



Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CURRENTS



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CURRENTS

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Announcing Two New Programs

By Chris Reese

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As the new year rolls on to a hopefully bright and warm spring, I am excited to announce the launch of two new programs from Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative.

At the Cooperative we recognize that the children of today are the members of tomorrow. Our new Bright Ideas Classroom Grant Program is designed to reach these kids by helping their teachers better afford innovative and effective educational curriculum or materials that are not covered by traditional school financing. Individual teachers can apply for grants up to \$500. Each year, SREC will award a total of \$1,000.00 through this grant program.



It is not required for teachers or schools to receive electric service from SREC. Eligible educators from public and private schools, pre-K through 12th grade, with education-related program ideas can apply for the grant program to assist with the education of the student population within SREC's service area.

Grants can be awarded for projects in any discipline, but must be energy or cooperative related. The grants are intended to help teachers bring special, hands-on projects to the classroom. Projects can range from the scientific study of electricity, the cooperative business model in business class, or the history of cooperatives in the building of America in history class. More information and a list of eligible schools can be found on our website at sussexrec.com/community.

Grants will be awarded annually by a competitive evaluation process. Applications will be accepted online beginning on March 1, and will be awarded at our Annual Meeting on June 4, 2018. The deadline to submit grant applications will be April 30, 2018.

Our second program announcement has to do with Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) heating. We are introducing the ETS "Refer-A-Friend" program. This program allows for our members who have Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) heating systems to recommend them and receive a \$150.00 bill credit when their "friend's" system is installed. The "friend" also receives a

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\$150.00 bill credit along with the \$1,000.00 rebate and other incentives from SREC at time of purchase.

Now you and your friends can each earn \$150.00 when you tell them about all the great qualities of ETS, like:

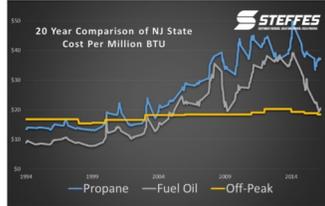
- No oil tanks or deliveries to worry about.
- No worry about running out of fuel.
- No wide price fluctuations that make budgeting difficult.
- No burners to maintain or fumes to vent.
- Quieter operation.
- Cheaper heating costs than oil or gas (depending on current fuel prices).

It's not magic, it's *Electric Thermal Storage Heating*

The "magic" of the cost effectiveness of Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) is the ability to store heat during off-peak billing hours for use during higher priced on-peak billing hours.

A variety of furnace sizes are available to fit your home ranging from 19.2kW—45.6kW.

For more information go to www.sussexrec.com or call 973.875.5101



USA 

In after-purchase surveys, we have found that a friend's recommendation has been the most common way our members learn about ETS. We are hoping that the ETS program will be as successful as our Cummins Generator 'Refer-A-Friend' program has been. If you want more information on the ETS "Refer-A-Friend" program go to sussexrec.com/yourhome/electricthermalstorage

As we all anticipate spring and its new beginnings, we hope these programs will also bloom into success for the next chapter of the SREC story.



SREC School & Scout Support

By Claudia Raffay, Manager of Marketing & Member Services
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Electrical safety is very important regardless of age. Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative offers safety programs for class trips or school visits. The educational programs focus on what electric power is, where it comes from, and the dangers that surround it. We have found that students of all ages enjoy asking questions and have a lot of curiosity about electricity. The question and answer time is always beneficial for all students. The presentation utilizes handouts, activity sheets and our "Hazard Hamlet" Module, a fully integrated display which incorporates sight and sound into training young people about the dangers of electricity in everyday situations. The demonstration is an eye-opening experience complete with sparks, sounds, and small power arcs. "Hazard Hamlet" is an educational device designed with a dynamic and interactive design, which brings the message home in a very dramatic way that keeps the attention of young children for optimal results in learning and retention. If the class and weather permits, the students will spend a portion of the presentation time outside to see a bucket truck up close and have a lineman explain the importance of safety and what it is like to be a lineman.

Trips start in March and are held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 pm –3:00 pm. The visits to the Cooperative last approximately 1.5 hours and are limited to 30 students and /or scouts. If you would like to schedule a trip to SREC or have any questions regarding our School & Scout support program, please contact Claudia Raffay, Manager of Marketing & Member Services at craffay@sussexrec.com or call 973-875-5101.



Scholarships



James Howard Goodwin Scholarship: The SREC Scholarship in Memory of James Howard Goodwin offers one scholarship to a child of members living in our service territory in the amount of \$1,000.00. Applicants must currently be high school seniors and able to furnish necessary essay, transcripts, aptitude test scores, recommendations, and other required information.

All applications and required information must be received no later than April 6, 2018. Scholarship awards will be announced at the Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting in June. For more information on this scholarship please go to www.sussexrec.com/community/scholarship

William F. Matson Scholarship: The PREA Scholarship Trust Fund in Memory of William F. Matson offers scholarships to sons and daughters of Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative members and employees as part of our membership in the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association. Applicants must currently be high school seniors and able to furnish necessary aptitude test scores and financial need information.

Jody Loudenslager Scholarship: The scholarship presented in the memory of Jody Loudenslager is reserved for participants in the Youth Tour program. Former PA/NJ Youth Tour participants can apply for any year in graduate and undergraduate school. The scholarship is available to any college-bound or college student who participated in the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association (PREA) PA/NJ Youth Tour. Applicants must furnish necessary aptitude test scores and financial need information.

All applications and required information for the Matson & Loudenslager

scholarships must be received no later than May 7, 2018. Finalists will be sent a follow-up questionnaire that must be returned by June 15, 2018. Scholarship awards will be announced at the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association Summer Meeting in July. For more information on this scholarship please go to www.prea.com/Content/scholarship-opportunities.asp



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Your Touchstone Energy cooperative is owned by our members, not shareholders. So we don't just answer to you, we have answers for you. To learn more, visit TouchstoneEnergy.com.

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 **Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Don't Waste. Insulate!

Properly insulating your home reduces heating and cooling costs, and improves comfort. R-values measure a material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value rating, the greater the effectiveness of the insulation. Below are recommended R-values for areas of the home that should be insulated.

**Recommendations on R-values are subject to regional climate conditions.*

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

TYPES OF INSULATION

-  Batt
-  Foam
-  Blow-in



1 DUCTWORK

Whether it's made of metal or plastic (PVC), insulated ductwork protects your investment in conditioned air year-round. Minimal R-values of 4.3 are recommended for blanket-style wraps secured with tape. Insulated ductwork rated at R-6 is also available.

2 EXTERIOR WALLS

There are multiple options for insulating exterior walls. Rock wool or fiberglass batts of R-13 to R-20 value are preferred behind drywall, but each inch of blown-in polyurethane foam insulation provides an R-value of 3.9.

3 BENEATH LIVING SPACE

Whether your home has a full basement, a crawl space or an attached garage, having an insulation value of R-19 under the living space floor will help increase comfort year-round.

4 SLAB FOUNDATION

Properly installed foam boards around the exterior edge of the slab of an existing home can reduce heating bills by 10 percent or more.



Our office will be closed on Friday, March 30, 2018 in observance of Good Friday



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

In spring and summer months, set your ceiling fans to turn in the counterclockwise direction. This will create a cool breeze. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: energystar.gov



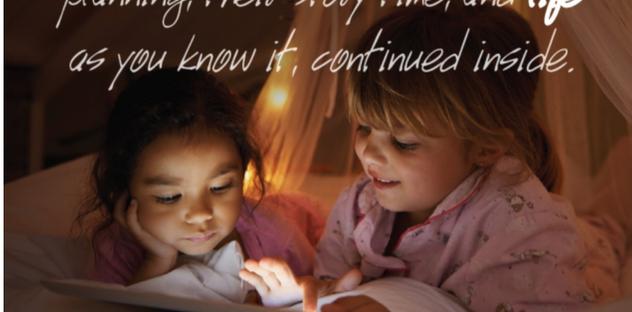
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Lightning was powering through the clouds outside. Thanks to your planning, their story time, and life as you know it, continued inside.



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