

## Lower Your Federal Tax and Energy Bill at the Same Time

**T**he Energy Policy Act of 2005 signed by President Bush, provides federal tax credits of up to \$500 for Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative members who make certain energy efficient upgrades to their homes. Additional benefits of participating in the program will include lower home energy bills, increased indoor comfort and reduced air pollution.

### What is a tax credit?

A tax credit is a claim on your federal income tax form at the end of the year. The credit increases the tax refund you receive or decreases the amount of taxes you have to pay. A tax credit is more valuable than a similar size tax deduction. A tax credit reduces your federal income tax by 100 percent of the amount of credit.

### Who is eligible for the tax credits?

Anyone who installs the eligible improvements in or on their principle residence in the United States between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2007.

### What energy-efficient home improvements are eligible?

- **Insulation, exterior doors or pigmented metal roofs:** 10 percent of the total cost, up to \$500. Duct sealing and weather stripping or foam sealants may also qualify for the credit, depending on the IRS rules.
- **Central air conditioners, heat pumps or water heaters:** up to \$300 towards the full purchase price. Furnaces or boilers: up to \$150 towards the full purchase price, and/or \$50 for a furnace with an efficient air-circulating fan.
- **Exterior windows (including skylights):** 10 percent of the total cost, up to \$200.

### What are the equipment specifications needed for the tax credit?

- **Windows, doors and insulation** must meet the requirements of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) a model energy code for buildings. In some cases this may be higher than the Energy Star code.
- **Metal roofs** must have pigmented

coatings that meet Energy Star requirements.

- **Heating and cooling equipment** must meet stringent efficiency standards and not all Energy Star products will qualify. **Central air conditioners** must have a seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) minimum of 15 and an energy efficiency ratio (EER) minimum of 12.5. **Electric heat pumps** must be 15 SEER and 13 EER with a heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) of at least 9. **Geothermal heat pumps** must meet current Energy Star criteria. For a closed-loop system, a 14.1 EER and a coefficient of performance (COP) of at least 3.3. In addition the geothermal heat pumps must include a desuperheater, which helps heat water or an integrated water heating system. **Natural gas, propane or oil burning water heaters** must have an energy factor (EF) of at least 0.80. Only some tankless water heaters meet this standard. As we have discussed before, tankless heaters can be quite effective in point of use applications, however, their use as the central source of hot water in a residence should be carefully considered. We do not recommend them for such an application. (See our article in the November 2005 issue of Illinois Country Living Magazine)

### When are the tax credits available?

The home improvement tax credits apply for improvements "placed in service" from January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2007. "Placed in service" means installed not purchased. This bill was signed by President Bush on August 8, 2005 and is now in effect.

For more information, contact Wayne-White at (618) 842-2196 or check out our Web site at www.WW-CEC.com

### Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative

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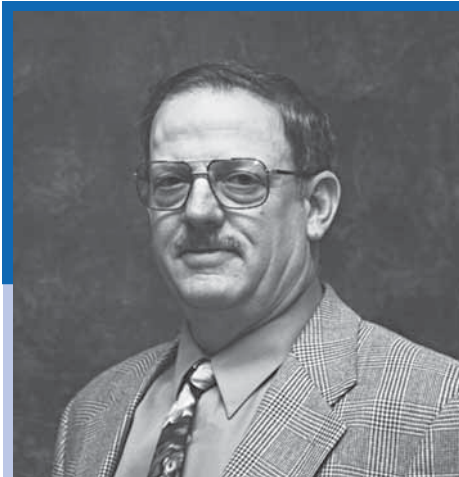


## *Crews Busy With Expansion Near Johnsonville*

**C**rews from Wayne-White have been busy assisting Marathon-Pipeline, LLC. Company with a major expansion at their Johnsonville substation. In

the photos above, crews set a new steel pole in place just outside the perimeter fence at the pipeline facility before beginning work to establish power connections on the large steel substation grid (in the background).





## Meet Your Directors

**Jerry Williams,  
Board Member,  
District #6**

**J**erry Williams has been a member of the Board of Directors at Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative since 2005. He said the experience has already given him a better understanding of the cooperative situation

and he has enjoyed trying to contribute in guiding the cooperative into the future.

Williams is a farmer and does everything from designing his own subsurface irrigation system, to creating unique farm rental agreements. Jerry and his wife, Betty, live near Carmi.

They have been married almost 29 years and have two daughters.

Amy, 26, is a Research Technician for Agrilant Genetics, working with corn breeding. She has earned her Master's Degree. Amy set the school record for the hammer throw while attending Murray State University.

Daughter Teresa, 24, also has a Master's Degree and is currently looking for employment.

The Williams family has always attended the Georgia General Baptist Church. In fact, Jerry and Betty were married there. The farm and family occupies much of Jerry's time when he is not in the Wayne-White boardroom. He enjoys attending his nephew's ballgames and hunting deer with Amy and her grandfather. They have collected some wonderful trophies, which now hang on their walls.



## Wayne-White Employee Spotlight

We will feature two or three cooperative employees each month in a special employee spotlight feature.



**Dennis Estes**

Dennis Estes is a staking engineer at Wayne-White. He has been an employee of the Cooperative for six years. He enjoys meeting customers at the job site and designing their service entrance or upgrades based upon what they want and need. He also works with reconversions, which involve retiring old lines in fields and designing new lines along the road.

Prior to joining WWCEC, Dennis worked in electrical maintenance at Hella Electronics in Flora. He attended Ramsey High School. He and his wife, Tammy, have 5-year-old triplets, Derek, Brian and Samantha.

In his spare time, Dennis enjoys officiating boys and girls basketball games, which he has done for 17

years. In the summer, the family enjoys fishing, boating and camping. His favorite place to vacation is going to Keystone, Colorado to snow ski.



**Jeff Zurliene**

Jeff Zurliene has been a warehouseman at Wayne-White for 11 years. Prior to WWCEC, Jeff worked in farming, farm construction and a variety of propane-related services. He grew up in Fairfield, attended Fairfield Community High School and received an Associate's Degree at Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel.

Jeff has been married for 12 years to Janette (Carter). She is head of the Math department at Edwards County High School and recently completed the requirements to become a princi-

pal. They have three grandchildren, Miranda, 9, Jeffrey, 4, and Garion, 1 1/2. Jeff has two grown children, Aimee, 25, and T.J. (Tim), 23.

Jeff enjoys playing with the grandchildren, watching sports events and spending time with his wife. He is a member of St. Edwards Catholic Church in Fairfield and currently serves as chairman of the Parish Council. He is also involved with the local Masonic Lodge and Wayne County Shrine Club. Jeff is an avid cook, and enjoys making homemade candy and chocolates. His favorite vacation spot has been an Alaskan cruise in 2003. In the future, Jeff and his wife hope to make a trip to Argentina to visit a foreign exchange student that they hosted in their home 10 years ago.

## WELCOME NEW COOPERATIVE MEMBERS

- Fonda & Dean Braddock, Iuka
- Betty Lou Buckner, McLeansboro
- John & Carisa Cerajewski, Dahlgren
- Evansville Western Railway, INC., Paducah, KY
- Elaine Godina, Wayne City
- Lisa Hatfield, Carmi
- Jesse & Rosetta Hutchcraft, Carmi
- Walter & Lisa Johnson, Wayne City
- Litton Loan Servicing, Houston, TX
- Scott Lusby, Bluford
- Adam Rock, Carmi
- Amanda Seymour, Wayne City
- Wabash /Edwards County Engineering, Mt. Carmel
- Edward & Sheryl Waid, Haines City, FL
- David & Donna Wheeler, Wayne City
- Christal Wiggins, Wayne City
- Carla Williams, Mill Shoals



## Cool Your Home With Ceiling Fans

**C**ool Your Home With Ceiling Fans. A ceiling fan is a stylish way to increase the comfort of your home without turning up the air conditioner. The breeze created by a ceiling fan can make a 79 degree room feel like 72 degrees for just pennies a day.

When buying a ceiling fan you have to consider the size of the room first. For rooms up to 100 square feet, buy a 36-inch fan. A 42-inch fan will

cool rooms up to 144 square feet. For rooms up to 225 square feet buy a 48-inch and a 52-inch fan for rooms up to 400 square feet. For rooms longer than 18 feet consider buying two medium size fans.

Fans should be hung near the middle of the room, close to where people gather and at least 7 feet from the floor. The blades should be at least 24 inches from the ceiling and the walls. For more information on ceiling fans visit your local home center.

## Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative Offers



## Marathon® WATER HEATERS

You asked and we listened. After several requests, Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative proudly offers the Marathon water heater.

### Why Marathon?

Because we believe, if you want your water heater to give you years of service, you must get one that will stand the test of time.

Marathon offers a life-time no-leak warranty, guaranteed to last you as long as you own your home. This will save you the future expense of buying a replacement heater and having it installed.

Because it has a plastic tank, the Marathon will not rust or corrode.

Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative offers members a \$100 rebate on Marathon Water heaters. You can buy the 50-gallon model for \$380, and the 80-gallon model for \$500. (Price includes the rebate.)