



## Annual Meeting Reminder

Your Annual Report for Vernon Electric Cooperative will be in the March issue of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* magazine. Please mark your calendars for Vernon Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 29 in the Westby High School gymnasium. Breakfast and musical entertainment will be provided.

**Saturday, March 29**  
**Westby High School**

## Estimating Appliance and Home Electronic Energy Use

If you're trying to decide whether to invest in a more energy-efficient appliance or you'd like to determine your electricity loads, you may want to estimate appliance energy consumption. You can use this formula to estimate an appliance's energy use:

$$\text{Wattage} \times \text{hours used per day} \times \text{days used per year} \div 1,000 = \text{kilowatt-hour (kwh) consumption per year}$$

For example: Personal computer (120 watts) and monitor (150 watts):

$$(120 \text{ watts} + 150 \text{ watts}) \times 4 \text{ hours per day} \times 365 \text{ days per year} \div 1,000 = 394 \text{ kwh/year}$$

Then, calculate the annual cost to run an appliance by multiplying the kWh per year by Vernon Electric's rate per kWh consumed.

$$394 \text{ kwh} \times \$0.09 \text{ (average)} = \$35.46 \text{ per year.}$$

You can usually find the wattage of most appliances stamped on the bottom or back of the appliance or on its nameplate. The wattage listed is the maximum power drawn by the appliance. Since many appliances have a range of settings (hair dryers), the actual amount of power consumed depends on the setting used at any one time.

### Here are some examples of the range of nameplate wattages for various household appliances:

- ▲ Clothes washer = 350-500 watts
- ▲ Clothes dryer = 1,800-5,000 watts
- ▲ Dishwasher = 1,200-2,400 watts (heat-drying feature increases energy use)
- ▲ Hair dryer = 1,200-1,875 watts
- ▲ Microwave oven = 750-1,100 watts

- ▲ Personal computer
  - CPU – awake/asleep = 120/30 or less
  - Monitor – awake/asleep = 150/30 or less
  - Laptop = 50 watts
- ▲ Refrigerator (frost-free, 16 cubic feet) = 725 watts
- ▲ Televisions
  - 27" = 113 watts
  - 36" = 133 watts
  - 53"-61" = projection = 170 watts
  - Flat screen = 120 watts
  - Water heater = 4,500-5,500 watts

– Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy



"You can usually find the wattage of most appliances stamped on the bottom or back of the appliance or on its nameplate."

# Kid's



# Corner

Last month's Kid's Corner winner was Kegan Bell, age 9, son of Tim & Amy Bell & of rural Cashton

**W**in a chance for a gift certificate from a local restaurant by completing the following activity and mailing it back to our office by March 7th. You must be 12 or under to enter.



## Scrambled messages

**Put the words in each message in the correct order.**

ALWAYS FALLEN AWAY STAY FROM WIRES.

AIRPLANES KITES FIELDS OPEN IN MODEL FLY AND.

BALLOONS FLY METAL INDOORS.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

## If the Lights Go Out, So Do We

**T**he snow, ice and blustery winds of this season combine to make winter one of the most treacherous and busy times of the year for Vernon Electric. Ice-laden lines can snap under the weight of Mother Nature's wrath. And the mighty winds of an Alberta Clipper can tax even the best maintained system, downing poles and lines. Getting the lights back on quickly – and safely – is our number one goal. If your lights go out, check your fuses and breakers first. If no solution is found there, call the co-op to let us know. Our crews will be on the line straightaway to find and repair the problem. Don't forget to stay well clear if the problem is a downed line. Even though the line may appear dead, it is still extremely dangerous. Never touch or try to move a downed power line. Call the co-op immediately and our crews will handle the situation quickly and safely. If your lights do go out,



you can rest assured that your cooperative lineman – well trained and ready – will respond without delay.

## Energy Efficiency "Tip of the Month"

**Weatherize your home – caulk and weatherstrip any doors and windows that may leak. Properly maintain and clean heating equipment and replace filters regularly.**

*Check it out!*

**E-Billing now available!**

**Sign up anytime at [www.vernonelectric.org](http://www.vernonelectric.org) and get \$5 off your next bill.**

## Local Calendar of Events

- Feb 12 Inventors & Entrepreneurs Club meeting, Gays Mills Community Building, 212 Main St. Networking 6 p.m., Program at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome! Call Sue Noble at VEDA for more info: 637-5396.
- Feb. 14 First Congregational Church of Leon's annual Pancake Supper with all the trimmings, 4-8 p.m. on Hwy. 27 in Leon. Free-will donation. 269-5595 or [www.leonchurch.org](http://www.leonchurch.org).
- Feb. 15 Blood Drive, Chaseburg Village Hall, 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Feb. 16 Skogdalen Lutheran Church Pancake & Sausage Supper, 4-8 p.m. Located on Cty. P between Westby & Coon Valley.
- Feb. 23 The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology & the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative Education Committee present One Bird – Two Habitats & Flying WILD: One Day – Two Programs. Kickapoo Valley Reserve Center. 608-625-2965 or <http://kvr.state.wi.us>.
- Feb. 23 Al Townsend's "It's a Wonderful World Jazz Band" will perform at the historic Temple Theatre in Viroqua. General admission \$18. Mail order tickets available at 608-637-2946. [www.temple-theatre.com](http://www.temple-theatre.com).
- Feb. 23 Coon Valley Area Baseball Assoc. Chicken-Q Fundraiser. Coon Valley American Legion Hall from 5 p.m. until gone. Music & Raffle.
- Feb. 28 New Hope United Methodist Church Spaghetti Supper, 4-7 p.m.. Adults: \$7, Child under 12: \$3, Pre-School: Free, Families: \$25 max. Located near Redmound on Hwy. 82

**If you know of a local event taking place between March 10th and April 10th, we would be happy to advertise it for you, for free, in this newsletter, at our discretion. Please provide us with information before February 12th.**

## Watt's New

The information in this newsletter has been prepared for you by David Maxwell, Marketing and Communications. Comments or questions regarding information contained here should be directed to:

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