



Powering Our Rural Communities

Update on Delaware County Broadband Initiative Phase II Funding

Delaware County Broadband Initiative (DCBI) is researching and applying for Governor Andrew Cuomo's \$500 million New NY Broadband Program. This program is designed to establish broadband service to underserved and un-served regions of the state by the end of 2018.

The New NY Broadband Grant Program Request for Proposal Guidelines have been released and are available to the public on their website, <http://www.ny.gov/programs/broadband-all>. The guidelines indicate that the first round of applications will be accepted March 1st of 2016 and funding will be distributed based on the following criteria:

- Underserved areas that include commercial properties, governmental buildings, healthcare facilities, K-12 schools, libraries, institutions of higher education, and other community institutions.
- Ability to supply broadband speeds of at least 100 Mbps; 25 Mbps in remote regions of the state.
- A 50 percent match in investment funds must be provided by the private sector for the duration of the program.
- Selections will be made using a "reverse-auction" process allocating capital to applicants needing the least amount of funds from the state.

The recent merger of Time Warner and Charter Communications will now make municipalities that hold a franchise agreement with Time Warner ineligible to submit applications for round one. Under the conditions of the merger Time Warner will have to expand their service territory to cover 145,000 unserved homes within their franchise areas. This expansion must be self-funded based on the terms of their merger. Additionally, any municipality that has a Verizon phone exchange franchise is also ineligible. However, Verizon exchange areas will be eligible to apply for the Connect America program, which was launched at the end of January. *...Continued on Page 2*

April 18th is
**National Lineman
Appreciation Day**

Please Join us in Thanking our
Lineman for all their Hard Work!



DCEC Power Supply 90% Renewable

Did you know that DCEC's power supply is over 90% renewable and climbing? The other 10% is a mix of various generation types including fossil fuels and nuclear. DCEC buys all of its energy through the New York Power Authority (NYPA). 90% of that energy supply is clean, green, renewable hydro power from the NYPA-owned Robert Moses Niagara Hydro Power Plant in Niagara Falls. The Cooperative is able to buy hydro power from NYPA because it is a consumer-owned, non-profit utility. Over the years, DCEC has taken steps to increase the portion of its power supply that comes from renewable hydro power:

- DCEC has An electric hot water heater load control program, which helps shift our energy purchases to periods when we can buy more hydro and less of other sources of energy. If you want to help the Cooperative buy more hydro power and less fossil and nuclear, consider participating in the hot water heater load control program.
- DCEC has worked with expanding businesses within our service territory to attain additional allocations of hydro power through NYPA's economic development power (EDP) program. The EDP program is designed to use clean renewable hydro energy as a means of attracting and retaining employers within New York State.

Although the Cooperative is always striving to improve our power supply portfolio, we are very proud of the 90% renewable power supply we have achieved with the help of the New York Power Authority.

Member Information Meeting

On February 23rd DCEC held a Member Information Meeting at the Delaware County Public Safety Building in Delhi. Members were invited to learn more and ask questions about the proposed rate revision for the April 2016 billing.

If you were unable to attend and have questions or concerns please contact the DCEC office at (607) 746-2341.

Save a minimum of
\$150 in Electricity Costs
/YEAR
...See ad for Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater for details on page 6.

Update on Broadband Progress

...Continued from Page 1

The outcome of Time Warner expansion and the action that Verizon takes will affect the decisions of the New York State Broadband office. Based on the posted guidelines and recent developments with the merger of Time Warner and Charter Communications, DCBI may not meet all the criteria for securing funds allocated for the first round of funding. However, the guidelines for the second round of funding appear favorable for the DCBI team. Applications for round two are expected to be accepted in June of 2016.

The DCBI Team does its best to keep information accurate and up to date. DCBI is seizing every opportunity to secure funds for this technological prospect.

Additional information concerning the DCBI project including fiber maps, updates on progress, and town-wide information meetings schedules are posted on DCEC's website, www.dce.coop.

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.*

Co-op Hosts Electric Vehicle Charging Station

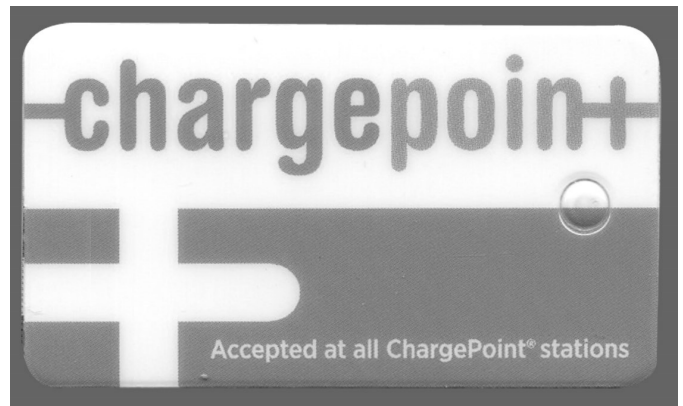
The Cooperative is hosting Delhi's first public electric vehicle (EV) charging station at our headquarters at 39 Elm Street. The EV charging station was purchased and installed by Transition Catskills, which operates under the umbrella of The M-Ark Project Inc. Additional funds were provided by the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the O'Connor Foundation. The goals of Transition Catskills include strengthening the local economy, improving living standards, and building community resilience as we face a future of unstable energy supplies and a changing climate. The charging station is free and open

to the public effective immediately, and electricity to charge up vehicles will be paid for by Transition Catskills. Although there is no cost to charge a vehicle, electric vehicle owners will be required to present an EV network card to the EV charging station to activate it for use. The Cooperative office will have emergency cards on hand to assist a stranded EV motorist.



For more information about the project's sponsoring organization, please visit: www.transitioncatskills.org/.

DCEC Finance Manager Millie Faulkner holds one of the two available charging leads in her hand at DCEC's new EV charging station at 39 Em Street, Delhi.



The EV charging station can be activated by this type of card.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



If you only want to heat or supplement inadequate heating in one room, small space heaters can be less expensive to use than your central heating system.

Source: energy.gov

Commitment to Community

The Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a non-profit corporation and as such is governed under the laws of a 501(c)12 tax exempt entity. This status allows the Co-op to be exempt from sales, income and certain corporate taxes, however your Cooperative is not exempt from school and property tax. This money is collected and allocated to fund public services provided to the community by local municipalities, counties, and schools within our service area.

DCEC's Finance Manager Mildred Faulkner has compiled two tables below indicating the funds that were paid to each school district in September of 2015 and each municipality in January of 2016 in property taxes.

The commitment and knowledge of the hard-working employees of your Co-op is power you can always count on. Their dedication to provide affordable, reliable electricity has kept family and friends within our community connected since 1942. Since DCEC is owned by its members and it's a not for profit, the main focus is never clouded by its own bottom line, instead our interest is in what's best for the community.

2015 School Taxes

Andes	\$	17,474.35
Bainbridge-Guilford	\$	2,232.64
Charlotte Valley	\$	21,671.87
Delaware Academy	\$	47,560.98
Deposit	\$	691.28
Downsville	\$	10,341.14
Franklin	\$	1,232.36
Jefferson	\$	13,096.34
Livingston Manor	\$	2,819.79
Margaretville	\$	515.31
Schenevus	\$	1,020.21
Sidney	\$	16,078.04
South Kortright	\$	28,529.22
Stamford	\$	7,579.17
Walton	\$	10,938.31
TOTAL	\$	181,781.01

2016 Property Taxes

<u>Chenango County</u>		
Bainbridge	\$	29.97
<u>Delaware County</u>		
Andes	\$	24,526.55
Bovina	\$	249.98
Colchester	\$	4,263.08
Davenport	\$	12,128.77
Delhi	\$	11,596.39
Franklin	\$	3,606.01
Hamden	\$	17,117.20
Harpersfield	\$	5,263.96
Kortright	\$	20,842.64
Masonville	\$	13,633.60
Meredith	\$	19,969.17
Middletown	\$	607.86
Sidney	\$	703.09
Stamford	\$	4,580.47
Tompkins	\$	5,791.64
Walton	\$	646.28
<u>Otsego County</u>		
Maryland	\$	494.92
<u>Schoharie County</u>		
Gilboa	\$	5,538.41
Jefferson	\$	7,244.46
Summit	\$	264.31
Total	\$	159,098.76

Clarkson University Student Troy White Interns at DCEC

From mid-December, 2015 through early February, 2016, Troy White, a third year Clarkson University (Potsdam, NY) student majoring in Engineering Management, was hosted by DCEC as an unpaid intern. Of interest to Mr. White were the variety of duties, tasks and functions that are required in order to provide safe and reliable electric



utility service to the member/consumers of DCEC. During his internship, he participated in, among other things, monthly safety meetings with the Operations department, developed updated database information for consumer listings used for consumer outage restoration, analyzed historical data in preparation for an analysis of DCEC's reliability performance and researched historical records to assist in the development of the power supply requirements for DCEC's Construction Work Plan. Mr. White also participated in a technical training session related to overcurrent protective devices planned for use on the DCEC electric distribution system. His plans including traveling to Austria in mid-February to study abroad until July, 2016. He will return to Clarkson University in August, 2016 to begin his Senior year. Mr. White plays mid-field on the Clarkson University men's soccer team; he also enjoys recreational skiing and mountain hiking.

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**.

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 2016 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.

TEMP LABORER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Cooperative will be hiring two new temporary laborers for our Tree Crew. Interested candidates should send a letter and resume to Mark Schneider, DCEC, PO Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753 or hand deliver them to the office at 39 Elm Street by April 1, 2016. Candidate qualifications include the following:

- 16 years of age or older
- Ability to identify local tree species by leaf
- Capable of performing physical labor for up to 10 hours each work day

- Driver's license preferred
- Subject to pre-hire drug and alcohol screening
- Preference will be given to candidates living within the Cooperative's service territory

Candidates must be available to report to work every Monday through Thursday for the whole temporary work season.

Laborer Position #1: April 11 through September 29, 2016
 Laborer Position #2: June 13 through September 1, 2016

Keep us Updated...

The Cooperative may contact Members by phone for various reasons including past due amounts, planned outages, emergency information, etc. It's extremely important that the Cooperative has the most up to date information on file for each member. Please provide to the DCEC office your current contact information.

You may also call the office directly at (607) 746-2341, or email office@dce.coop. If you use the SmartHub application to view or pay your bills online please note that you can update your information under "My Profile" within SmartHub, select "My Information" and click on "Update my Billing Address & Contact Information".

Interesting Findings from Membership Survey

Following the 2015 DCEC Membership survey, the Board of Directors were able to measure the Co-op's collective performance and identify opportunities for continued improvement.

Some of the interesting findings that the Board is currently discussing:

- Outage restoration and communication with members during extended outages
- Renewable energy resources and future utility challenges
- Energy efficiency programs and grants for members

DCEC is dedicated to provide the most reliable, affordable service to our members. Please contact the Co-op with your ideas for continued enhancement of our service to you.



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.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Bruno A. Agosti | • Richard Creigh | • Frederick J. Hughes | • Donald Sabino |
| • Raymond Aleshevich | • Michele L. Duerr | • Brian Humann | • Lawrence R. Schmiedel |
| • Jeffrey All | • Nick Ericson | • Beatrice I. Koch | • Dennis A. Schultz |
| • Ruth A. Alvarez | • Dennis A. Evers | • Donald Kueneman | • Dale Scott |
| • John P. Ballard | • Steve Falkenmeyer | • Geraldine J. Mele | • Gloria Silveri |
| • Joseph L. Barrett | • David Ferguson | • Jeffrey L. Miller | • Anthony G. Simonetti |
| • Dale A. Beadle | • Robert H. Filce | • Gerten Munroe | • Joy K. Slote |
| • Edward Beck | • Jeanne & John Forsey | • Deggie Munroy | • Donald Smith |
| • Gary Benware | • Richard Gouldsbury | • Robert M. Noren | • Donald J. Southwick |
| • William F. Bomba | • William R. Gregory | • Broadlands Properties Corp. | • Zarvin Swerbilov |
| • Gilbert Borges | • Clarence F. Hall | • Sean W. Reeves | • Walter Dave Vanderhoff |
| • Bar H Gun Club c/o William Garrison | • Thomas S. Hallowell | • Helane Rhodes | • Charles D. Winters |
| • Deborah W. Calhoun | • Debra Hammond & Gerard J. Dieringer | • William M. Roberts | • Walter G. Wittenborn |
| • Salaria H. Chambers | • Timothy W. Henry | • Fred Roberts | • Joseph S. Zellner |
| • Peter Ciolino | • Michael Hewitt | • Ellen Rockstedt | |
| • Eileen A. Corbett | • Arthur L. Hoffman | • Arnold Roe | |
| • Thomas R. Core | • Vergil S. Holland | • J Runion | |



Benefits of Electric Hot Water Heaters


Recently, there has been articles published, trying to convince the residential member/consumer to convert from electric to propane water heaters. We offer the following facts that would suggest otherwise:

- 1.) Electric water heaters are highly efficient and meet or exceed the new Federal Energy standards. Your Cooperative offers for sale the highly efficient Marathon® Water Heater and if you want even more efficiency we offer the Prestige™ Series Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater also made by Rheem.
- 2.) Electric water heaters are safe— no carbon monoxide and no dangers of explosion.
- 3.) Electric water heaters run on power generated from a range of sources including solar, wind, hydro and other renewables. Your Cooperatives portfolio is mostly renewables.
- 4.) Electric water heaters don't lose energy to exhaust; again they are energy efficient!
- 5.) Electric water heater are easy to install—no expensive gas lines and no exhaust flues.
- 6.) Electricity prices are much less volatile than propane. Two years ago propane was double the price of today. Who knows

what tomorrow will bring.

7.) Electric water heaters can be used in energy storage and load control programs to keep energy costs down. Your Cooperative has a load control program for electric water heaters and can not only save the participating members every month but it benefits all of our members. With lower peak demands and lower purchased power costs.

If you are interested in an electric hot water heater please call our representatives for further information at (607) 746-2341.




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

Providing our rural members with:

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

*Warrantied for LIFE
Please call for availability*

Your local area dealer for electric

Operations Update

Pole Replacement & Line Reconstruction:

Cooperative line crews will be working on County Route 16 Delhi and in Kortright/Harpersfield preparing for interconnection with NYSEG and service to Greene Lumber.

Right of Way (ROW) Clearing: Cooperative right-of-way clearing crews will be working on 96 Road, Lake Road, and North Roads on the Town of Kortright.

Mark Your Calendars!



DCEC Annual Meeting
Friday, September 23, 2016
at 4:30pm

More information to come in upcoming newsletters

RHEEM PRESTIGE SERIES HYBRID HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER



- 2.45 Energy Factor
- Easy to Adjust Water Temperature
- 10 Year Warranty
- 50 Gallon
- Acts as a Dehumidifier
- Energy Star
- Save Minimum of \$150/year in Electricity Costs**

Call (607) 746-9284 for Prices and More Information



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!**

ME 1-66-7

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.

Board of Directors

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- Vice President.....Hartley Russell
- Secretary.....Edward Pick Jr.
- Treasurer.....Frank Winkler
- Director.....Paul Menke
- Director.....Shawn Hartwell
- Director.....Meg Hungerford
- CEO/General Manager.....Mark Schneider
- Asst. General Manager.....Wayne Marshfield

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