



*Tim Stewart*  
CEO / General Manager

# Annual Meeting Time

## Wednesday, April 8, 2009

**B**oy, it sure seemed that 2008 just zipped by, and here we are already in the new year with the annual meeting just around the corner. Wednesday, April 8, 2009, is the date set for our 72nd Annual

Meeting, to be held at the American Legion Hall in Loyal, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Early bird prizes will be drawn at that time and winners announced following adjournment. There will be door prizes for members in attendance and a great lunch served around noon.

The annual meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, and elect their representatives to serve on the board of directors. We are fortunate to have Mr. Bob Mueller, VP finance & administration from Dairyland Power Cooperative, as our guest speaker.

The members will be asked to elect three directors, for three-year terms. Director terms expiring this year are Charles (Chuck) Bena from the Mead Township area, Anthony (Tony) Jarocki from Withee Township area, and Howard Schultz from the Pine Valley Township area. All incumbents are eligible for re-election. Nominations are taken from the floor of the meeting. The cooperative's by-laws establish the minimum qualifications for a director. A copy of the bylaws are available on the cooperative's web site at [www.ccecoop.com](http://www.ccecoop.com) or by contacting the business office at 715-267-6188.

In addition, directors are expected to attend monthly board meetings; represent the cooperative in state, regional, and national affairs; and take advantage of NRECA educational opportunities such as classes, seminars, and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry as a whole.

In addition to these activities, you have the opportunity to participate in Dairyland Power Cooperative's annual meeting held June 3, 2009. The cooperative is seeking 11 delegates and four alternates to represent Clark Electric Cooperative at the Dairyland meeting. If you would like to represent Clark Electric Cooperative at this meeting, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, by Wednesday, April 1, 2009.

So come, enjoy a nice meal, register for door prizes, and help conduct the business of your electric utility. I hope to see you April 8, 2009, at the Legion Hall in Loyal. ■

*Tim Stewart*  
CEO / General Manager

## Daylight Savings Time Change

If you're on our Time-of-Day Rate you most likely have a time clock controlling devices. You must remember to switch the time clock back to Daylight Savings Sunday, March 8, 2009.

It is important that your time clocks are reset. If you don't make these changes, you could end up having a higher-than-normal electric bill.

Clark Electric Cooperative's Time-of-Day rate can save you money on your electric bill; however, you must be willing and able to shift your electric usage around so that you can utilize the lower cost of electricity.

For more information on incentive rates such as Time-of-Day or special heating rates, contact our office.

**Move your clock forward one hour on March 8, 2009**



**R**epresentatives from Focus on energy will be at the annual meeting to answer questions that you may have about their programs.

# Investments in Efficiency

## Help Deliver Strong Returns For Consumers

In today's troubled economic climate, people are searching for places to sock away money that offer the promise of a healthy return. While no one can predict when, or if, the stock market will fully recover, crunching a few numbers does show one safe investment alternative: energy efficiency.

Even in good financial times, the annual Wall Street return on stocks averages 14 percent, followed by 4.2 percent for 30-year bonds and 3.5 percent for money market accounts. In comparison, incorporating 10 home efficiency measures carries a 16 percent rate of return, according to the U.S. Department of Energy Home Energy Saver program.

Looking at it another way, the energy bill for a typical American home averages \$1,283 per year, while a home that has purchased and installed ENERGY STAR products spends just \$774. That's a savings of more than \$500 annually, a nice profit for smart and efficiency-savvy investors to take to the bank. Even better, you get to keep the money you save on your electricity bill; normal investment incomes are taxed heavily.

The first two energy efficiency areas to invest in — those with the highest rates of return — are lighting and sealing ducts. Upgrading to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and fixtures in a typical home costs about \$200, but with an annual savings of \$80, the initial investment pays for itself in 2.5 years with a 41 percent rate of return. Proper duct sealing, which can cost up to \$250, pays for itself in 2.6 years and matches lighting's high rate of return.



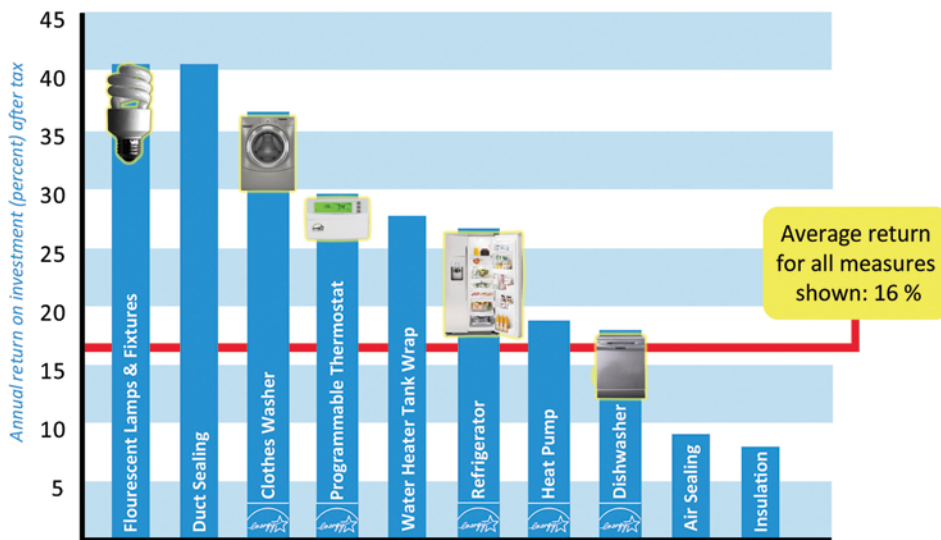
Your next purchase should be an ENERGY STAR front-loading clothes washer. Even though it costs an average of \$194 more than a non-efficient model, you reap a 37 percent rate of return, allowing you to recoup the extra expense in less than three years.

A programmable thermostat provides another boost to your bottom line. With a 30 percent return, it pays for itself through energy savings in 3.7 years.

A water heater tank wrap with an R-12 insulation rating should be your next step; the initial cost of \$85 saves you \$23 every year, offering a 28 percent return on your investment. An ENERGY STAR refrigerator, heat pump, and dishwasher follow with rates of return ranging from 18 percent to 27 percent. Finally, adequate air sealing

### A Solid Investment: Efficiency Upgrades Offer Financial Benefit

Adopting the following 10 energy efficiency measures in a typical home yields nearly \$600 in annual bill savings, providing an average 16 percent return on investment.



 = ENERGY STAR Product

Source: U.S. Department of Energy Home Energy Saver Program

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# MORE LOCAL NEWS

## 2009 Incentives Now Available

The residential incentives for 2009 are below. There are also incentives for commercial and industrial members, which include incentives for farms. All incentives can be

found on our web site, [www.cecoop.com](http://www.cecoop.com). More incentives or rebates can be found on [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com), which is now a partner with Clark Electric Cooperative. ■



## Clark Electric Cooperative 2009 Incentives

### Residential

#### Water Heater Program

Must be controlled with Load Management (LM) Device. If on TOD, LM Device can be on a time clock.

50 Gallon		\$ 50.00
80 - 99 Gallons	Energy Factor .90 or greater	\$ 250.00
100 Gallons or Larger	Energy Factor .85 or greater	\$ 4.00/Gallon

*Water Heaters which do not meet the energy factor rating are still eligible for a \$50 rebate as long as a load control device is installed on the water heater.*



#### Heating & Cooling Program

Central Air Conditioners with SEER 14.0 or Higher  
Air Source Heat Pumps with SEER 14.0 or Higher  
All Ground Source Heat Pumps  
A/C Summer LM Participation (1 time Reward)  
ETS or Comfort Plus Units (off-peak rate)



\$60/ton  
\$120/ton  
\$260/ton  
\$25/controlled Unit  
\$25/kW

#### Lighting Program

Compact Fluorescent Lamps - CFLs	\$2.00/CFL
Large (60 watt or larger) CFLs	\$5.00/CFL
Hard-wired CFLs (Electronic Ballast)	\$5.00/ballast
Light Emitting Diode LED lamps	\$2.00/bulb
LED Holiday Lights (limit 12/account)	\$2.00/string
Electronically Ballasted Fluorescent Fixtures	\$6.50/ballast
Metal Halide Fixtures	\$10.00/fixture
Sodium Fixtures	\$10.00/fixture



#### Energy Star Program - [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

All Appliances must be Energy Star Certified

Clothes Washer	\$50.00
Dish Washer	\$25.00
Refrigerator	\$25.00
Freezer	\$25.00
Room Air Conditioner	\$25.00
Dehumidifier	\$25.00

Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling \$25.00

*When purchased at CEAS Only*



focus on energy

*The power is within you.*

Additional Rebates or Incentives available from Focus on Energy

## Efficiencies

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and increasing wall and attic insulation offer between an 8 percent and 9 percent return.

To find out how you can start investing in your home's efficiency, visit Home Energy Saver at [www.hes.lbl.gov](http://www.hes.lbl.gov). You can learn about local promotions for ENERGY STAR appliances — and save even more — by using the rebate finder at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

Meanwhile, Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives offer several efficiency programs at [www.touchstoneenergysavers.com](http://www.touchstoneenergysavers.com), including Touchstone Energy Home (a set of nationally recognized standards for building efficiency), a Home Energy Savings Guide, a Light Bulb Energy Saver calculator showing how much money you can save by using CFLs, and Seal the Deal, and a do-it-yourself video showing how to effectively seal your home to lower heating and cooling costs. ■



**Our Energy, Our Future**  
A Dialogue With America

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### Energy Efficiency

## Tip of the Month

Use a programmable thermostat to vary your home's temperature based on your schedule. Lower your thermostat when you're not home or at night to save as much as 10 percent on heating and cooling costs!

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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