

# Member Contact



Boone Electric Cooperative's Monthly Newsletter

September 2013

## Don't Miss the Savings

Saving money is the name of the game 365 days a year, but these days, stretching dollars can be even more challenging.

Boone Electric Cooperative members can reap the savings at many local and national businesses through the Co-op Connections Card, a savings program just for members.

In addition to the more than 200 local businesses that participate in the program through Boone Electric, members can also use their card while traveling at other businesses that participate through their local electric cooperatives. So, before you travel, check your route and destination to see if the local cooperative has the Co-op Connections Card program. If so, check out their savings and be sure to carry your card.

In the meantime, check out a few of these local deals:



**Carl's Towing**, Columbia  
10% off vehicle towing

**Monroe's Fast Lube**, Centralia  
\$5 off oil change

**Addie Jane Originals**, Hallsville  
10% off floral arrangements

**(Creve Coeur Camera (Columbia Photo))**, Columbia  
10% off any photo finishing; 10% off video transfers; 10% off movie transfers

**AMF Town & Country Lanes**, Columbia  
Buy one get one free game of bowling

**Agave Mexican Restaurant**, Columbia  
Free soft drink with purchase of lunch or 10% off dinner bill

**The Buzz Cafe'**, Sturgeon  
10% off total purchase

**Copper Kettle**, Ashland  
Buy one Sunday brunch, get one 1/2 price

**Heuer's Cafe'**, Sturgeon  
Buy one appetizer, get the second of equal or greater value half price

**Italian Village**, Columbia  
15% off any regularly priced menu item

**Alan Anderson Designs**, Ashland  
10% off any regular retail price

**Columbia Appliance Company**  
10% off any appliance; 10% off parts and labor on in-home service call

**Johnston Paint & Decorating**, Columbia  
10% off retail price

**Ritchie & Sons Hardware**, Centralia  
10% off regular-priced merchandise

**White Horse Antiques**, Rocheport  
15% off any single item

**Central Missouri Feed & Supply**, Clark  
5% off electric fence supplies

**Moleman Trapping**, Columbia  
\$5 off each mole trapped

**Northwest Self Storage**, Columbia/Moberly  
10% discount on first month's rent

**Oak Chest Antiques & Restoration**, Hartsburg  
10% off furniture stripping

**Sapps Home Pro**, Hartsburg  
10% off cleaning services

**Wingate Pest Management**, Columbia  
10% discount

## Positive Results from Member Phone Survey

Thank you to all the members who participated this spring in a phone survey conducted by Touchstone Energy® on our behalf. We are pleased to announce that Boone Electric scored an 87 on a 100-point scale. To compare, the utility industry average score was 77 and Touchstone Energy cooperatives nationwide averaged 83.

Members were asked questions about their overall satisfaction with Boone Electric; whether the Cooperative provides reliable service and keeps outages to a minimum; if the Cooperative handles problems in a timely manner and is a good value for the members' money. Members were also asked their thoughts on renewable energy generation and climate change issues.

The results of this survey help us move forward as we provide quality service to you, the members. Your answers tell us how you want to receive information from the Cooperative and how we are meeting the needs of all segments of our membership.

Again, thank you to those of you who participated. Your candid answers are extremely beneficial.

### Energy Tip of the Month



Like homes and other businesses, farms of all types can lower their electricity bills by turning off lights and small equipment in outbuildings. Timers and sensors can help, too. Regular cleaning, maintenance and seasonal tune-ups help keep larger equipment running at top efficiency.

Source: Touchstone Energy

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## Annual Meeting Survey Winners

Congratulations to the following members, who won a \$50 electric credit in our drawing of returned Annual Meeting surveys:

Alan Street, Columbia  
John E. Becker, Columbia  
Marjorie Thompson, Columbia  
Judith Graham, Columbia  
John Dye Jr., Columbia

Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the survey. Your responses help us plan for future meetings. We are already in the first stages of planning the 2014 Annual Meeting. We hope you will join us. More details to come.

## Board of Directors:

Joel Bullard - President  
Karen Kinkead - Vice President  
Nathan Martin - Secretary  
Keith Schnarre - Treasurer  
Glen Beckmeyer  
Frank Glenn  
Jay Turner  
Wayne Wilcox  
Kimberly Ponder

Todd Culley -  
General Manager/CEO

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## Biggest User

Learn how to estimate the energy use of your home appliance to see if it's time for an upgrade.

You've had your refrigerator forever. With the exception of some crumbling parts of the seal, it's in pretty good shape and keeps your food cold. Why worry about budgeting for an upgrade?

For starters, inefficient appliances can have a huge impact on your home's monthly electric bill. Replacing a refrigerator made before 1980 with a new, Energy Star-rated model would knock \$65 to \$300 off your power costs each year.

When evaluating older appliances, one key question emerges: Which is the biggest user?

To estimate the annual energy consumption of an appliance, use this general formula provided by the U.S. Department of Energy's EnergySavers.gov:  
(wattage x hours used per day x days used per year) ÷ 1,000 = Annual kilowatt-hour (kWh) used

Wattage can be figured by taking the operating voltage (120/240v) and multiplying by the amperage.

Remember: 1,000 watts = 1 kilowatt (kWh).

Then calculate the annual cost to use an appliance by multiplying the kWh per year by 9.1 cents per kWh charge from Boone Electric.

You can usually find the wattage or amperage of most appliances stamped on the bottom or back of the appliance or on its nameplate. The wattage listed shows the maximum power drawn by the appliance. Because some appliances have a range of settings -- just like the volume on a radio -- the actual amount of power consumed depends on the setting used at any one time.

Here are examples of the range of wattages for common household appliances:

- Clothes washer: 350-500 Watts
- Clothes dryer: 1800-5000 Watts
- Dishwasher: 1200-2400 Watts (heat drying feature increases energy use)
- Hair dryer: 1000-1200 Watts
- Microwave oven: 1100-1450 Watts
- Refrigerator (frost-free, 18 cubic feet): 810 Watts



*If your appliances need an upgrade, many new models feature high-tech energy efficiency settings that make the upfront costs worth the investment. But remember -- to see savings on your electric bill, you have to use the energy-saving settings.*

Be sure to check the energy guide on new appliances. Boone Electric has a brochure that shows typical wattage of household appliances. Give us a call if you would like one of these brochures.

Once you calculate how much money you spend to run aging home appliances, compare what it would cost to use more efficient models. If you don't want the hassle of adding up the potential savings, visit [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com). This website demonstrates how small changes like replacing an appliance or unplugging electronics lead to big energy savings. On the website under "Add Up Your Savings," you can walk through a typical home's kitchen, living room or other common areas. Upgrade appliances and make other energy-smart choices in each room. Each time you make a change, you're shown how much money you could save on your annual electric bill.

Before any energy efficiency upgrade, remember to check <http://energy.gov/savings> and <http://dsireusa.org> to find out if rebates or incentives are available.