



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

currently Speaking

Co-op Connections Card

Last month we talked about using the Co-op Connections® Card at your local pharmacy to save up to 60 percent on prescriptions. This month let's focus on local businesses that accept the card. Discounts at local businesses vary and are decided upon by the owners/managers of the business. They can be anywhere from buy one get one free or 20 percent off your purchase. All you need to do is ask or look for more information at our website www.gmenergy.com.

Cambridge Area

- Long John Silver's - Cambridge
- Mary Jane's Cottage - Plainfield
- Wayne Garage Doors - Cambridge

Newcomerstown Area

- April's Country Kitchen - Newcomerstown
- Baker's IGA - Newcomerstown
- Bowman Sportswear, Inc. - Newcomerstown
- Crowtown Pizza - Newcomerstown
- Domino's Pizza - Newcomerstown
- Hampton Inn - Newcomerstown
- Xcel Collision - Newcomerstown

Zanesville Area

- Avis Rent-A-Car - Zanesville
- Best Western - Zanesville
- Cabin in the Orchard - Philo
- Comfort Inn - Zanesville
- Dunham's Sports - Zanesville
- Linden Lighting and Supply Co. - Zanesville
- Long John Silver's - Zanesville
- Papa Chucks Restaurant & Catering - Zanesville
- Papa John's Pizza - Zanesville
- Super 8 - Zanesville
- The Barn - Zanesville
- Y-City Power Wash & Floor Care SVC - Hopewell
- Zanesville Hampton Inn - Zanesville



Be sure to check next month's article on the discounts available for your internet purchases.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a New Year from the Board of Directors and employees of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Board of Directors	
Duane Parks	Chairman
Ed Bay.....	Vice Chairman
Jim Rex.....	Secy.-Treasurer
John Enos	Director
Jay Gray	Director
Brian Hill	Director
Shirley Stutz	Director
Daniel J. Gunsett	Counsel
Garry Mbiad	General Manager/CEO
Electric Rates	
Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1	
Service Availability Charge	
	\$15/month
First 500 kWh/month	@ 11.419¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month	@ 9.295¢/kWh
Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1	
Service Availability Charge	
	\$180/year
First 800 kWh/year	@ 19.419¢/kWh
Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year	@ 10.295¢/kWh
Over 6,000 kWh/year	@ 9.295¢/kWh
(Your minimum annual charge will be \$180 per year for service between March 1, 2010, and Feb. 28, 2011.)	
Commercial Service rate schedule C-1	
Service Availability Charge	
	\$15/month
First 1,500 kWh/month	@ 11.419¢/kWh
Over 1,500 kWh/month	@ 9.295¢/kWh
Rider T - Kilowatt-hour Tax applies to all rate schedules.	
First 2,000 kWh/month	.465¢/kWh
Next 13,000 kWh/month	.419¢/kWh
Over 15,000 kWh/month	.363¢/kWh

New Concord
740-826-7661

(24-hour service)

All other members
1-800-521-9879

Youth opportunities abound

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric has a long history of supporting its area youth in a variety of activities throughout the year. In this issue you will find three outstanding opportunities that exemplify one of your cooperative's core principles; Commitment to Community: 1) Scholarship Day;

2) Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship; and 3) Washington Youth Tour. You can find more information, including rules and applications about all of these opportunities at our website, www.gmenergy.com, or call Heather Baker at 800-521-9879.

High School Seniors

You could win a college, vocational or technical school scholarship of:

\$2,810*

Contact your electric cooperative for details on how you can enter

**First place for each division, boys' and girls'*

OREC Scholarship

Second place: ...\$1,965

Third place:\$1,685

Fourth place:\$1,570

Fifth place:\$1,460

Sixth place:\$1,345

Seventh place: ..\$1,225

Guernsey-Muskingum Scholarship

First place:\$1,000

Second place:\$500

Third place:\$300

Fourth place:\$200

For further information, contact:
www.gmenergy.com
Heather Baker
740-826-7661 or 800-521-9879
Application Deadline: Feb 4, 2010



High School Sophomores and Juniors You could win the trip of a lifetime!



What is Youth Tour?

It's not just another trip! Youth Tour is an annual contest sponsored by the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and your local electric cooperative that gives deserving high school sophomores and juniors like you the opportunity to use their knowledge and wit to compete for a FREE week-long trip to Washington, D.C. June 10 to 16.

You'll meet up with nearly 1,500 students from across the country in June if you win. You'll get a chance to meet and talk to congressional leaders from Ohio at the U.S. Capitol, plus you'll get to see all the sights and visit a bunch of really cool places.



What are the entry requirements?

Guernsey-Muskingum will sponsor two students on this trip. To be eligible to compete, you must be a high school sophomore or junior whose parents/guardians are members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative.

How will the finalists be chosen?

For information on how you can be part of this trip, visit our website at www.gmenergy.com or call Heather Baker at 1-800-521-9879. Application deadline will be Friday, March 4. All qualified applicants will be interviewed on Wednesday, March 16.

Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship

Did you overcome adversity, obstacles or personal challenges on your way to excellence?

Tell us about it, you may win a scholarship!

For further information, contact:
www.gmenergy.com

Heather Baker
740-826-7661 or 800-521-9879

Application deadline:
March 4

Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives
Four \$1,675 Scholarships

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric
First Place \$500
Second Place \$300



Touchstone Energy®

Will Christmas lights raise your electric bill?

ASK YOUR ENERGY ADVISOR



Ray Crook,
Energy Advisor

Several times on recent energy audits, I have been asked, "Will Christmas lights raise our electric bill significantly?" Yes, Christmas lights will raise the electric bill. How significant of an increase depends on many factors. Amount of lighting, hours of operation per day, and number of days connected all play a part in their use. And remember, this use doesn't show up until the January (Nov 15-Dec 15) and February (Dec 15-Jan15) bills. In this tough economic climate that we are in and with ever-rising energy costs, it may be time to re-think your holiday decorating plan.

If you are already having problems paying your bills, your options may be different than someone just wanting to save and be more environmentally friendly. You can save by limiting your lighting to two or three hours per night and perhaps only seven to 10 days before Christmas. Using holiday lighting for seven days at two hours per day would be a 91 percent reduction in electric use versus five hours for 30 days. Homes can also have wonderful Christmas decorations with no lights whatsoever. This can give a very nostalgic or historical effect and be the most "green" choice of all.

For those who want the Christmas lights and can afford to make change, there are some good energy-efficient options, CFLs (compact fluorescent lights) and LEDs (light-emitting diodes). These will lower electric consumption to a fraction of traditional lights use. Here are some typical bulbs used in holiday lighting and their wattage (electric use):

Colored flood or spot light	65-150 watts
Incandescent bulbs in lawn ornaments	60-100 watts
C-7 and C-9 strings (larger bulbs)	5-10 watts/bulb
Mini-bulb strings	.45 watts/bulb

Their energy efficient replacements

Colored CFL flood or spot lights	15-40 watts
CFL bulbs in lawn ornaments	13-23 watts
C-7 and C-9 LED replacement bulbs	.15 watts
Mini-LEDs	.045 watts

Does this add up? You bet it does. For example, let's assume the lights are on five hours per day for 35 days plus an extra 25 hours on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. Here are some examples:

2000 mini-bulb strings	180 kWh vs 17 kWh
10 pc lighted Nativity set	120 kWh vs 26 kWh
200 C-7 bulb strings	200 kWh vs 6 kWh

And one more example that I calculated on my own home - We have 18 C-7 window candles on for about 160 days (Nov 15-Mar 15). They are on 12-24 hours per day and may average out to 15 hours per day (2,400 hours total). With 5 watt bulbs, the total consumption would be 216 kWh for the winter. With LED C-7 replacement lamps we would use 6.5 kWh for the winter. That is a savings of about 210 kWh or about \$21.

LEDs do cost more to purchase. However, besides energy savings, they are more durable, last many times longer and one can go out without the whole string going out. They also don't give off heat and are therefore safer.

The following companies offer energy efficient holiday lights and decorations:

Christmas Lights Etc.	866-962-7382	www.christmaslightsetc.com
Service Concepts	877-738-6824	www.energysavers.coop
Bronners	800-361-6736	www.bronners.com
Holiday LEDs	866-492-4330	www.holidayleds.com

Cooperative holiday hours

Office closed for Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 23*

Drive-up window will be open on Thursday, Dec. 23
(8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Office closed for Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 24

* This is a correction from the co-op calendar.
We will be open on Monday, Dec. 27.

Office closed for New Year's Day, Friday, Dec. 31

Drive-up window will be open on Friday, Dec. 31
(8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

If outages occur during these holidays, someone will be working at the G-M office around the clock to dispatch a trouble crew to correct your problem. G-M's night depository is always available for your convenience.

Are your name and location/account number here?

If they are, call your cooperative's office and receive a FREE home changeout to compact fluorescent light bulbs. (Limit 18 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

- #10-0181-12-00Robert B. Vernon
- #16-0485-21-01.....Barbara L. Allen
- #28-0034-19-01.....Thomas L. Slater
- #30-0018-17-03Doug C. Balderson
- #37-0023-08-04Randy S. Clark
- #45-0085-12-04Ernest Chandler
- #49-0045-14-03E. Dean Baker
- #55-0262-19-00G.I. Wentworth