



# Highline Headlines

Volume 37  
Issue 10

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding members' expectations for safe, reliable, efficient service while being a good citizen in our communities.

**24/7**  
For after hours emergencies call  
**800.452.7819**  
or **319.385.1580**

**Our new website is now up. See Below.**  
[www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)

## Start Saving with a DIY Home Energy Audit

As temperatures drop and your energy focus turns from cooling your home to heating it, it's a great time to think about saving energy too! Whether your home is **old** or new, chances are you are spending more on energy costs than necessary.

You can conduct a basic energy audit of your home to identify where you are losing energy (and money). But, remember, the audit itself won't save you money unless you act on your findings.

### DIY 101

So, where to start? If your home has multiple levels, work from the top down. Begin in your attic, and work your way down to the basement.

1. Insulation and air leaks (drafts) – According to the Department of Energy,

improving your home's insulation and sealing **air** leaks are the fastest and most cost-effective ways to reduce energy waste and make the most of your energy dollars. Check to see whether there is sufficient insulation in the attic. Are openings containing piping, ductwork and chimney sealed?

2. Do you have computers, printers, DVD players, phones and gaming consoles not being used. If items can be turned off without disrupting your lifestyle, consider plugging them into a power strip that can be **turned** on and off (or put on a timer).
3. Lighting – Can you replace any incandescent light bulbs with a CFL or **LED**? Are there places where you can install motion sensor lights in low

use areas, such as a closet, porch or garage?

4. Thermostat/indoor temperature – When was the last time you checked your programmed thermostats? Is the date and time correct? Is it set so the temperature is lower during the day and/or times when no one is home and at night when people are sleeping? Also, consider lowering the temperature a few degrees.
5. Appliances and cleaning – If your appliances are more than **ten** years old, they are likely not as energy efficient as today's options. Wash clothes in cold water instead of hot. Insulate your hot water heater. Clean your dryer vent – this will not only save energy, it may also prevent a fire.

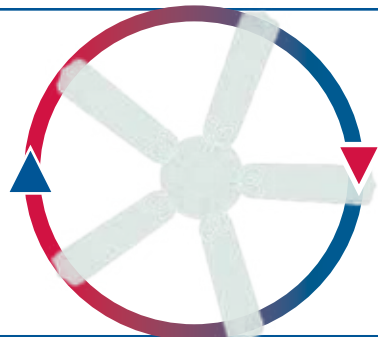
### EVALUATION

Once you have completed the audit, take a look at the findings. Prioritize actions that you can take based on your time and budget, weighing where you can get the most impact for your investment. Increasing your home's energy efficiency will make your family comfortable while saving you money.

### TAKING ENERGY SAVINGS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

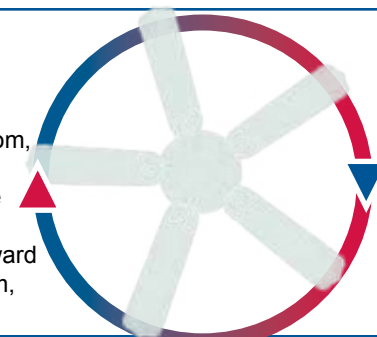
If you would like to take your savings to the next level and have an **audit** conducted by one of our trained energy advisors, contact us today at 866.242.4232 for your **FREE** energy audit.

Source: Anne Prince



## Time to Change the Rotation of Your Ceiling Fans to Clockwise

Ceiling fans can cut your electric bills year-round, but before you run out and buy one for every room, it's important to be wiser how fans can help you save energy. If you install a ceiling fan and don't adjust your thermostat settings accordingly, you may be more comfortable—but you also could be increasing your monthly electric bills. During winter, flip the small switch on the side of the ceiling fan housing to **reverse** the blade rotation to clockwise. Run the fan on low speed so it creates a gentle upward breeze away from people in the room. This will push the warm air at the ceiling back down into the room, where it's needed. Then set your furnace a few degrees lower to save more.



## 2016 Photo Contest Begins

It's time for the 12th annual photo contest with selected entries to be used in the 2017 Access Energy calendar. We're looking for photos of rural settings in southeast Iowa including landscapes, animals, buildings or people in any season of the year. Fifty dollars will be awarded to each photographer whose entry is selected as one of the 12 featured photos. Submit all entries by March 31, 2016 to:

Photo Contest, c/o  
Access Energy  
Cooperative,  
PO Box 440, Mt.  
Pleasant, IA 52641.

Visit our website for complete photo contest rules.



## 2015 Dividend Treasure Hunt

We are searching for a list of members whose **dividend** checks did not reach them. If you know the where-abouts of any of the people listed on page 3, please contact our accounting department at [finance@accessenergycoop.com](mailto:finance@accessenergycoop.com) or by calling 866.242.4232.



See page 3 for the complete list.

## Visit Our New Website



[accessenergycoop.com](http://accessenergycoop.com)

## Manager's Corner



**General Manager/CEO  
Robert Swindell**

Each October is designated as National Cooperative Month. It's the month that cooperatives promote the benefits of the cooperative form of business. It's not much of a surprise to us that many people don't understand the unique business structure that cooperatives use, or that many familiar businesses are organized as a cooperative. Ace Hardware and Land of Lakes are two of 29 cooperatives with over one billion dollars of annual revenue. Regardless of how large or how small the cooperative, they all adhere to these same seven core principles:

- **VOLUNTARY & OPEN MEMBERSHIP**  
Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.
- **DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL**  
Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.
- **MEMBER ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION**  
Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. They usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.
- **AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE**  
Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.
- **EDUCATION, TRAINING & INFORMATION**  
Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public — particularly young people and opinion leaders — about the nature and benefits of cooperation.
- **COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES**  
Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.
- **CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY**  
While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

We strive every day to uphold these seven cooperative principles as we go about our mission of delivering you safe, efficient and reliable service.

## COOPERATIVE INFORMATION

**Access Energy Cooperative**  
1800 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 440  
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641

**Phone:** 319.385.1577 or 866.242.4232  
**Fax:** 319.385.6873

**Website:** [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)

**Facebook:**  
[facebook.com/AccessEnergyCoop](https://facebook.com/AccessEnergyCoop)

**Twitter:**  
[twitter.com/AccessEnergyC](https://twitter.com/AccessEnergyC)

**Email:**  
[contactus@accessenergycoop.com](mailto:contactus@accessenergycoop.com)

**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Payments can be placed in the dropbox under the flag pole.

Visa and Mastercard accepted.

**After Hours Emergencies call:**  
319.385.1580 or 800.452.7819

**General Manager/CEO:** Robert Swindell

**Editor:** Kimberly Brumbaugh

**Assistant Editor:** Cherity Wibben

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Fred Hickenbottom	District 1	Vice President
Joseph Heckethorn	District 1	Secretary
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## Membership Matters

October is National Cooperative Month, and for the many different types of co-ops in the U.S., it's the time of year to celebrate what membership truly means. You could be a member of a lot of different places—a gym, a 4-H club, a food of the month club. But what makes being a member of a co-op different?

The simple answer to that question is that when you are a member of a co-op, you are also an owner. You own a part of our business; and there are many benefits to your membership. As a member of Access Energy Cooperative,

- you have a say in the representatives who are elected to serve on the co-op's board of directors.
- You have an opportunity to make your voice heard every year at our Annual Meeting.
- You get a say on policy issues your electric cooperative supports or opposes.



- You can even help to determine how your profits are redistributed. Our bottom line is providing you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. Sure, we have to think about expenses, overhead and other aspects of daily business, but when we have a little left over, we send it right back to you in the form of dividend checks. Returning dividends to you is a major part of why being a co-op member matters. As your local electric co-op, we get to be a part of this community. When we think about membership, we think about all of the ways we can give back to you, our members — and that's what matters most to us.

## Help Others by Contributing to RECare

You may make a one-time contribution to the RECare program, or you may enclose an amount each month with your monthly electric bill. Just one dollar a month will help others!

This program is administered by the Iowa Community Action Program, and recipients must meet their guidelines.

I would like to make a:

- one time contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- monthly contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (monthly contribution will be added to your bill)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

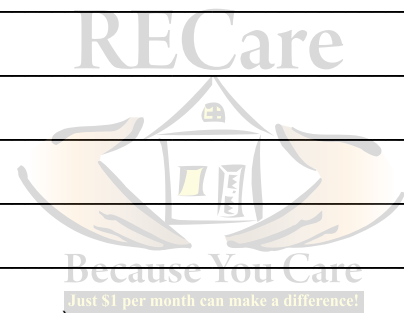
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Account # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_



Just \$1 per month can make a difference!

# 2015 Dividend Treasure Hunt

7000 Development Corp..... Fairfield IA  
 Adair, Steve E..... Bloomington IN  
 Altenhofen, Johnnie N/Rita..... Amana IA  
 Anderson, Jeffrey L/Morris, Heather..... Brighton IA  
 Anderson, Patricia A/Robert L..... Dewey AZ  
 Andries, Jerry L..... Burlington IA  
 Askew, Gary L/Sharon..... West Burlington IA  
 Beauchamp, Hal R..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Benz, Randy/Becky..... Stockport IA  
 Biggs, Maria S..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Binns, John W/Linda K..... Fairfield IA  
 Blankenship, Paul D..... Bethalto IL  
 Blint, Glenda J..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Blow, Scott L..... Burlington IA  
 Boatman, Michael/Brittain, Twilia Jo... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Booth, Tracy A/Della..... Waterloo IA  
 Bowen & Grote Farms..... Wayland IA  
 Brodka, Randall..... Quincy IL  
 Brown, Anthony C..... Bloomington IA  
 Brown, Gary E..... Front Royal VA  
 Brown, Mathew W..... Glenwood IA  
 Brown, Ricky E/Brenda A..... Ottumwa IA  
 Brown, Terry A/Evelyn..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Brown, Troy A..... Rockford IL  
 Bruner, Charlie F/Jenny..... Ft Madison IA  
 Buchanan, Stanley D/Martha L..... Fairfield IA  
 Burkhardt, Kelly E/Glenna..... Libertyville IA  
 Busse, Robert L/Margaret..... Elkhart Lake WI  
 Chase, Ron J/Janet..... Austin TX  
 Christner, Edward/Carole..... Winter Haven FL  
 Christofferson, Gerald/Andries, Jim C... Burlington IA  
 Coleman, Gary H..... Fairfield IA  
 Conn Estate, Dorothea..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Conrad, Randy/Kerry..... Bettendorf IA  
 Contel Cellular Inc..... Muscatine IA  
 Coop, Russell R/Phyllis..... New Castle CO  
 Corrigan, Edward/Karen..... Hinckley IL  
 Cowen, Larry/Colter, Lexie..... Mountain View MO  
 Crawford, Greg..... Fairfield IA  
 Crosby, Lynn..... Promise City IA  
 Crouse, Bryan..... West Point IA  
 CSI LTD..... Burlington IA  
 Danaher, Chris/Laura..... Sugar Land TX  
 Davis, Brent/Darcie..... Burlington IA  
 Davis, Dennis B..... Pilot Grove IA  
 DePriest, Geoff..... Bloomington IN  
 Degen, Robert/Ila Jane..... Ft Madison IA  
 Dillman, David E..... Batavia IA  
 Dilmore, Terry A/Sharon M..... Oshkosh WI  
 Donohue, Sharon/Dillon, Tom..... Blowing Rock NC  
 Douglas Communication V..... Rantoul IL  
 Durlflinger, Bob..... Batavia IA  
 Dyke, Bill C/Hettie..... Bloomfield IA

Eklund, Rhonda R..... Waterloo IA  
 Emery, Larry C..... Eldridge IA  
 Enright, Ernest/Margaret..... Fairfield IA  
 Evans, Everett E/Janet..... Riverside IA  
 Everett, James C..... Ottumwa IA  
 Farrell, Richard A..... Dewey AZ  
 Farrier, Donnie Jr..... Lockridge IA  
 Featherston, Susan..... Richland IA  
 Franks, Nancy..... Ft Madison IA  
 Garretson Equipment Co..... Huntley IL  
 Garza, Jacinta/Alfredo..... Burlington IA  
 Gibbons, John..... Jacksonville IL  
 Greek, Leland/Candy..... Siloam GA  
 Gregory, Winn H..... Hermiston OR  
 Greiner, Mark J..... Fairfield IA  
 Grochowski, Kenneth R..... Cape Coral FL  
 GTE Telephone Operations..... Irving TX  
 Hallman, William..... Lake Saint Louis MO  
 Hawkins, William/Diana..... Hebron NE  
 Hayward, Frank E/Janet..... American Fork UT  
 Health Software Inc..... Omaha NE  
 Hehmeyer Estate, Jane..... Ft Madison IA  
 Helmick, Charles..... Libertyville IA  
 Hill, Robert L..... Bonaparte IA  
 Hoffeditz, Vera K..... Farmington IA  
 Hollander, Robert W/Rhonda..... Pollock MO  
 Holsteen (Brown), Harriett..... West Point IA  
 Hopkins, Doris..... Hannibal MO  
 Hostetter, Melvin H..... Fairfield IA  
 Howell, David W..... New London IA  
 Howland, Betsy L..... Fairfield IA  
 Hudson, Anita..... Dayton IA  
 Hughes, Ron..... Williamstown MO  
 Hughes, Todd A..... Keosauqua IA  
 I T C Inc..... Scottsdale AZ  
 IES Utilities..... Burlington IA  
 Iowa Beef Producers..... Birmingham IA  
 Irwin, Andrew..... Fairfield IA  
 Jack's Frozen Pizza..... Medford WI  
 Jacobs, Steven G/Sherry..... Bonaparte IA  
 Johnson, Diana..... Lockridge IA  
 Johnson, James/Deborah..... Fairfield IA  
 Johnson, Steve R/Julie..... Ft Madison IA  
 Jones, James D/Maureen D..... Tucson AZ  
 Jordan, Mark A/Heidi..... Fowler IN  
 Katz, David E/Joann..... Fairfield IA  
 Kelly, Grant D..... Wapello IA  
 Kelly, John/Linda M..... Ellington MO  
 Kingery, A K/Joanna..... Winfield IA  
 Knutson Estate, Theodore M..... Danville IA  
 Konhaus, John C/Sara..... Casper WY  
 Kraft, Mark W/Donna..... Douds IA  
 Krueger, Larry..... Ft Madison IA

Kurrie, Wanda Y..... Davenport IA  
 Kurzen, Eugen R/Mary A..... Santa Clarita CA  
 Lanferman Estate, Mike J..... Anahuac TX  
 Lanferman, Margaret A..... Rome IA  
 Langford, Michael..... Keokuk IA  
 Lerud, David A..... Burlington IA  
 Levin (Spano), Diana A..... Phoenix AZ  
 Lewis, Thomas D/Deborah..... Topeka KS  
 Lock, LuAnna K/Burk, Jarrod..... Burlington IA  
 Lopez, Jessie J Jr/Rebecca..... Overland Park KS  
 Luper, Bob/Weaver, Tracey..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 M & M Enterprises..... Saint Paul IA  
 Mahaney, Timothy E..... Fairfield IA  
 Malcolm, Calvin A/Laura..... West Point IA  
 Manning Estate, Marjorie..... Batavia IA  
 Martin, Gerald A..... Fairfield IA  
 Masciocchi, Gene L/Robin D..... Wilson WY  
 Mason, Robert G/Ramona..... West Point IA  
 McBride, Chester..... Des Moines IA  
 McConnell, Lawrence W..... Burlington IA  
 McCulloch, Rory/Dena..... Wever IA  
 McCurdy, David L/Judith..... Rushville IL  
 McDonald, Michael/Daniels, Jeffrey... Mt Pleasant IA  
 McGaffick, Mathew..... Fairfield IA  
 Mealy, Bill G/Janet..... Higbee MO  
 Meardon, David/Kelly..... Rockford IL  
 Merschman, Jerry..... Ft Madison IA  
 Metcalf, James W/Rebecca..... Fairfield IA  
 Miller (Elliott), Vickie L..... Danville IA  
 Mills, Michael J..... Reasnor IA  
 Moeller, Ray/Kathy..... Cotopaxi CO  
 Moothart Estate, Douglas D..... Miles IA  
 Morrow, Bradley E/Lorelea..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Morse, Cynthia..... Winfield IA  
 Moser, James E..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Moser, William/Sandra L..... Rochester MN  
 Mount, Robert..... Greeneville TN  
 Murray, Patricia..... Memphis MO  
 Murray, Raymond B/Diana..... Palmyra MO  
 Nelson, Delbert..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Newville, Pat..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 North, Susan..... Fairfield IA  
 Northwestern Bell..... Minneapolis MN  
 O'Tool, James..... Pacific Junction IA  
 Olson, Mark R/Rebecca S..... Bayfield CO  
 Opar, Tim/Darlene..... Fairfield IA  
 Ostrander, Mary..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Parriott, Lyle..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Perez, Ruben/Iraida S..... Orlando FL  
 Peterson, Diane..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Pielsticker, William J/Kathy..... Lodi WI  
 Pohren, Jack L/Donna..... Lockridge IA  
 Ponsar, John M..... Brighton IA

Praver, Barry..... Jupiter FL  
 Ravey, Tom/Diane..... Fairfield IA  
 Richard, Michael F/Carol..... Ft Madison IA  
 Richert, Michael L..... Stockport IA  
 Rickert, Keith L/Phyllis..... Ottumwa IA  
 Rider, Edmond L..... Farmington IA  
 Roland, Gary/Paula..... Ames IA  
 Rubin, Richard/Antoinette..... Fairfield IA  
 Rusk, Edward T..... Packwood IA  
 Ryder, Jay/Melissa..... Fairfield IA  
 Sanders, Linda..... Swedesburg IA  
 Sandy, Edward II/LuAnn G..... Davenport IA  
 Seering, Ronad J/Diana..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Settles, Alan D/Carrie..... Muskogee OK  
 Seward, Bill..... Monmouth IL  
 Shull, Anita..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Shull, Delores S..... Hedrick IA  
 Side Line Truck Shop..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Sinclair, Joseph S..... Melrose IA  
 Smith, David A..... Marinette WI  
 Smith, Fern..... Fairfield IA  
 Smith, Randy L..... Muscatine IA  
 Smith, Tracey W..... Wever IA  
 Sp Grove Mobile Homes..... Burlington IA  
 Stakland, Steven K..... Saint George UT  
 Stanford, Tom..... Donnellson IA  
 Stensland, Kelvin..... Burlington IA  
 Stewart, Roger..... Davenport IA  
 Stone, Tom..... Fairfield IA  
 Stortz, Willard R..... South English IA  
 Sullivan, Barry..... Fairfield IA  
 Swails, David A..... Wapello IA  
 Talbert, Blain..... Libertyville IA  
 Theobald, John..... Fairfield IA  
 Thomas, Terry L..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Townsend Estate, Victorine..... Fairfield IA  
 Upton, Steve..... Danville IA  
 Verner, Fred/Teresa..... Chesterfield MO  
 Wagler, E Jean..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Wagner, Marcus G..... Fairfield IA  
 Watkinson, Chad L/Mary..... Morning Sun IA  
 Watts Estate, Dorothy..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Wenger-Keller, David/Annie..... Ft Madison IA  
 White, Sandra..... Mt Pleasant IA  
 Williams, Larry W/Maranna..... Pershing IN  
 Wilson, Gerald A JR/Martha..... Ft Madison IA  
 Wolfer, Mike..... Ollie IA  
 Woodside, Robert/Winifred..... Iowa City IA  
 Woodsmall, Anna/Richard Craig..... Hillsboro IA  
 Wrieden, Francis W/Mary A..... Keokuk IA  
 Wright, Max W/Catherine..... Greenlawn NY  
 Wymer, Carol..... Eldon IA  
 Young, Mark L..... Kalona IA

## Get Involved in Legislative Issues Affecting Your Coop

The image shows a screenshot of the Rural Power website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for News, Engage, Photo Gallery, Voter Guide, About Us, and Contact Us. Below this is a green banner with the text 'IOWA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES' and 'Energizing Rural Economic Growth'. Underneath the banner, it says 'Advocating for safe, affordable, reliable electricity — delivered in an environmentally responsible manner.' and a button that says 'SEE THE CO-OP DIFFERENCE'. Below the banner is a Facebook post featuring a photo of four people (three men and one woman) standing together. The text of the post reads: 'Members get involved in legislative issues affecting your co-op today by visiting www.iaruralpower.org'. The Facebook logo is visible in the top right corner of the post.

## Electrical Safety Tips for Kids

At Access Energy Cooperative, we understand your child's health and well-being are your top priority. With more than 140,000 electrical fires occurring each year, knowledge of electrical safety is necessary to ensuring your loved ones stay safe. Here are a few tips you can share with your little ones:

- Electrical fires are caused when a wire or electrical device overheats. It is important to make sure your children understand that water cannot extinguish this type of fire. Only fire extinguishers can be used to remedy this situation.
- It is never a good idea to mix water with electricity. Keep blow dryers, radios and any other electrical devices away from all water, especially those used in a bathroom.
- Keep metal objects out of appliances and plugs. If a piece of toast gets stuck in the toaster, never use a metal

knife to retrieve it. Unplug the toaster, and use a different tool or utensil to remove the toast.

- Remember, only plugs should go in an **outlet**. Sticking fingers or other objects in outlets may result in an electrical shock.
- Turn lights off when they are not in use. This will save your family money on your electric bill and prevent electrical fires from overheated bulbs.
- Always avoid overhead power lines when outdoors. Whether climbing trees or flying kites or remote-controlled toys, they should always be mindful of what is above.
- Talk to your children about the importance of electrical safety, and more importantly, lead by example — because you never know who's watching.

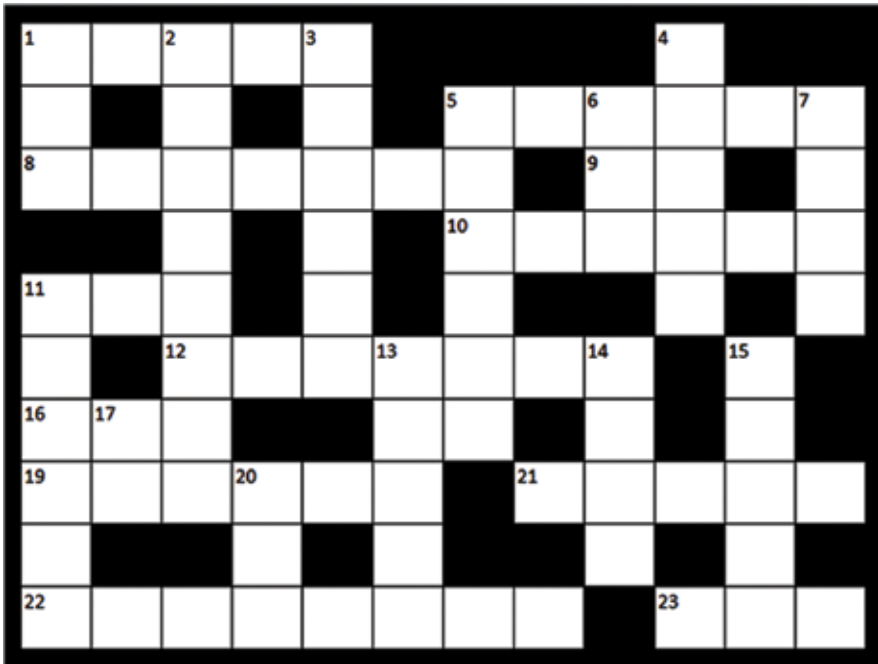
For more information about electrical safety, visit [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com).

# Win A \$25 Bill Credit

Access Energy Cooperative members can win a \$25 bill credit by completing the crossword. Send your answers in by October 28, 2015, to: Access Energy Cooperative, Attn: Crossword Puzzle, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641. Most of the answers are bold and highlighted elsewhere in this issue of the Highline Headlines. If more than one person answers all of the questions correctly by the deadline, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



Last month's crossword winner is Martha Stark of Brighton.

### ACROSS

- 1 Now is a great time for us to do this on your home for free
- 5 We do this to dividends by giving you a check
- 8 Do this to the way your fan spins spring and fall
- 9 Opposite of out
- 10 We return dividends to you in this form
- 11 You could be spending more on energy costs if your house is this
- 12 This type of person can apply for energy assistance
- 16 Appliances older than this many years are not likely to be as efficient as today's options
- 19 Used to climb on to attain out of reach places
- 21 Tesla aims to solve one of these limits to greater use of solar power
- 22 Coops work effectively in this manner through local, national and regional structures
- 23 Replace incandescent lights with these to save energy

### DOWN

- 1 Sealing these leaks is one of the best ways to save energy
- 2 We are searching for members who did not receive these checks
- 3 Plug items into a power strip that has the ability to have this done to it for on and off
- 4 Meal consumed in the middle of the day
- 5 Help others in need by contributing to this program at the coop
- 6 Men's fashion accessory worn with suits
- 7 Home built by birds
- 11 Only a plug should go into this
- 13 Another name for our world
- 14 You have a voice at the annual meeting each one of these
- 15 If coops do this to captial from outside sources, they still ensure demographic control by the members
- 17 Each
- 20 female deer

# Tesla Announces Bold Energy Plan



The company known for high-end electric cars wants to reshape the world of electricity.

It has a promising plan, but a long way to go. Tesla Motors says that in addition to batteries for its cars, it will make batteries for homes and businesses.

Tesla aims to solve one of the **basic** limits to greater use of solar energy—generating electricity at night. Tesla's batteries could charge during the day from solar panels you might have on your roof, then run your house by battery at night.

The key to what Tesla calls its Powerwall is that it's small and attractive enough to hang on a wall. Another innovation is higher voltages that make it more efficient and cost-effective.

Tesla Motors CEO Elon Musk announced the project, called Tesla Energy, in April, saying it would bring "a fundamental transformation of... how energy is delivered." But that won't happen soon, says Andrew Cotter, program manager for renewable and distributed energy research at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Cotter says the Powerwall is "a big breakthrough," but notes that with installed costs at more than \$7,000, "I don't see a lot of people putting up that kind of money." Time will tell if consumers will buy into this expensive technology, but it will certainly be exciting to see the impact it has on the way power is delivered. "We expect Tesla's high voltage battery will create a market dynamic that will reduce costs and sizes for battery systems, and drive adoption," says Cotter. *Source: Paul Wesslund*

## Energy Assistance Program

The 2015–2016 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

### WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly** (60 & over) and/or disabled: October 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016.
- All other households: November 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016.

### WHAT TO TAKE:

- Proof of income: Most recent 3 months' check stubs, award letter from Social Security or 2014 tax return
- Social Security numbers of **all** household members (documentation required)
- Recent heat bill
- Recent electric bill

If you receive alimony or child support it will also need to be verified.

**WAGE EARNERS:** Please bring copies of your check stubs for the three-month period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your federal income tax return.

**FIXED INCOME:** This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance and pensions. Please bring copies of your most recent 3 months' check stubs.

**SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:** Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

**FIP RECIPIENTS:** Please bring your current DHS Notice of Decision or contact your local office for acceptable document information

If you are not sure where to apply, please write to: LIHEAP, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Capitol Complex, Des Moines, IA 50319, or call your local community action agency.

### Income Maximums

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
3 Month Gross Income	\$5,149	\$6,969	\$8,789	\$10,609	\$12,429	\$14,249
Annual Gross Income	\$20,598	\$27,878	\$35,158	\$42,438	\$49,718	\$56,998

For households with more than six member, add \$1,820 per three months, or \$7,280 annually for each additional member.

Medical Waiver: Households who are over LIHEAP regular income guidelines may be eligible for LIHEAP benefits through our medical waiver component. The medical expenses must be documented, paid, and non-reimbursable. For more information please contact your local community action agency.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't let vampires suck the life out of your energy efficiency efforts! Unplugging unused electronics – otherwise known as "energy vampires" – can save you as much as 10% on your electric bill.

*Source: energy.gov*