



Clark Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Tim Stewart,
CEO/Manager

GEOTHERMAL TAX CREDIT REINSTATED

Credit applies to systems installed in 2017 through 2021

Geothermal heat pump tax credits are back. In an extra bit of good news for members who installed a geothermal system last year, the 30 percent federal tax credit for geothermal heat pumps is retroactive to include systems installed on or after Jan. 1, 2017, and extends through 2021.

“Reinstating the geothermal federal tax credit is a big win for consumers. A geothermal heat pump is reliable, low maintenance, and more efficient than a traditional HVAC system,” said Greg Shaw, HVAC manager at Clark Electric Appliance and Satellite.

The tax credit begins to phase-out after two years with a 26 percent tax credit in 2020, and 22 percent credit in 2021. Clark Electric Cooperative members who installed a geothermal

heat pump in 2017 and believe they might be eligible for a renewable energy tax credit, should contact their accountant or tax preparer.

The tax credit was part of the Continuing Resolution spending bill approved by Congress. Since the end of 2016, when geothermal heat pump tax credits expired, groups such as the Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO) and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) have been advocating for the reinstatement.

With the extension of the geothermal tax credit, geothermal heat pumps can become a more financially attainable

option for homeowners, whether they are building a new home or making energy efficiency improvements to an existing home. While geothermal systems are initially more expensive to install than a traditional HVAC system, they are dramatically more efficient, resulting in a typical payback of seven to ten years or less.”

In addition to the tax credits, Rebates are available for members installing a geothermal system on Clark Electric Cooperative lines in 2018. The incentives are posted on our web site at www.cecoop.com or contact Greg Shaw, HVAC manager, for more information.

Investment tax credits (ITC) for geothermal systems

	12/31/18	12/31/19	12/31/20	12/31/21	01/01/22 & beyond
Geothermal Heat Pump (residential)	30%	30%	26%	22%	expired
Geothermal Heat Pump (commercial)	10%	10%	10%	10%	expired

MY CO-OP

How Does Geothermal Heating and Cooling Work?

Geothermal heat pumps tap into the earth's ability to maintain nearly constant temperature, moving heat inside to warm you in the winter and back into the ground to cool you in the summer.

Air temperatures can vary widely during the course of the year but... ground temperatures remain nearly constant at about 45° - 70°F year round

Depending on your building site, the loops can be installed either vertically (as shown) or in a horizontal orientation. With the majority of the heating and cooling capacity coming from the earth and pumped through these loops, the outside air temperature does not affect performance. So even in the cold of winter and peak summer heat, you can expect both comfort and savings on your energy bill.

IN BRIEF

FERC: Wind and Solar Make Up 10 Percent of Nation's Installed Capacity

In its recent Energy Infrastructure Update, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) finds the nation's generation mix growing in size and becoming less carbon-intensive. The agency forecasts 20,600 MW of coal capacity retiring and less than 2,000 MW of new coal generation being built to replace it by the end of 2020. On the other hand, more than 92,000 MW of new natural gas-fired generation will be added from 387 units, with 10,800 MW from 118 units shuttered; nuclear power will see four units and 3,240 MW of new capacity but six reactors and approximately 5,600 MW closed. More than 72,000 MW of new wind generation will come on-line (from 465 turbines) along with 43,500 MW of solar from 1,900-plus systems. In all, about 116,000 MW of new utility-scale renewable energy will be installed over the time frame. FERC noted coal now accounts for almost 24 percent of the United States' available installed capacity while natural gas makes up more than 43 percent; nuclear stands at 9 percent with wind/solar combining for roughly 9.7 percent.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Looking for a fun way to learn about the cooperative difference, develop your leadership skills, and experience life on a college campus? We've got just the event for you! Contact your FFA advisor by May 15 to participate in WECA's annual Youth Leadership Congress!

Clark Electric Cooperative is looking for students from local high schools to represent us at this year's Youth Leadership Congress to be held on the campus of UW-River Falls July 25-27, 2018.

The WECA Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) is a great opportunity for students to develop and enhance their leadership potential. The event is sponsored by UW-River Falls and Wisconsin electric cooperatives and is designed to develop leadership skills while learning the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative business.

The event features leadership seminars lead by nationally acclaimed speakers and presenters focusing on the structure of the cooperative business, developing leadership skills, team-building exercises, and many other fun activities. Join students from your neighboring schools learn what makes the cooperative business model different and successful.

Clark Electric has sponsored students to this event since its inception. We believe in developing the potential of tomorrow's leaders. The YLC is a fun and educational event, designed by students who were elected by their peers at the previous year's conference to serve on the WECA Youth Board.

There is no cost to the student for attending. The registration and travel expenses will be covered by the cooperative. If you are going to be a sophomore or a junior in high school this coming fall and would like to be a sponsored representative for Clark Electric Cooperative, contact your FFA or FBLA advisor. You may also contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, at 715-267-6188 or 1-800-272-6188.

2018 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

Clark Electric is introducing our annual photo contest for members' photos. Winning photos may be used in future newsletters, cooperative publications, or displayed at the cooperative. All entries for the month will be entered into a random drawing for a chance for one of the contestants to win a \$25 Energy Credit to be applied to their electric bill.

Photo Contest Criteria:

- Photos must be taken within the Clark Electric Cooperative service area and surrounding communities.
- Photos should capture life in rural Wisconsin (seasons, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.).
- Photos must have a horizontal (landscape) orientation.
- Photos can be in color or black and white.
- Only high-resolution photos can be used. Photos must be at least 300 dpi.

Contest will run from March 1, 2018, until September 25, 2018; however, submitted photos can be taken outside of this date range.

Photo Entry Options:

- Email to Tracy Nelson, tnelson01@cecoop.com
- Mail to Clark Electric Cooperative, Photo Contest Entry, P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
- Drop off at Clark Electric Cooperative Office – 1209 W Dall Berg Rd., Greenwood, WI.

For a complete set of rules as well as entry form and photo release forms, visit our website, www.cecoop.com.

GIVE YOUR AIR CONDITIONER A SPRING TUNE-UP

Spring is a good time for maintaining your air conditioner. Chances are you welcomed the cooler temperatures when they arrived last fall and turned off your air-conditioning unit without a lot of thought. Now, before you turn it back on again for the season, you'll want to make sure your unit is clean and ready to work properly and efficiently. If you keep the coils of your air conditioner clean, it will improve your comfort and reduce your electricity costs this summer.

Start by inspecting the outdoor condensing unit. The large outdoor coil—it looks like a car radiator—is where heat is dissipated from your home. The fan in the condensing unit has to move a lot of air through the coil, so make sure there are no airflow restrictions around

the unit. Cut nearby grass, shrubs, and branches so they are at least 3 feet away at the side and 5 feet away overhead.

Most condenser coils are loaded with pollen and dust even when you can't see it. The longest a condenser should go without cleaning is two or three years, depending on how much it operates during the summer. If you use your air conditioner for four months or more, annual cleaning is an excellent idea. Turn off the power to the unit and remove any visible grass and lint from the fins and/or louvers with an old hairbrush or whisk broom. Then put on a pair of rubber gloves and spray biodegradable outdoor coil cleaner into the coil. Wait five or 10 minutes and flush the coil with a gentle wash spray.

Your indoor coil might also need cleaning, even though you can't easily see it. If your air conditioner's filter or blower is dirty, then your indoor coil is probably dirty, too. This is usually a job for professionals, unless you have easy access, as with a central heat pump. To help keep your indoor coil clean, make sure your filter fits well, is easy to change, and that you change it regularly. Have your air conditioning contractor make improvements to the filter, if needed, so it is easy to get to. Change the filter often to help keep your indoor air conditioner coil clean and reduce energy consumption.

Source: John Krigger, Saturn Resource Management, www.residential-energy.com



Central Air Incentive Program

To help reduce the demand for electric power during the summer season, Clark Electric Cooperative offers an Air Conditioner Load Management Program Incentive. Each central air conditioner (AC) unit being managed during a period of high demand is shut off for approximately 20 minutes and then allowed to resume cooling for 20 minutes. This means they are still cooling about half of the time. Many members say they don't even realize the cooperative is managing the unit because they don't notice any temperature change inside the home.

If you have a central air conditioning unit and it is not part of the load management program, consider trying it for a summer. You will receive a one-time \$25 bill credit after the load management switch is installed on the AC, and then you will see an \$8 credit on your electric bill for the consumption months of June, July, and August. Call Clark Electric Cooperative at 1-800-272-6188 for questions, or to sign up. Certain restrictions may apply.

\$8/month credit on your electric bill during the summer cooling season



Contact Greg for a Spring Air Conditioner Maintenance Check-Up TODAY!

WHY INSTALL A DAIKIN DUCTLESS HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM?

Forget wall-mounted thermostats that can be difficult to program or operate. Daikin systems feature built-in intelligence that allows individual control with the ability to automatically maintain preferences. These systems make subtle and continuous adjustments to ensure your home stays at a constant and comfortable temperature at the touch of a button.



Contact Greg for all of your heating and cooling needs.

CLARK ELECTRIC APPLIANCE & SATELLITE
1209 West Dall-Berg Road, Greenwood

From Greenwood, west on CTH G, south on River Road, and west on Dall-Berg Road
866-279-6544 or 715-267-6544 • Hours: M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

MY CO-OP




Call BEFORE you dig!

Call Diggers Hotline at 811 or 800-242-8511 to have underground lines and cables located before you start your project. It's free, and it could save you from injury and/or costly damage!




PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews, or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe.



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Viasat

After 25 GB of data usage, we may throttle your data based on our standard service agreement. Maximum 20 month service term. Equipment from the net lease only. Service packages and speeds differ by location. Speeds are "up to" and not guaranteed and may vary. Service is not available in all areas. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time. Void in a restricted service area of Viasat.



*Remember our fallen heroes.
They are the reason that we are free.*

Clark Electric Cooperative's office will be closed Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day.

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road, P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
email us at info@cecoop.com or tnelson01@cecoop.com
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