

Y-W ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2019



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Y-W Electric Association, Inc.

is dedicated to providing high-quality, reliable electric service and related products to our members at competitive prices. Our members deserve and shall receive quality service unexcelled in our industry. We are committed to maintaining an environment where the Board of Directors and employees can perform at maximum potential to benefit our Y-W community.

YOU'RE MORE THAN A CUSTOMER

BY TERRY HALL GENERAL MANAGER



TERRY HALL

Author Anthony J. D'Angelo said, "Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."

To a large degree, this reflects Y-W Electric Association's philosophy toward our consumer-members and the broader service territory we serve. As a cooperative, we have a different "bottom line." While our priority is always to provide reliable and safe energy, there is another equally important part of this equation. Your well-being and that of the larger community that we serve are of paramount concern.

To us, you are not just a customer; you are a member of our co-op and without you, we would not exist.

In 1945, Y-W Electric Association was founded to fulfill a vital need in our community that would not have otherwise been met. Concerned local leaders came together to build this co-op and bring electricity where there was none.

At that time, members of the community understood we were different because they likely knew someone who helped to create Y-W Electric Association. For most people, our founding and its circumstances are long forgotten. Over time, folks in the community may have come to think of us as simply another energy provider. But we are not. We are a co-op that is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve, and we can do this because of members like you.

We strive to find new ways to help you use energy more efficiently. We're always looking to explore more options that will help you manage your energy use, such as energy efficiency audits, appliance rebates and budget billing programs. In

short, we are always seeking to keep pace with the changing energy environment, evolving technology and shifting consumer expectations.

Y-W Electric Association members help guide important co-op decisions that improve and enrich the community. We value the perspective of our board members, who are members of the co-op and community — just like you.

As a local business, we have a stake in the community. That's why we support local chambers of commerce, fire departments and youth groups. When you support these efforts, you support the community and make it a better place for everyone.

While the times have changed, our mission and outlook have not. We view our role as a catalyst for good. Working together, we can accomplish great things for our community now and in the future.

CLAIM YOUR CREDIT

Each month, Y-W Electric offers members a chance to earn a \$20 credit on their next electric bill. If you recognize your name and account number in this magazine, call 800-660-2291 and ask for your credit. It couldn't be easier.

Get acquainted with your account number, read your *Colorado Country Life* magazine and pick up the phone. That's all the energy you'll need to claim your energy bucks.

You must claim your credit during the month in which your name appears in the magazine. (Check the date on the front cover.)

Winners claiming \$20 from the December 2018 issue:
Glen L. Trute
Assembly of God Cope

2019 Energy Efficiency Products Program (Rebate)



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Energy Star is being used as a benchmark for Tri-State and Y-W Electric incentives in a number of areas in the Energy Efficiency Program.

Space Heating/Cooling

Energy Star Ground Source Heat Pump:

\$700/ton incentive - new installations

\$450/ ton -replacement units

Energy Star Air Source Heat Pump:

\$400/ton 15-17 SEER

\$550/ton greater than 17 SEER

* Energy Star Split systems may be eligible for rebates. Contact Y-W Electric for more information.

Water Heaters

30-55 gallon minimum storage type only

Standard Warranty:

New or Conversion = \$30

Life Time Warranty:

New or Conversion = \$50

Heat Pump Water Heater

New or Conversion = \$450

Ground Source Heat Pump Coupled

\$100/unit \$125 Lifetime Warranty/unit

Wiring allowance—conversion from gas to electric: \$50

Energy Star LED Bulbs

LED Energy Star rated bulbs. Lumen out-put of 500 or greater. Limit 50 bulbs rebated per member per year. 50% of lamp cost, maximum \$8.00 per



Commercial Lighting retrofit

Rebates vary, contact Member Services

Split System Air Conditioner

\$150/unit split system Energy Star air-conditioners. Above 16 SEER

\$100/unit split system Energy Star air-conditioners. 15-16 SEER



Refrigerators / Freezers



Energy Star Refrigerators and Freezers = \$60

Additional \$60 if retired and no longer in service.

Clothes Washer

Energy Star rated top load Clothes Washer = \$60

Energy Star rated front load Clothes Washer = \$80



Clothes Dryer

Energy Star rated clothes dryer = \$60

Energy Star rated hybrid clothes dryer (ventless) = \$180



Dish Washer

Energy Star Dish Washer = \$40



Irrigation Electric Motors

Applies to installation of premium efficiency irrigation motors.

\$14/hp for motors from 10 through 500 hp

\$1.50/hp if motor replaces fossil fuel

Contact Y-W Electric for a motor table of minimum standards.



Variable Speed Drive for Irrigation Retrofit

25 hp = \$1,600 30 hp = \$1,750 40hp = \$2,050

50 hp = \$2,350 60 hp = \$2,650 75hp = \$3,100

100hp = \$3,800 125hp = \$4,600 150hp = \$5,300

200hp and larger = \$6,800

Contact Member Services at 970-345-2291 for more information regarding Energy Efficiency Rebates



February 2019

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

LAUNDRY TIP:

Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: energy.gov

[D L Campbell, 1141222200]

Billing Corner SmartHub Bill Pay & More

For convenience, Y-W Electric offers the ability to pay your account with a SmartHub app. This service allows you to pay your bill electronically with a credit or debit card or checking account. This is also a great place to go to get account information. Information on billing history, usage, payment history and past billing invoices are available. There is also a link to sign up for auto payment.

Reporting an outage is also available on SmartHub. This information goes directly to our operations department in an email. This leaves our phone lines open for those who do not have SmartHub available.

The app is compatible with iPhones as well as Android devices. Check our website at www.ywelectric.coop for more information. [Kevin and Rebecca S. Shively, 1263203101]

New Hire

We at Y-W Electric Association welcome **Travis Varelman** to the cooperative. He started his employment with Y-W on January 2 after previous employment with Tri-State Generation and Transmission in Brush. Travis and his wife, Katie, have five children: Autumn, Layla, Haedyn, Laramie and Hunter. Travis enjoys spending time with family and outdoor hobbies. Welcome to the family, Travis! [Ronald Serl, 2052005028]



Receive Rebate Money For Being Safe

Install all your double-throw generator transfer switches and collect a sizable rebate as a reward for safety. Y-W Electric reminds those members using standby generator sets how important it is to connect them into the electrical system correctly.

Since 2001, the Y-W directors have sponsored a rebate program to encourage all members with standby generators to install the proper double-throw transfer switches.

The program was initiated to provide safety for linemen working on downed power lines following storms.

For a number of years before that, Y-W Electric provided double-throw transfer switches at cost for members. However, even at cost, the purchase price discouraged members from installing the safety devices. The Y-W board reasoned that providing a

rebate that covers approximately two-thirds of the cost of the panel would encourage members to install the switches for safety.

The provisions for receiving the rebate are as follows:

1. A member may purchase a double-throw transfer switch with Underwriters Laboratories approval rating for service entrance equipment from any source and present the purchase invoice within 180 days of purchase.
2. A member may install equipment or hire others to install the equipment.
3. Switch installation must be inspected and approved by a Y-W Electric employee.
4. Rebate is to be paid based on the schedule shown at right.

Y-W Electric has contacted the electrical contractors in the area and discussed the

program with them. All of them expressed support for the program. Y-W Electric has no intention of competing with the contractors. Y-W Electric will gladly advise the consumer who wishes to do his or her own work, but Y-W will not install any of the equipment.

If you have any questions, you may call your electrical contractor or Y-W Electric Association at 800-660-2291 or, in the Akron calling area, 970-345-2291. [David and Denise Kinney, 2033001014]

SAFETY REBATES FOR DOUBLE-THROW SWITCHES

- 100 ampere, single phase..... \$250
- 200 ampere, single phase..... \$325
- 400 ampere, single phase \$600
- 100 ampere, three phase..... \$425
- 200 ampere, three phase..... \$500
- 400 ampere, three phase..... \$1,300

Don't Let Your Generator Generate Trouble

Having a generator on hand, whether portable or permanent, is a great idea for times when the power goes out, but misusing one is dangerous. Although they can help light your home or cool your perishable food when the neighborhood is dark, if used incorrectly you could have a much bigger problem on your hands.

When using a portable version, there are two ways to connect it to a home. The first way is with a powered circuit panel that has a power transfer switch, which monitors incoming voltage from the utility line. The circuit panel and transfer switch should always be installed by a qualified electrician. The second option is to plug in a limited number of home appliances directly into a fuel-powered portable generator with heavy-duty extension cords.

Never try to power your home by plugging a generator into a wall outlet. This is known as back feeding and could electrocute a neighbor or an electric lineman working to restore power. A permanent generator must also have a transfer switch installed by a qualified electrician to avoid back feeding. Because of the harm an incorrectly powered generator can cause, the transfer switch is required by the National Electrical Code.

The primary hazards of using a portable generator are not meager. They include carbon monoxide poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. According to FEMA, most of the deaths and injuries associated with portable generators are from carbon monoxide poisoning when generators are used indoors or in partially enclosed spaces. A permanent or standby

generator also has significant risks if not installed by a qualified electrician. Installing one is extremely dangerous and definitely not a DIY project.

Portable versions are less expensive than permanent or standby models and power only select appliances. The most expensive permanent generators — standby versions that are permanently installed and power most of the appliances in your home — are convenient but pricey. The average permanent system costs around \$10,000.

Safe Electricity points to other important precautions to take when using a generator:

- Operate a portable generator in well ventilated locations outdoors away from all doors, windows and vent openings to avoid CO poisoning. Read and follow the instructions that come with it; they are important.
- Turn the generator on before using it. Once it's running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Generators are for temporary use and limited load; prioritize your needs.
- Never use a generator in a puddle

or standing water or touch with wet hands.

- To protect a portable generator from moisture, operate it on a dry surface under an open, canopy-like structure.
- Never use or install a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.
- Turn off portable generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is running.
- Store fuel for your portable generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.
- Keep children and pets away from all generators, especially portable ones. Many generator components are hot enough to cause burns during operation.

Using a generator is serious business and shouldn't be done in haste. Learn more about using electricity safely and efficiently at SafeElectricity.org. [Sam Bryant, 1061301102]

