



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

MIDSTATE Connection

April 2011

A Monthly Publication for Midstate Electric Members



One call
does it all.

541-536-2126 • 800-722-7219

After Hours: Office Hours:
Outages/Emergencies 8 am to 5 pm
541-536-2165 • 800-752-5935 Closed Weekends and Holidays

Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Update

The Co-op Connections Card is a member benefit that provides valuable local and national discounts, coupons and pharmacy discounts. The most used benefit of the card, the pharmacy discount, has saved members \$304,391 since June 2009.

Visit www.co-opconnections.com for other discounts available. If you need a Co-op Connections Card, call Marketing at 541-536-2126.



Conservation Program Rebates

April 1 – September 30, 2011

Heat Pumps
Duct Sealing
Weatherization
Water Heaters

ENERGY STAR
Clothes Washers
Refrigerators
New Homes

Please Note: Clothes Washer rebates have been decreased to \$50 and Refrigerator rebates have been decreased to \$15.

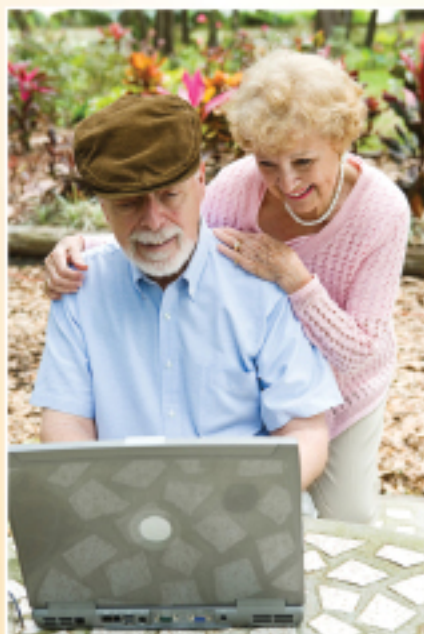
For details, call Marketing at 541-536-2126.



PowerPay Program

A Newly Offered Pay-As-You-Use
Electric Service

The *PowerPay* Program is a pay-as-you-use program which allows members to prepay for their electricity before they use it. The program provides an alternative to traditional monthly billing by allowing participants to customize a plan that best suits their individual needs.



The prepaid balance is adjusted based on daily energy use. When the account balance gets low, participants can add money as it fits their budget. Participants may pay as much or as often as they wish as long as the account retains a positive balance. If the account balance goes negative, electric service is automatically discontinued. Once a payment is made, the electric service is reconnected – automatically.

Participants elect to receive alerts based upon the parameters they set via e-mail, text messages and telephone. Making the member aware of their account information before it runs out is one of the many benefits offered by *PowerPay*.

New and existing members may participate in the *PowerPay* program. A security deposit is not required for new members and existing member's deposits are applied as a credit when opening a *PowerPay* account.

Please Note: The PowerPay Program is an optional program and is not available to all members at this time. For more information, call Customer Service at 541-536-2126.

8 Scholarships Offered \$2,500 Each

Applications are available:

- At area high schools
- At Midstate Electric's office (16755 Finley Butte Rd)
- Online at www.midstateelectric.coop

May 6th
Deadline for
Applying

For more information, call Marketing at 541-536-2126.



Power of Community

Electric cooperatives are closely watching the Oregon Legislature this year as energy issues continue to be a part of the debate.

On February 16, more than 70 electric cooperative leaders came to Salem to lobby their state legislators during the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association's 2011 Legislative Day.



Energy issues are nonpartisan because both Republicans and Democrats represent members of electric cooperatives. Co-op leaders work with both parties on public policy to minimize rising costs.

Senate Republican leader Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day, District 30) told a group of rural electric leaders "cooperatives must engage in the political process to protect your members."

A group of co-op leaders also met with Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem, District 11) and outlined their concerns with legislation that could increase costs for their members.

During their day at the Capitol, co-op leaders highlighted the following points with their legislators:

- Electric co-ops strive to keep electricity affordable for consumers. Any new mandated fees, taxes or assessments on electric cooperative consumers will hit hardworking families without improving the reliability of the electrical power system.
- Electric co-ops have made a commitment to renewable power and energy efficiency. Electric cooperatives get more than 90 percent of their electricity from carbon-free sources through the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets renewable hydropower from dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers.
- Electric co-ops have worked for many years on cost-effective conservation programs. These programs not only help members be more energy efficient, but save co-ops money and offset the need for new sources of generation.

Provided by the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association for its Power of Community members. To learn more or sign up for Power of Community, go to www.oreca.org/powercom.php



Paperless Billing - No More Bill Stubs, Envelopes, Stamps or Checks

Life is a little easier and greener with paperless billing. With this online resource, you can manage your account at your convenience, anytime, anywhere!

Benefits include:

- 24/7 access to your account information
- Automated e-mail notification indicating that your monthly statement is available
- Ability to view or print your statement
- Review your billing, payment and usage history
- Have your payment drafted through any bank, savings and loan or credit union, as well as your VISA, MasterCard or Discover

To sign up:

- Go to www.midstateelectric.coop
- Click on Pay Your Bill
- Enter Your E-mail Address
- Enter Your Password
- Click on Stop/Start Print Bill
- A Confirmation of Sign Up Will be E-mailed to You

Please Note: Paperless Billing is not available to Invoice/Summary Billing Customers at this time.

Midstate Electric's 59th Annual Meeting

Midstate Electric is preparing for the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Members. This year's meeting will be held on Saturday, May 14, at the LaPine Middle School.

The annual meeting is an event for the entire family. It gives you, the member/owners of Midstate Electric a chance to participate in the business of your electric co-op. It also provides you with a first-hand look at the various programs and services available through the cooperative.

In keeping with tradition, there will be prize drawings held throughout the meeting with hundreds of dollars of gifts to be given away. Be watching your mail for more detailed information about the meeting.

**Celebrating a
Spring Tradition
for 59 Years**

AGENDA	
10:30 am	Registration Health Fair & Displays
11:00 am	Barbecue Lunch
12:30 - 2:30 pm	Business Meeting



Saturday
May 14, 2011
SAVE THE DATE

