



Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Featured above: Nolin RECC Vice President Office Services
Cheryl Thomas, 22 years of service

News you can use

Climate change debate to continue in 2010

As we enter a new year, it's still not certain what direction pending federal legislation designed to limit greenhouse gas emissions will take.

Congress is considering various options for the so-called "cap and trade" bill—but any new laws it passes will almost certainly raise electric bills for the average Kentucky household.

The pending legislation is intended to limit greenhouse gases and would particularly affect utilities that produce power from coal-fired plants. Kentucky, of course, is blessed with an abundance of coal, and as a result enjoys some of the nation's lowest electricity rates. Those low rates are a benefit to our residents and an attraction to major industries.

But in July 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives approved

the Waxman-Markey bill, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions 17 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050. In September, a similar bill, the Kerry-Boxer bill, was introduced in the U.S. Senate. It would require a 20 percent reduction by 2020.

Both bills would begin limiting emissions in 2012. To become law, both houses must agree on a bill and it must be signed by the president. That's not likely to happen until later this year or even in 2011. And any bill signed into law will probably be substantially different from the proposals now before Congress.

Still, if carbon-control legislation passes, Kentucky is expected to suffer one of the largest increases in electric costs of any state—perhaps several hundred dollars a year for Nolin residential members.

I'm very concerned about the affordability of electricity, especially when it comes to Nolin members having to pay hundreds of dollars more a year. Your co-op works hard to maintain reasonable and affordable rates, but I fear current climate change legislation will create burdens on all of us in the near future!

What can we all do to help ourselves? Join with me and thousands of Nolin members and make your voice heard by contacting our legislators through a national campaign called "Our Energy, Our Future." Please ask our nation's leaders to fight for a bill that is fair, affordable, and achievable.

To join this effort, please go to www.ourenergy.coop. Just click where it says "Join the campaign." For those who don't have Internet service, please call Nolin RECC and ask us to voice your concerns to Congress.



Nolin RECC President & CEO Mickey Miller (right) greets council member Mike Byers at a recent Member Advisory Council meeting. Climate change legislation was the primary topic at the meeting held at Nolin RECC.

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Keep Out the Cold with Weatherstripping

No mistaking it: winter has arrived. Any drafts around doors and windows that went unnoticed during the fall are now downright uncomfortable—and adding to your energy bills.

Weatherstripping offers a relatively quick fix for drafty doors. To determine if a door leading out of your house needs new weatherstripping, look for daylight. If even a sliver of daylight remains visible between the door and its frame or the floor, add weatherstripping.

Next, shut the door or window on a piece of paper. If you can pull the paper out without tearing it, you're losing energy.

There are a variety of weatherstripping materials available, each good for fitting different types of door and window frames. Most are made of rubber, foam, metal, vinyl, or a combination of materials. To determine the right

item for the job, check the area: if any old, worn material has been previously installed, take a sample to your local hardware store or expert like a contractor. If no material exists as a guide, make detailed notes about the type of gap and how the door or window is installed—someone at the hardware store or your expert should be able to make a recommendation for you.

Once you have the proper materials for the job, consult any instructions that may be on the weatherstripping package. Installation techniques range from simple to technical, depending on the type of material being used. If replacing old, worn weatherstripping, be sure to note how it was installed as you remove it.

Here are a few basic guidelines:

- Weatherstripping should be applied to clean, dry surfaces in temperatures above 20°F.
- Measure the area to be weather-

stripped twice before you cut anything.

- Apply weatherstripping snugly against both surfaces. The material should compress when the window or door is shut.

When weatherstripping doors:

- Choose the appropriate door sweeps and thresholds.
- Weatherstrip the entire door jamb.
- Apply one continuous strip along each side.
- Make sure the weatherstripping meets tightly at the corners.
- Use a thickness that causes the weatherstripping to tightly press between the door and the door jamb, without making it difficult to shut.

When weatherstripping windows:

- Apply weatherstripping between the sash and frame.
- The weatherstripping shouldn't interfere with the operation of the window.

Weatherstripping Basics

While you should always consult specific instructions on weatherstripping packages, here are some basic facts to keep in mind.

- 1** Weatherstripping should be applied to clean, dry surfaces in temperatures above 20°F.
- 2** Measure the area to be weatherstripped twice before you cut anything.
- 3** Apply weatherstripping snugly against both surfaces. The material should compress when the window or door is shut.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association





**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Call 811 before you dig

Planning a home improvement job? Working on landscaping, or maybe installing a fence? Be sure to call 811 before you dig.

Nolin RECC has partnered with the 811 service, and any co-op member who needs to locate underground electric service or other utilities should call 811, which is the national "Call before U Dig" call center. 811 is a toll-free number.

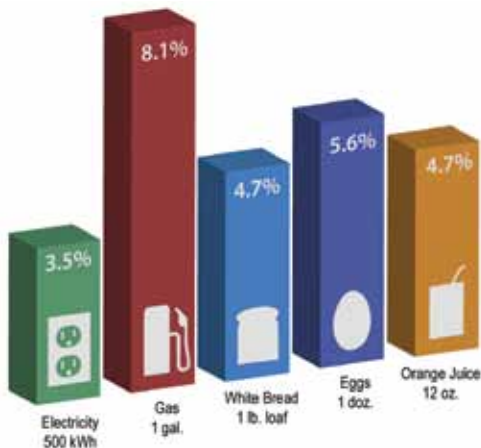
For your safety and to avoid service interruptions, it is important to locate utilities before you dig by calling 811. When you call, be prepared to provide the following information:

- Your name
- Address where digging or excavating will be done
- Telephone numbers to reach you
- Directions to the property.

For more information, you can visit www.call811.com or call (800) 752-6007.

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Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; NRECA

Average annual price increase over the past decade

Electricity Remains a Good Value

Electricity continues to be a bargain, especially when compared to other consumer goods. As demand for energy rises and fuel prices increase, your electric cooperative is committed to providing safe electricity at the lowest possible cost.

Students learn from APES

An exercise in free enterprise



These students achieved the highest test scores throughout the seminar and will travel to Lexington to earn a chance to compete for cash awards and college scholarships, and a trip to the National Institute on Cooperative Education in Knoxville, TN. They are (left to right) Cara Hardesty (John Hardin), Hannah Swartz (John Hardin), Meghan DeAmaral (Ft. Knox), Garrett Gabhart (E-town), Rachel Ball (Central Hardin), and Robert Meekins (Central Hardin).

Last November, 44 local students participated in a two-day education seminar that allowed them to learn about corporations, cooperatives, individually owned businesses, legal aspects of doing business, and diversity. This group of elite students consistently scored high on quizzes and a final exam and at the end of the program, six of the teens were awarded a trip to the State Youth Seminar in Lexington this June.

APES, which stands for American Private Enterprise Systems, offers students from each Hardin County High School (E-town High, Fort Knox, North, Central, and John Hardin), as well as two students from the home school sector, to come together at an off-site location to learn about business and the free enterprise system. This program has been around more than 35 years, and has gained a reputation among students as being one

of the top five things to put on a resumé.

Nolin RECC has been a sponsor of the Hardin County, as well as LaRue County, APES program since they began. Electric cooperatives throughout Kentucky are helping to sponsor APES programs in about 35 different counties.

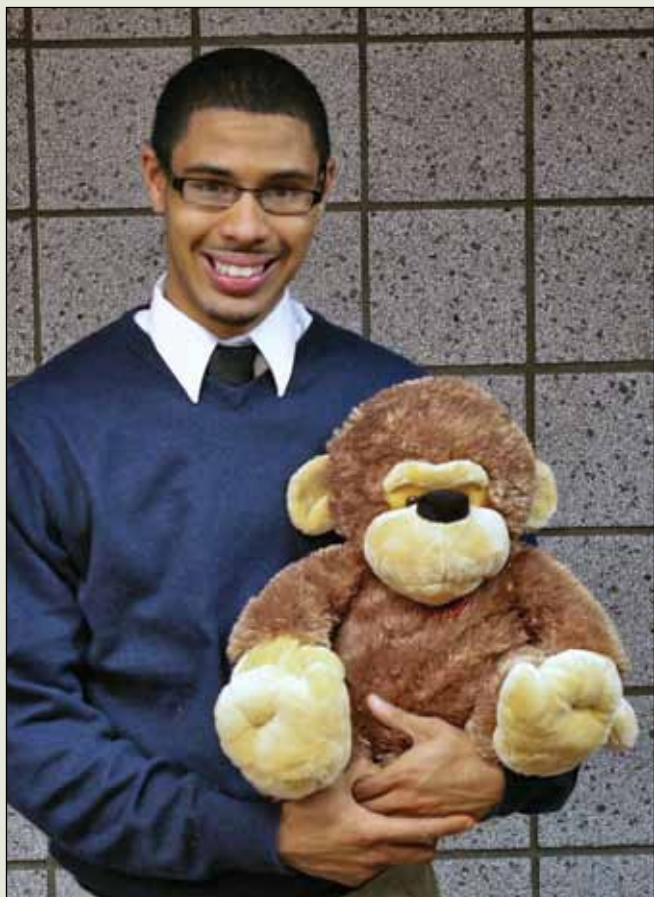
APES also offers youth motivation and self-confidence. The teens are encouraged to network with students from other schools as they work together in groups. One popular exercise is the board case studies. This session allow participants to resolve some real-life issues that may arise in a business. Boards present their dilemma and resolution to their peers and must face opposing boards as they explain and support their decisions during the debate session.

Clark Jewelers has been providing watches for more than 35 years to the outstanding young female and male at

the conference. That adds up to a lot of watches throughout the years! The Clark family is greatly appreciated for their support and generosity to the APES program.

Many community leaders volunteer their time to speak to the APES students. Presenters this year included John Scott, Eric Brandenburg, Tim Goblirsch, Wm. Steve Wright, Michael Coyle, Trooper Bruce Reeves, and Patsy Whitehead. Without the support of our local community, APES would not be possible. The program is totally supported by business in Hardin County, including Nolin RECC, Clark Jewelers, Coca-Cola of Elizabethtown, Magnolia Bank, Don Pierce & Associates, Hardin County AM Rotary Club, First Federal Savings Bank, and the Hardin County Cooperative Extension Service.

A special thanks to Zaxby's for sponsoring lunch the first day of the seminar!



Taking home the seminar's mascot is always a special treat for one of the APES students. Andrew Stewart, left, from North Hardin High School was selected by his peers to keep the class monkey!



Clark Jewelers has traditionally donated watches to the outstanding young male and female participants of APES. A special thank you goes to Clark Jewelers from two remarkable students, Meghan DeAmaral and Garrett Gabhart, above. In addition, her peers awarded Meghan DeAmaral with the People's Choice Award.

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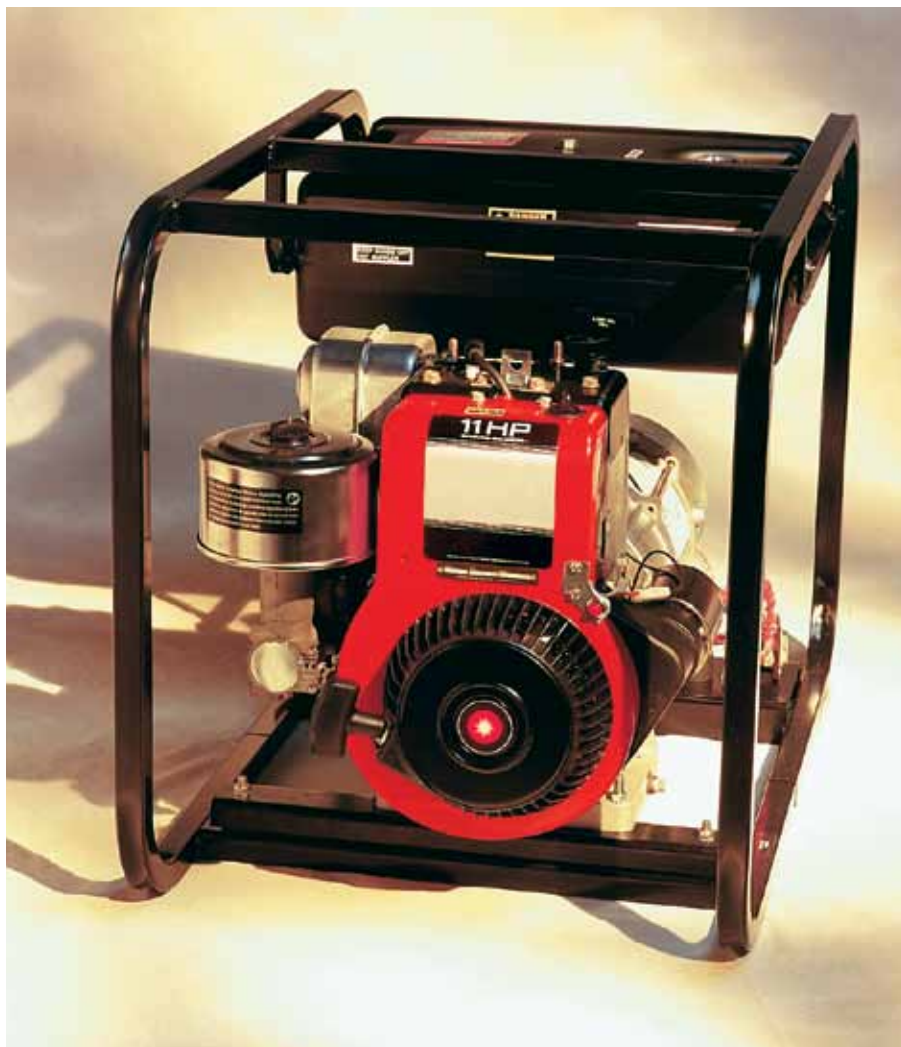


Elizabethtown Community and Technical College professor Michael Coyle (right) does an excellent job of speaking to the APES students about bias in the workplace and school. During his presentation, Mr. Coyle encourages students to write down thoughts associated with stereotypes. At the conclusion of his lesson, students tear down the sheets and rip the harsh words into pieces!

Don't GENERATE Danger

When the power goes out, a portable generator can make life a lot easier. But if it's used improperly, that generator can make life a lot more dangerous! Keep these tips in mind when you're using a portable generator.

- ◆ Plug individual appliances into the generator using heavy-duty, outdoor-rated cords with a wire gauge adequate for the appliance load.
- ◆ Observe the generator manufacturer's instructions for safe operations.
- ◆ Do not plug the generator into a wall outlet.
- ◆ If connecting the generator into the house wiring is necessary, first contact Nolin RECC for information on code compliance, then have a qualified electrician hook up the stand-by electrical system.
- ◆ Never use a generator indoors or in attached garages.
- ◆ Only operate the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated dry area, away from air intakes to the home, and protected from direct exposure to rain and snow, preferably

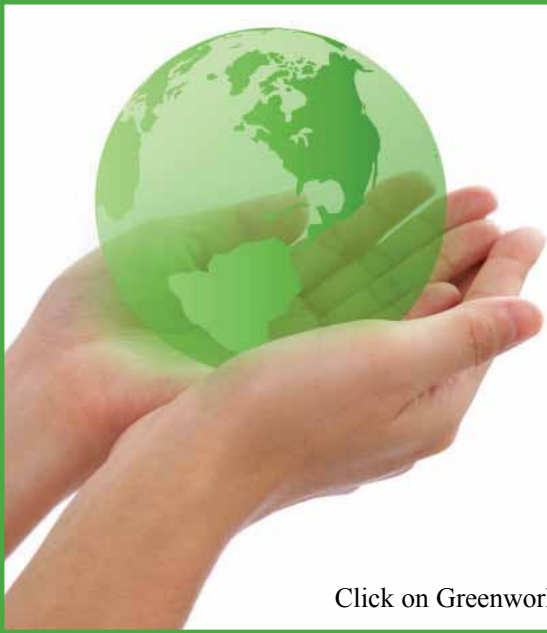


under a canopy, open shed, or carport.

- ◆ Never store gasoline in the home. Gasoline, kerosene, and other flammable liquids should be stored outside of living areas in properly labeled, non-glass safety containers. They also should not be stored in an area near a fuel-burning appliance: the vapor from gasoline can travel invisibly along the ground and be ignited by pilot

lights or arcs caused by activating electric switches.

- ◆ If the generator is connected directly to the house wiring, disconnect your house from the electric power system by turning off the main breaker or removing the main fuse. This will protect your cooperative's workers from being shocked by power from your generator while doing repairs to the line.



*When it comes to clean and green,
we're hands on.*

Greenworks is about an on-going commitment to environmental stewardship. It's about being the state's largest generator of renewable energy, using clean coal technology and reducing emissions. It's about offering energy efficiency programs and finding more earth-friendly alternative fuels.



Click on Greenworks on your local cooperative's website or go to www.greenworks.coop

College Scholarships through Nolin



Nolin RECC awards six college scholarships of \$1,000 each to graduating seniors and another to an adult going back to school after spending time in the work force or after raising a family.

Why not take advantage of this opportunity your cooperative offers to its members by completing an application and returning it to the Nolin RECC office by March 31. Visit our Web site at www.nolinrecc.com or call (270) 765-6153 for an application.

Amy Florek is a 2009 graduate of North Hardin High School. She is currently taking advantage of her \$1,000 Nolin RECC scholarship by attending the Louisville Speed School of Engineering.

03-19-0566-00

Nolin power supplier adds new renewable power plant

At the end of 2009, Nolin's power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), launched operation of its sixth renewable energy plant. The new plant, in Maysville, generates clean, renewable electricity from methane produced by decaying municipal waste.

East Kentucky Power Cooperative is a not-for-profit cooperative based in Winchester. EKPC is a generation and transmission utility and was formed by member cooperatives such as Nolin RECC.

The Maysville plant creates electricity from gas produced by the decay of waste

in the Maysville-Mason County Landfill. It will eliminate 3,187 tons of methane and 8,756 tons of carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere. It can generate enough electricity to supply about 880 Kentucky homes.

East Kentucky Power Cooperative has previously established five other landfill gas plants, in Walton, Grayson, London, Elizabethtown, and Falmouth. The Elizabethtown plant, Pearl Hollow Landfill, generates enough capacity for 8,000 homes.

We've Got Your \$25 Number! \$25

WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity

Nolin News features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are two randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and win a **\$25 CREDIT on your electric bill**. You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Margie J. Larsen**, of **Elizabethtown**.

Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at **www.nolinrecc.com**. Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."



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HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (270) 769-6396

EMERGENCY TOLL-FREE CALLS — 1-800-572-1147

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