



Harrison Rural Electrification Association, Inc.

RR 6, Box 502

Clarksburg, WV 26301-0502

304-624-6365

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



www.harrisonrea.com

Office closing

Plans are underway to close the business office at Sun Valley Road, Clarksburg, on Oct. 4.

A lack of space, along with growing pains, has prompted us to develop an expansion plan that will improve the overall performance of our operations and billing departments. The building's age, along with its many needed upgrades, is hindering growth and performance. It's basically the same building that was built in the 1950s.

Our engineering, stores and line personnel will remain at the Sun Valley location; however, the billing and customer service staff will be relocating to our office at 600 Market Place, Suite 104, Charles Pointe. Members wishing to make cash payments will now have to process them through the Charles Pointe location.

A drop box for payments will remain at the Sun Valley location for members living within close proximity. Additionally, members can continue to make call-in pay-

ments with a credit or debit card and use the online service for making payments through our website, www.harrisonrea.com. Of course, there is the normal mail-in option.

The process of applying for service or service upgrades will be handled through a call-in process similar to our current method. Rick Fox, staking engineer, will still be available to answer questions about service-related issues at the Sun Valley location; however, contacting Rick by phone will provide the member with the quickest response. Our office number remains the same for both office locations: 304-624-6365.

Manager's Corner

by
Gary Jackson,
CEO/General
Manager



Upgrade for the Adamsville area

Work continues to progress on a major line rebuild in the Adamsville area. To date, approximately half of the 4.1-mile rebuild is completed. The upgrade of lines and poles will improve reliability issues for a line that dates back many, many years.

The cost of this project is approximately \$350,000.

Keep Halloween a safe night

With witches, goblins and superheroes descending on neighborhoods across America, the American Red Cross offers parents some safety tips to help prepare their children for a safe and enjoyable trick-or-treat holiday. Halloween should be filled with surprise and enjoyment, and following some common-sense practices can keep events safer and more fun.

- Walk, slither and sneak on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Look both ways before crossing the street to check for cars, trucks and low-flying brooms. Cross the street only at corners.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing so you are more visible. (And remember to put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards and brooms, too!)
- Plan your route and share it with your family. If possible, have an adult go with you.
- Carry a flashlight to light your way. Keep away from open fires and candles. (Costumes can be extremely flammable.)
- Visit homes that have the porch light on.
- Accept your treats at the door and never go into a stranger's house.
- Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover your eyes.
- Be cautious of animals and strangers.
- Have a grownup inspect your treats before eating. And don't eat candy if the package already is opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.

Board of Directors

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James Stuart.....Dist. 4
Ron Watson.....Dist. 5

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Terry StoutOffice Manager
Alan CoxOperations Manager
Richard L. Fox.....Staking Engineer
Nada McNemarEditor

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

The cooperative difference

Every October since 1930, not-for-profit cooperatives of all stripes have celebrated Cooperative Month. During this time, it makes sense to highlight the qualities that make electric cooperatives different from other types of utilities and businesses.

For starters, electric co-ops are owned by those they serve. That's why those who receive electric service from us are called members, not customers. Without members, there would be no Harrison Rural Electrification Association.

Members maintain democratic control of our co-op, which means they elect fellow members to represent them on the board of trustees every year at our annual meeting. As a bonus, co-op members receive special benefits through programs like our Co-op Connections® Card. We also return margins ("profits") to our members in the form of capital credits.

One principle that sets us apart from other busi-

nesses is our concern for community. As a cooperative, we have a special responsibility to support the areas in which our members live and work. From sponsoring a local school's baseball team to supporting new jobs and industry through our economic development efforts, we stand as a driving force in our community.

Of course, co-ops span all industries, including credit unions, dairy operations, health care, housing and much more. There are more than 29,000 co-ops across the nation. And not all are small

or rural. Just look at nationally known co-ops like Sunkist, Ace Hardware and Land O' Lakes.

Overall, co-ops are more accessible than other types of businesses. We give our members a voice, and we are local — living and working alongside those we serve.

That's the cooperative difference.

**LOCAL.
TRUSTED.
SERVING
YOU.™**

The Seven Cooperative Principles

Cooperatives around the world generally operate according to the same core principles and values, adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance in 1995. The International Cooperative Alliance is a global membership association of co-ops and co-op support organizations. Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England, in 1844.

1. Voluntary and Open Membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all people able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2. Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members — those who buy the goods or use the services of the cooperative — who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.

3. Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute equally to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. This benefits members in proportion to the business they conduct with the cooperative, rather than on the capital invested.

4. Autonomy and Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If the co-op enters into agreements with other organizations or raises capital from external sources, it is done so based on terms that ensure democratic control by the members and maintain the cooperative's autonomy.

5. Education, Training and Information

Cooperatives provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative. Members also inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperatives.

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7. Concern for Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of communities through policies and programs accepted by the members.

Time is running out for efficiency tax credits

Not much time remains to tackle home improvement projects if you want to take advantage of energy efficiency tax credits authorized under the federal stimulus bill. Measures that qualify include replacing windows, doors or roofs with materials that reduce your home's heat loss or gain; adding insulation; replacing certain air conditioners; and installing air-source heat pumps, boilers and biomass stoves.

"We want to make sure our members know about these tax credits and can take advantage of them before they expire on Dec. 31," stresses General Manager Gary Jackson. "This is an incredible opportunity for folks to invest in residential energy efficiency and see energy bill savings right away."

You can recover 30 percent — up to \$1,500 — of costs associated with buying and installing heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems and biomass stoves. Installation costs are not covered for windows, doors, roofing and insulation.

ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, provides guidelines on what qualifies for the tax credit at www.energystar.gov/taxcredits. Tax credits are especially beneficial, as they directly reduce, dollar for dollar, any taxes you owe.

"These are tough times, and we know it's important for our members to keep their monthly electric bills as


low as possible," explains HREA. "Making home energy efficiency upgrades offers a great way to save energy and money, and these tax credits can help make that a reality."

If you're interested in renewable energy, the government also offers a renewable energy tax credit that expires Dec. 31, 2016. That credit covers 30 percent of the cost of materials and installation for solar panels, solar water heaters and geothermal heat pumps, for both new and existing homes. But check with Harrison REA for advice on what system makes sense for your home.

Be sure to keep your receipts and your Manufacturer's Certification Statement (a signed statement from the manufacturer certifying that the product or component qualifies for the tax credit) for your records. Then claim the credit on your 2010 taxes using IRS Form 5695.

Some electric cooperatives and state government offices offer additional subsidies or rebates to consumers who want to make their homes more energy efficient. For a list of state and local energy efficiency assistance available, visit the Database for State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency, a project funded by DOE, at www.dsireusa.org.

Source: ENERGY STAR, Database for State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency



Time's Running Out for federal Energy Efficiency Tax Credits!

The 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided incentives to make energy efficiency improvements to existing homes, but they expire on **Dec. 31, 2010**. You can receive a tax credit for 30 percent of the cost of materials for qualifying improvements—up to \$1,500 over 2009 and 2010. The cost of installation is not covered for windows, doors, roofing, and insulation. A list of qualified improvements is at www.energystar.gov/taxcredits. Examples include:

<h3 style="color: #2e7d32;">Windows and Doors</h3> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Exterior Windows, Doors and Skylights</td> <td>Must have Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) and U-factor less than or equal to 0.30.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Storm Windows and Doors</td> <td>When combined with the window/door over which it's installed, it must meet the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in your climate zone.</td> </tr> </table> <h3 style="color: #2e7d32;">Roofing</h3> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Metal, Asphalt Roofs</td> <td>All ENERGY STAR metal and asphalt roofs qualify. Must be expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.</td> </tr> </table> <h3 style="color: #2e7d32;">Insulation</h3> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Insulation</td> <td>Primary purpose must be to insulate. For example, vapor retarders are covered but insulated siding does not qualify. Also must meet 2009 IECC and be expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.</td> </tr> </table>	Exterior Windows, Doors and Skylights	Must have Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) and U-factor less than or equal to 0.30.	Storm Windows and Doors	When combined with the window/door over which it's installed, it must meet the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in your climate zone.	Metal, Asphalt Roofs	All ENERGY STAR metal and asphalt roofs qualify. Must be expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.	Insulation	Primary purpose must be to insulate. For example, vapor retarders are covered but insulated siding does not qualify. Also must meet 2009 IECC and be expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.	<h3 style="color: #2e7d32;">Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)</h3> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Central Air Conditioning</td> <td>For split systems, must have an energy efficiency ratio (EER) greater than or equal to 13 and a Seasonal EER greater than or equal to 16. For package systems, must have an EER greater than or equal to 12 and a SEER greater than or equal to 14.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Air-Source Heat Pumps</td> <td>For split systems, must have a Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) greater than or equal to 8.5, an EER greater than or equal to 12.5, and a SEER greater than or equal to 15. For package systems, must have a HSPF greater than or equal to 8, an EER greater than or equal to 12, and a SEER greater than or equal to 14.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Natural Gas or Propane Furnace</td> <td>Must have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) greater than or equal to 95.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gas, Propane, or Oil Hot Water Boiler and Oil Furnace</td> <td>Must have an AFUE greater than or equal to 90.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advanced Main Air Circulating Fan</td> <td>No more than 2 percent of furnace total energy use.</td> </tr> </table>	Central Air Conditioning	For split systems, must have an energy efficiency ratio (EER) greater than or equal to 13 and a Seasonal EER greater than or equal to 16. For package systems, must have an EER greater than or equal to 12 and a SEER greater than or equal to 14.	Air-Source Heat Pumps	For split systems, must have a Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) greater than or equal to 8.5, an EER greater than or equal to 12.5, and a SEER greater than or equal to 15. For package systems, must have a HSPF greater than or equal to 8, an EER greater than or equal to 12, and a SEER greater than or equal to 14.	Natural Gas or Propane Furnace	Must have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) greater than or equal to 95.	Gas, Propane, or Oil Hot Water Boiler and Oil Furnace	Must have an AFUE greater than or equal to 90.	Advanced Main Air Circulating Fan	No more than 2 percent of furnace total energy use.
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NOTE: Certain non-solar water heaters and biomass stoves also qualify for energy efficiency tax credits. Tax credits are also available for renewable energy, including geothermal heat pumps. For tax purposes, the Manufacturer's Certification Statement and receipt are generally required.

Source: ENERGY STAR. For details visit www.energystar.gov.

Home safety checklist for older adults

Last year, more than 1 million people 65 years and older were treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with accidents at home. Since most of these episodes resulted from a lack of maintenance, walk through your home and use the following checklist to spot possible safety hazards. If you notice a potential problem, arrange for it to be fixed immediately to prevent accident or injury.

- **Kitchen:** Make sure all of your appliances carry an Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) seal, which means the item was tested and found safe to use. Check electrical cords for fraying or cracking; step stools for splitting or cracking; and throw rugs for tripping hazards like bumps and turned-up corners.

- **Living room:** Check rugs and runners, electrical cords, lamps and other lighting. Inspect the fireplace and chimney for fire hazards, and make sure all passageways are clear.

- **Bathroom:** Make sure small appliances are marked with a UL seal. Check the bathtub, shower, rugs and mats for slipping hazards and inspect cabinets for safe storage of medications.

- **Bedrooms:** Examine rugs, runners, electrical and telephone cords, and make sure the area around the bed is clear of items that could cause you to trip.

- **Basement/garage/workshop:** Make sure all power tools bear the UL mark. Check fuse and breaker boxes for possible malfunction and shock and fire hazards. Inspect extension cords and cords on tools and lawn and garden supplies. Check for proper ventilation and

make sure flammable liquids are stored properly.

- **Stairs:** Make sure there's proper lighting on and around stairways. Examine handrails and steps for possible defects or weaknesses, and test stair coverings for possible tripping hazards.

Source: Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.



Sun Valley office closed

The Sun Valley office of Harrison Rural Electric will no longer be open for walk-in payments effective Oct. 1, 2010. Members paying by check or money order may still use the drop box located by the sidewalk at the edge of the parking lot. (No cash, please.)

Cash payments and other co-op business can now be accomplished at the Charles Pointe office from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We are located off of I-79. If traveling north on I-79, take the Jerry Dove Drive exit and turn right. Turn left at the traffic light where Buffalo Wild Wings and On the Run Exxon are located. You will see a brick building on the left with a large 600 on it. Immediately after passing the building, turn left on Edington Drive and left again into our parking lot. Enter the building through the double doors; we're the first office on your right. Our name is by the door. If traveling south on I-79, take the Jerry Dove Drive exit, turn left and follow the same directions listed above.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

It may be time to replace your refrigerator. A fridge made before 1993 could cost more than \$100 each year to operate. A new ENERGY STAR-qualified model could cut your related energy costs in half. In addition, newer models keep food fresher longer.

Source U.S. Department of Energy