



Powering Our Rural Communities

New Employee at DCEC

Delaware County Electric Cooperative is pleased to introduce the newest employee of the Cooperative. Alicia Wyckoff has been hired as the Administrative Assistant, the position that was left vacant when Tara Rifembark was appointed as the new Billing Assistant.

Alicia is originally from Gilboa where she graduated from Gilboa Central School. She earned an Associates degree from SUNY Cobleskill. Alicia grew up on the family farm and appreciates the role that farmers had in establishing the rural electric cooperatives back in the 1940s. Alicia is very excited “to be a part of the beginning phases of the Broadband project and to be an integral part of improving the communities and counties served by the cooperative including the one that



she grew up in.” Alicia also enjoys the “close-knit” atmosphere of the Cooperative office and all of the people that she has encountered that congratulate her on “a great place to work.”

Please join us in welcoming Alicia to the Cooperative and wishing her a long and successful career.

FREE Safe and Secure Account Management at your Fingertips

In an effort to provide more security and proficiency to our members DCEC will be launching a new application to replace the existing “MyAccount” application online. SmartHub will be integrated by the end of March and will allow members to manage more aspects of their DCEC account online or with their mobile devices. If you currently use “MyAccount” online to pay your bill, you will automatically have a SmartHub account online. SmartHub allows for a safer and secure interface where members will be able to view their daily usage as well as save their payment information online. SmartHub is Android and iOS smartphone, tablet, and of course web friendly.



Continued on Page 5...

Proposed Formulary Rate Rider Increase to be discussed at the Member Informational Hearing scheduled for March 24, 2015
See page 2 for Details



Expanding Broadband to Members

The Delaware County Broadband Initiative (DCBI) project will expand broadband service to the rural un-served and underserved DCEC members. DCEC, Margaretville Telephone Company (MTC), and Delhi Telephone Company (DTC) are working together to extend a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network using existing and new infrastructure. The services and products that would be available to residents and businesses within the dedicated project area would be a combination of voice, video, and broadband. To view a map of the proposed phases and service areas please refer to our website and click on “Learn More About Broadband”. Phase 2 expansion plans are still under development.

Fiber maps for each town involved will be developed once contracts with NYS Empire State Development Agency (ESD) are signed. In addition, public meetings will be scheduled with the project team and maps will be displayed. Until the project team has documents signed with ESD, no construction can

occur and no funds can be expended.

Funding for this project is due to a NYS Southern Tier Economic Development Council grant, the Catskill Watershed Corporation, the Town of Hardenburgh Rising Community Program, and 3.7 million in private investments by MTC and DTC. Estimated total for phase 1 of the Delaware County Broadband Initiative is about \$6,700,000.00

Continued on Page 3...

April 13th is
Lineman Appreciation Day
Please Join us in Thanking our Lineman for all their Hard Work!

Interruption of Service and What you Need to Know

Members can assist DCEC with the restoration of power following an interruption of service as follows: Prior to calling the DCEC office to report an interruption of service to your home, farm or place of business please check the display face of the electric service meter to determine its status. If you see numerical figures displayed by the meter, then it is likely that the loss of service that you are experiencing may be associated with your premises' internal wiring. Informing DCEC about the status of the electric service meter at the time when you call to report an interruption

of service will help DCEC with restoration efforts where the problem originates on the electrical distribution system and doing so may help to save you the cost of a service charge from DCEC should the problem be caused by faulty or failed internal wiring at your location. Just remember, "When in doubt, check it out, first."

Your Cooperative thanks you for your cooperation!



DCEC
Delaware County
Electric Cooperative

Providing our rural members with:

- ✓ Low-cost Electricity
- ✓ High System Reliability
- ✓ Community/Member Service

Warranted for LIFE
Please call for availability



39 Elm Street
P.O. Box 471
Delhi, NY 13753
Ph: (607) 746-2341
(866) 436-1223
Fx: (607) 746-7548
www.dce.coop

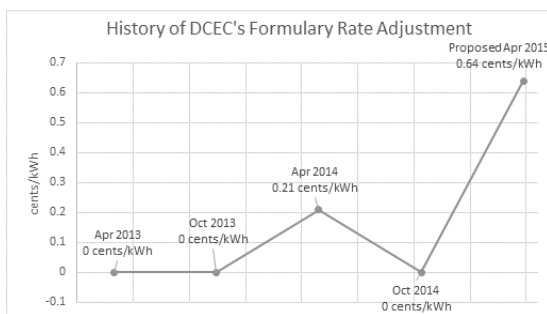
Your local area
dealer for electric
Marathon
WATER HEATERS

Proposed Formulary Rate Increase

The Board of Directors is proposing a 0.64 cent/kWh formulary rate increase, which would take effect on April's bills. The rate change would appear on members' bills on the line called "Formulary Rate Adj." The formulary rate adjustment is charged on each kWh consumed. For example, a typical residential member consumes approximately 920 kWh in a month.

920 kWh @ \$0.0064 = \$5.89 increase per month

The formulary rate adjustment has been in use by the Cooperative since April of 2013 as a way to make minor adjustments as frequently as every 6 months. In years past, the Cooperative had infrequent, but large rate increases. That form of rate making created financial instability for the Cooperative. Since its inception in April of 2013, the formulary rate adjustment has had values as shown in the figure below:



The formulary rate adjustment can increase or decrease following the board of director's semi-annual formulary

Generlink Transfer Switches available for purchase at our office

Plugs into 200 amp Meter Socket
20 ft Cord to Connect to Generator
Built in Surge Protector
Accommodates 10,000 watt Generator



39 Elm St.
Delhi, NY 13753

For More Information or to Confirm Compatibility
Please Contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341.

rate review. The rate is adjusted to target an appropriate level of revenue to meet the Cooperative's commitments to federal regulators and lending institutions.

Members who would like more information about the proposed formulary rate adjustment or would like to share their opinion with the Board of Directors are invited to attend the Member Information Meeting at 7 pm on March 24, 2015 at the office of the Cooperative, 39 Elm Street, Delhi, NY. Members who attend the informational meeting will hear a short presentation on the formulary rate adjustment and will be given the opportunity to make a statement to the Cooperative's Board of Directors.

Expanding Broadband to Members Continued from Page 1...

For additional information about products and services provided to members please contact Delhi Telephone Company if you are within the Hamden, Kortright, and Meredith townships at www.delhitel.com. For members in Andes, Colchester, Harpersfield, and Jefferson please contact Margaretville Telephone Company at www.mtctelcom.com.

Any additional questions can be directed to DCEC CEO/General Manager Mark Schneider at (607) 746-2341.

Green Living in the Catskills *Planting the seeds for the future*

On Saturday, April 11th, from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, Delaware County and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County will hold the 3rd Annual Energy Symposium. The event is scheduled to take place at SUNY Delhi—Farrell Student and Community Center. Industry experts, professors and community leaders will present and discuss Energy, Efficiency and Environment.

Presenters will discuss methods of integrating solar, wind and other renewables into the grid with multiple mechanisms to save money for both the industry and customers while protecting the environment. The presentations will be followed by a roundtable discussion.

An entrance fee of \$15 per person and \$25 for two, includes refreshments. For more information please contact:

Kelly Blakeslee

Kelly.blakeslee@co.delaware.ny.us

Attention Members

For those of you interested in adding an item on the agenda for the **Annual Meeting of Members** Please review **Member Participation in Annual Meetings of Members Policy** listed on www.dce.coop or call the office directly at **(607) 746-2341**.



DCEC Promotes Shuman

DCEC employee, Kyle Shuman has been promoted to *Line Clearance Journeyman Arborist*. Kyle started working at the Cooperative in 2010 on the tree crew as a Saw Operator 2.

The Value of Power

While the prices of everyday items and expenses continue to grow at a rapid rate each year the value of power is still affordable. The rates listed in the green are based on the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index and are approximated from 1936 to present. Similarly the Bureau of Labor Statistics lists the increase in groceries annually; a loaf of bread grew by

Electricity

Then.....5¢/kWh
Now.....11¢/kWh
Increase.....2x

3.73% per year, and a dozen eggs rose by 7.39% annually. However, electricity only increased 3.2% on an annual basis.

Now, that's a value!



Coffee

Then.....14.5¢/lb
Now.....\$7.43/lb
Increase.....51x

Car Tires

Then.....\$3.69
Now.....\$150.00
Increase.....38x

Automobiles

Then.....\$665.00
Now.....\$25,015.00
Increase.....38x

Bacon

Then.....\$0.38/lb
Now.....\$4.51/lb
Increase.....12x

Herbicide Treatment for Vegetation Control

Specimen Label



Specialty Herbicide

® Trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC

For the control of woody plants and herbaceous broadleaf weeds in non-crop areas, including industrial manufacturing and storage sites, rights-of-way such as electrical power lines, communication lines, pipelines, roadsides, railroads, fence rows, non-irrigation ditch banks, forests and in the establishment and maintenance of wildlife openings. Use on these sites may include application to grazed areas.

Active Ingredient: triclopyr: 3,5,6-trichloro-2-pyridinyloxyacetic acid, butoxyethyl ester 60.45%, Other Ingredients 39.55%, Total 100.00% Acid Equivalent: triclopyr – 43.46% - 4 lb/gal

Keep out of reach of children

CAUTION

In case of emergency endangering health or the environment involving this product, call 1-800-992-5994. Agricultural chemical: Do not ship or store with food, feeds, drugs, or clothing. EPA Reg. No. 62719-527

Precautionary Statements

Hazards to Humans and Domestic Animals

CAUTION

Causes moderate eye irritation, harmful if swallowed, prolonged or frequently repeated skin contact may cause allergic reactions in some individuals.

Avoid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing. Wear gloves and protective clothing. Wash thoroughly with soap and water after handling and before eating, drinking, chewing gum, or using tobacco.

First Aid

If on skin or clothing: Take off contaminated clothing. Rinse skin immediately with plenty of water for 15-20 minutes. Call a poison control center or doctor for treatment advice.

If in eyes: Hold eye open and rinse slowly and gently with water for 15-20 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present, after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing eye. Call a poison control center or doctor for treatment advice.

If swallowed: Call a poison control center or doctor immediately for treatment advice. Have person sip a glass of water if able to swallow. Do not induce vomiting unless told to do so by a poison control center or doctor. Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Have the product container or label with you when calling a poison control center or doctor, or going for treatment. You may also contact 1-800-992-5994 for emergency medical treatment information.

During the year 2015 DCEC will again be clearing trees and brush from our primary distribution lines in Delaware and Schoharie counties. Once the trees have been cut, a ready-to-use herbicide known as Garlon-4 will be applied to the stump to prevent undesirable future sprouting. DCEC is licensed and registered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to purchase, store and apply this herbicide. If you would like more information or would like to discuss the herbicide, please feel free to contact Wayne Marshfield at 607-746-9284.

Environmental Hazards

This pesticide is toxic to fish. Do not apply directly to water, to areas where surface water is present, or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when clearing equipment or disposing of equipment washwaters. This chemical has properties and characteristics associated with chemicals detected in groundwater. The use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination.

General Use Precautions and Restrictions

Chemigation: Do not apply this product through any type of irrigation system. Do not apply Garlon 4 Ultra directly to, or otherwise permit it to come into direct contact with cotton, grapes, peanuts, soybeans, tobacco, vegetable crops, flowers, citrus, or other desirable broadleaf plants. Do not permit spray mists containing it to drift onto such plants.

It is permissible to treat non-irrigation ditch banks, seasonally dry wetlands (such as flood plains, deltas, marshes, swamps, or bogs) and transitional areas between upland and lowland sites where surface water is not present except in isolated pockets due to uneven or unlevel conditions. Do not apply to open water (such as lakes, reservoirs, rivers, streams, creeks, salt water bays, estuaries). Sprays applied directly to Christmas trees may result in conifer injury. When treating unwanted vegetation in Christmas tree plantations, care should be taken to direct sprays away from conifers.

Grazing and Haying Restrictions

Except for lactating dairy animals, there are no grazing restrictions following application of this product.

Grazing Lactating Dairy Animals: Do not allow lactating dairy animals to graze treated areas until the next growing season following application of this product. Do not harvest hay for 14 days after application. Portions of grazed areas that intersect treated non-cropland, rights-of-way and forestry sites may be treated at up to 8 lb ae per acre if the area to be treated on the day of application comprises no more than 10% of the total grazable area.

Slaughter Restrictions: During the season of application, withdraw livestock from grazing treated grass at least 3 days before slaughter.

Avoid Injurious Spray Drift:

Make applications only when there is little or no hazard from spray drift. Small quantities of spray, which may not be visible, may seriously injure susceptible plants. Do not spray when wind is blowing toward susceptible crops or ornamental plants that are near enough to be injured. It is suggested that a continuous smoke column at or near the spray site or a smoke generator on the spray equipment be used to detect air movement, lapse conditions, or temperature inversions (stable air). If the smoke layers or indicates a potential of

hazardous spray drift, do not spray.

Spray Drift Management:

Avoiding spray drift at the application site is the responsibility of the applicator. The interaction of many equipment and weather related factors determine the potential for spray drift. The applicator and the grower are responsible for considering all these factors when making decisions.

Warranty Disclaimer

Dow AgroSciences warrants that this product conforms to the chemical description on the label and is reasonably fit for the purposes stated on the label when used in strict accordance with the directions, subject to the inherent risks set forth below. Dow AgroSciences MAKE NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ANY OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY.

Inherent Risks of Use

It is possible to eliminate all risks associated with use of this product. Plant injury, lack of performance, or other unintended consequences may result because of such factors as use of the product contrary to label instructions (including conditions noted on the label, such as unfavorable temperature, soil conditions, etc.) abnormal conditions (such as excessive rainfall, drought, tornadoes, hurricanes), presence of other materials, the manner of application, or other factors, all of which are beyond the control of Dow AgroSciences or the seller. To the extent permitted by law, all such risks shall be assumed by buyer.

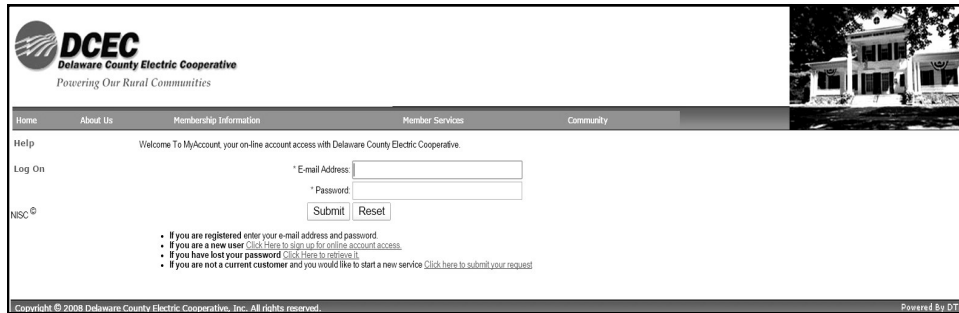
Limitations of Remedies

To the extent permitted by law, the exclusive remedy for losses or damages resulting from this product (including claims based on contact, negligence, strict liability, or other legal theories), shall be limited to, at Dow AgroSciences' election, one of the following:

1. Refund of purchase price by buyer or user for product bought, or
2. Replacement of amount of product used.

To the extent permitted by law, Dow AgroSciences shall not be liable for losses or damages resulting from handling or use of this product unless Dow AgroSciences is promptly notified of such loss or damage in writing. To the extent permitted by law, in no case shall Dow AgroSciences be liable for consequential or incidental damages or losses. The terms of the Warranty Disclaimer, Inherent Risks of Use and this Limitation of Remedies cannot be varied by any written or verbal statements or agreements. No employee or sales agent of Dow AgroSciences or the seller is authorized to vary or exceed the terms of the Warranty Disclaimer or this Limitation of remedies in any manner.

FREE Safe and Secure Account Management...Continued from Page 1...



The image above is a screenshot of "MyAccount" login page. Below is an example of what members can expect when the NEW "SmartHub" application is launched at the end of March.



Additional benefits of SmartHub include bill reminders, knowledge to stay on budget, evaluating tenant usage, and ability to notify DCEC of service or account issues. The new application is completely free to our members and it doesn't require any additional setup or signup for existing "MyAccount" users.

For additional information about signing up, training videos and step by step instructions please visit www.dce.coop.

DCEC Needs to Update Member Contact Information

The following is a listing of DCEC members whose capital credit checks have been returned to DCEC by the USPS due to an insufficient or outdated address. Please review the list and if you have any information that will be helpful to us in locating these members, please contact the DCEC office at (607) 746-2341 or email us at billing@dce.coop. Thank you for your assistance.

Bruce M. Gundry
 Vincent R. Taglieri
 John Caviano
 Evelyn Cintron-Rivera
 Tara Gorence
 Tonya O'Donnell
 Kayla Pross
 Jessica Yannantuono
 Larry Kern
 Richard J. Draggett
 Amanda Losurdo
 Ann Marie DeQuarto
 Louis J. Barbaria
 Samuel and Bobbi-Lynn Allen
 Tim Zimmerman
 Mort Wimpie
 Anthony Wheeler
 Louis M. Tucciarone
 Herbert H. Sines
 Eulalia S. Shaw
 Nancy Schafer

Kenneth J. Laznovsky
 Francis Garbarino
 Kenneth Faust
 Deborah I. DuMond
 Gerard J. Dieringer
 Ravin V. Korothy
 Carl J. Camuto
 Robert Basmajian
 Carl Ackerley
 Rex Notestine
 Scott L. Harlan
 Donald J. Bender
 Deborah L. Shutts
 Linda S. Lawson
 Marc Northrop
 Edward Sherman c/o Jodi Sherman
 David & Amy Shibley
 Stanley Knapp
 Anthony Salafia
 Elizabeth M. Nelson
 Richard Mc Nerney

Holly M. Adam
 Catherine Schmidt
 Barbara A. Pierce
 Leona M. Elliott
 David & Marcia Condon
 Linda A. Bostrom
 Wendy Owen
 William S. Sramek
 Jeffrey R. Giles
 John L. Nichols
 William P. Ross
 James T. D'Angelo
 Sheila Clark
 Eugene K. Little
 Warren Ewald
 Louis E. Trask
 Beck Burkhardt
 Cheryl A. Barry
 Eugene Drexler
 Harry Bevins
 Mary J. Knoblauch
 Eugene All

James Dibble
 Ronald Oman
 Brian Poole
 Alice De Marco
 Anthony C. Possemato
 Wesley Hall
 David Lamphere
 Paul H. Becher
 Enrique Barreto, Jr.
 Arthur J. Schlicht
 Lyle Daniels Jr.
 Joseph Petrillo
 Mamie Velsko
 James E. Lawson
 Wayne K. Hoffman
 Charles H. Ashley
 Rebecca Hitt



Equipment Used by DCEC - *The Fuse*

Articles in previous editions of this Newsletter have pertained to various devices and equipment that are used in the electrical distribution system to provide safe and reliable service to member's homes and businesses. This edition presents information about one of the industry's earliest and still often used devices - the fuse.

The fuse has been used to provide a simple yet effective method of protecting electric power systems from overcurrent conditions in a variety of ways for nearly 135 years. Its operation is very basic: the fuse will open (or "blow") in response to current flow for a specified period of time. Over the years, the fuse has been developed and improved so that its operation is accurate and predictable even under extreme weather conditions. Every fuse in use by DCEC has a specific time versus current characteristic describing its behavior.

is the expulsion fuse which is generally used along with its "cutout" holder to protect single phase lines and laterals that branch from the main distribution feeders to serve member's locations. A photo showing a typical cutout that has an internally mounted expulsion fuse is shown below.



DCEC uses several different types of fuses in the protection of the electrical power system. All of DCEC's substation transformers are protected by specialty fuses designed for such applications. More plentiful on the DCEC system

It is anticipated that the fuse will retain an important role in the protection of the DCEC electrical distribution system for many years to come.

Operations Update

Pole Replacement & Line Reconstruction:

DCEC line crews will continue to upgrade primary conductors on County Route 21 and D'Agostino Roads in the Towns of Walton and Franklin. Additionally, they will be rebuilding a section of lines, poles, and wires, on County Route 16, Town of Delhi.

Right of Way (ROW) Clearing:

Crews will be working on Huff Road, Bramley Mountain Road, Town of Bovina. Federal Hill 1 and 2 and Stanley Campbell Roads in the Town of Delhi.

Is Your Location Number in This Issue?



Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the "hidden location number" in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location you will receive a DCEC fleece sweatshirt! **Good luck!**



Mark Your Calendars!

DCEC Annual Meeting
Friday, September 18, 2015 at 4:30pm

More information to come in upcoming newsletters

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership.

The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

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 Delhi, New York 13753-0471

DCEC Forms of Payment

Cash, Checks, Money Orders, Debit or Credit Cards, EFT (electronic funds transfer), or online at dce.coop

KO 2-62-3G