



DELAWARE ELECTRIC  
14198 Sussex Highway  
P.O. Box 600, Greenwood, DE 19950  
Website [www.delaware.coop](http://www.delaware.coop)  
An equal opportunity employer M/F/V/H



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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J. William Andrew, P.E.

ATTORNEY  
John Terence Jaywork

OFFICE HOURS  
Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

DRIVE-UP WINDOW AND THE CALL CENTER IS OPEN FOR BILL PAYMENT AND ACCOUNT INQUIRY SERVICE  
Monday-Friday, 7:00 am - 6:00 pm  
NIGHT DEPOSIT IS AVAILABLE

302-349-9090 SUSSEX COUNTY  
302-398-9090 KENT COUNTY  
800-282-8595 NEW CASTLE COUNTY & OUTF-STATE  
302-349-5891 FAX NUMBER  
EMAIL [memberservices@decoop.com](mailto:memberservices@decoop.com)

Regular Board Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month. Copies of the agenda for each monthly meeting are posted on our website and are a our Greenwood office.

Should you have questions or comments, please call us at (3



## Helping Farmers

### CO-OP and DNREC Offer Grants

#### CO-OP GRANT:

- Delaware Electric Cooperative has dedicated grant money to help farmers install new irrigation systems.
- Farmers can receive up to \$15,000 to help pay for the cost of running power to new irrigation systems.
- After the initial \$15,000, the Co-op will pay half of the additional utility costs to install the irrigation system.
- Farmers who participate in the program will be required to sign up for DEC's controlled load service, which allows the Co-op to shut off power to irrigation units during peak energy usage times.
- During the summer of 2011 DEC averaged only 10 hours of load control per month, with each control period usually lasting 2-4 hours.
- The irrigation rate will save farmers 18 to 25 percent on their electric bills.
- To be eligible, your system must carry at least a 40kW load.

#### DNREC GRANT:

- DNREC will provide money for farmers to convert diesel irrigation pump generators to electric systems.
- The state grants will pay up to 30 percent of a farmer's non-utility costs for the conversion, such as labor and parts.
- Farmers must destroy the old diesel generators.

#### How You Will Save!

- Yearly cost for diesel: \$3,629
- Yearly electric cost \$1,353

### Total Yearly Savings \*\$2,276

\*Calculated using USDA cost estimates for:

- Irrigating a 60 acre field
- 35 PSI
- 69 ft. well lift
- Average 9 cents per kWh (DEC Rate)
- \$3.41 per gallon of off-road diesel

#### How To Apply

- Grant applications are available at [www.delaware.coop](http://www.delaware.coop) under "Our Co-op"
- Contact Kevin Yingling, Manager of Marketing at 302-349-3120 or [Kevin@decoop.com](mailto:Kevin@decoop.com)
- Grants are being handed out on a first come first serve basis



Delaware Electric Cooperative

# cooperative connections

MARCH 2012

## Co-op Supports the Guard & Reserve Program

WE HAVE SIGNED A STATEMENT OF SUPPORT for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Program (ESGR). The program encourages businesses to support members of the National Guard and reserve forces along with their families.

By signing the statement of support for ESGR, the Co-op promises to continue to recognize the extraordinary contributions of members of our armed forces. About half of the current military force is made up of guard and reserve forces.

We will also continue to honor and enforce the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act, which protects the rights of workers who are serving in the military. President and CEO Bill Andrew stated, "We are proud to take part in this important program. We are proud of all of our employees who have served their nation with honor and dignity, and we will continue to honor their contributions and the sacrifices of their families."

Becky Wingate of Delaware ESGR said, "It's really nice to see employers get behind the military. It's a great feeling."

The Co-op employs several retired and active duty members of the armed forces.

The ESGR program started in 1972 with the signing of the first statement of support by President Richard Nixon.



President and CEO Bill Andrew signs the statement of support with Becky Wingate of Delaware ESGR.

# \$300 REBATE!!!

## For Heat Pump Water Heaters



We are offering a \$300 rebate to our member-owners who buy ENERGYSTAR® qualified heat pump water heaters. Heat pump water heaters are up to three times more efficient than traditional models, which can save homeowners on their utility bills.

The Co-op has set aside \$30,000 for the new rebate program for 100 qualified members. To qualify for the rebate, applicants must be served by DEC, the unit must be purchased in 2012, the rebate request must be received within 60 days of the water heater purchase date and the heat pump water heater must be ENERGYSTAR® certified. For a list of certified water heaters, visit [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov).

Heat pump water heaters operate much like a refrigerator. Instead of generating heat directly, they pull heat from the surrounding air to help warm the water. These efficient water heaters aren't right for everyone and members should visit [smartwaterheat.org](http://smartwaterheat.org) to consider the benefits of buying an efficient unit.

For more information about the program, please call 302-349-9090. Applications can also be found at our website, [www.delaware.coop](http://www.delaware.coop), under the "Grants and Rebates" section.

## Tree trimming is essential for reliable power delivery

Our lines, poles and substation structures are engineered to withstand many natural forces. However, they may not withstand the force of a fallen tree, or large branch, which could lead to a disruption of service.

Trees touching power lines actually drain electricity off the electrical system and, in severe cases, can cause line-protection devices to take a circuit out of service. Voltage dips, caused when trees contact a power line, can damage appliances and sensitive electronics in homes and businesses.

Vegetation management – including tree trimming – is an important aspect of our goal of delivering power to you that is safe, reliable, environmentally responsible and affordable.

In fact, our vegetation management program helps reduce outages caused by branches falling on lines during storms, shrubbery interfering with voltage levels or weeds in right-of-way areas making access to equipment difficult.



## BUSINESSES... Now Download Co-op Connections Card Participation Forms Online

Our Co-op Connections Card Program gives your business the opportunity for free advertising through our website in exchange for your offer of a discount to our members that display their Co-op Connections Card.

This program was developed in conjunction with other Touchstone Energy cooperatives around the country to deliver more value to members and increase customer visits to those participating businesses.

The task is simple. We advertise your business on our website [www.delaware.coop](http://www.delaware.coop) in exchange for your offer of a discount to our members. Your business will gain **FREE** advertising and Delaware Electric will build a stronger sense of community with our members.

The ability to promote your business to our 84,000 growing membership at **NO CHARGE** in exchange for a discount offer is a win-win situation for your business and our members.

You can easily download the contract application and business information sheet from our website by clicking on **Our Coop**, then **Co-op Connections Card** under **Other Resources**. Scroll to the bottom of the page to download the **Business Contract** and the **Additional Information Form**.

The contract states your offer and guarantees your participation for at least one year. The **Additional Information Form** is to show the information about your business you would like to have on your own web page under our Co-op Connections Card Retail Discounts.

# Always CALL Before You Dig



Planning a home improvement job?

Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck?

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job.

Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call – even small projects like planting trees and shrubs.

**Safe Digging  
Is No Accident  
Always Call 811  
Before You Dig**