 degrees to save money on your power bill. 78 sounds warm, but come from 92 - 94 degree weather into 78 degrees and it feels as cool as a cucumber in a shady, fast flowing, mountain stream.

If central cooling is not practical for your situation, an energy-efficient, ENERGY STAR rated room air conditioner can keep you and your family comfortable during these hot summer days. And, save you 10%!

I am often asked (especially this time of year), "What size room air conditioner do I need for my home?" Sometimes, I hear, "My kitchen and family room is 250 square feet. How big should my room A/C be?"



You have to take more into consideration than square footage. You need to consider the number of windows, ceiling height, insulation, does the midday sun shine on the longest wall.

A room air conditioner can keep a room cool and

BTU stands for British Thermal Unit. It is the amount of heat required to raise 1 lb. of water's temperature 1° F. A BTU is approximately the amount of heat released by burning one, wooden kitchen match. One ton of cooling equals 12,000 BTUs per hour.

humidified at the same time. But don't just rush out and buy one without figuring the size you need. The cooling capacity of a unit is measured in BTUs. Generally, the more BTUs, the more space it can cool. And, of course, the larger the room, the more BTU's you'll need. A general rule of thumb is 12,000 BTUs per every 750 sq ft in a well insulated home with high quality windows and doors or 12,000 BTUs for every 550 sq ft for a poorly insulated home with low quality windows and doors. Try to install the unit in a location so the cool air can blow the longest distance.

Careful, if you buy a room unit that is too big, it will start and stop too much. This will not only waste energy, but your room won't be properly dehumidified. You'll end up with wet windows and that can lead to mold and mildew. And a real mess!

On the other hand, an

air conditioner that is too small for your room will run too much. If the unit doesn't have enough BTUs, the room never will become cool and comfortable.

Texaco used to have a motto, "You can trust your car to the man who wears the star." Today, you can definitely Trust your Appliance if it Wears the Star - the ENERGY STAR!

Call with questions: 843-665-4070 or 866-747-0060.

If every room air conditioner sold were ENERGY STAR qualified, it would prevent 800 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions annually, equivalent to the emissions of more than 66,000 cars.

To run as a petition candidate for trustee at the 71st Annual Meeting, a member must use an Official Petition Form. Forms are available weekdays at the PDEC corporate headquarters. Completed Forms will be accepted at 1355 East McIver Road, Darlington until 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 20, 2010.

Preventing Heat-Related Illness

July, August and September are, historically, the hottest months of the year. With most people living in air conditioned homes and working in air conditioned environments, we have become more susceptible to heat and humidity. It's fun to be outside, but there are times when it's dangerous. The best defense against heat-related illnesses is prevention. Here are some common-sense tips:

▶ Drink more fluids (nonalcoholic), regardless of your activity level. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink. **Warning:** If your doctor generally limits the amount of fluid you drink or has you on water pills, ask him how much you should drink while the weather is hot.

▶ Don't drink liquids that contain alcohol or large amounts of sugar—these actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also, avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps.

▶ Stay indoors and, if at all possible, stay in an air-conditioned place. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library—even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area.

▶ Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, fans will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath, or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.

▶ Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

▶ NEVER leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle.

▶ Although any one at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others. Check regularly on:

- Infants and young children
- People aged 65 or older
- People who have a mental illness
- Those who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure

▶ If you must be out in the heat:

- Limit your outdoor activity to morning and evening hours.
- Cut down on exercise. If you must exercise, drink two to four glasses of cool, nonalcoholic fluids each hour. A sports beverage can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat. **Warning:** If you are on a low-salt diet, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage.
- Try to rest often in shady areas.
- Protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat (also keeps you cooler) and sunglasses and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher (the most effective products say “broad spectrum” or “UVA/UVB protection” on their labels).



3 ways to pay your energy bill!



Easy sign up online at PeeDeeElectric.com.
We'll notify you when your bill is due.

Pay By Phone Use credit card or check. Call 843-665-4070.

MoneyGram Locations include CVS, Walmart, etc.



REPORT OUTAGES:

843-665-4070

TOLL FREE

866-747-0060

Save Gas! Save Time!