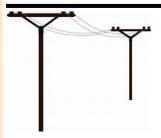


P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038



# ALONG THESE LINES . . .



### SOME ENERGY-SAVING MYTHS

Myth: Lowering the thermostat won't really save that much money. Lowering your thermostat really does significantly cut your energy consumption. Energy gov reports that you can cut 5% to 15% of your energy usage, which translates to savings on your heating bill. Set your thermostat 10 to 15 degrees lower for eight hours or more at night during the colder months and see the difference in your heating bill.

Myth: Electronics are not using energy if they are off. Actually, many devices such as TVs, DVD players and coffeepots continue to use electricity when they are turned off because they have a standby mode. This is called "vampire energy". The best way to ensure you are not using energy is to unplug them or use a power strip that you can switch off when you are not using them. Myth: CFL bulbs are more energy-efficient than LEDs. One of the newer energy conservation myths is that CFL bulbs are more efficient than LEDs. It's true that they're better than oldfashioned incandescent bulbs, but one of the major benefits of LED bulbs is their superior energy efficiency over CFL bulbs.

Myth: Using space heaters is more efficient than whole-house heating. You might ask yourself: Do electric heaters really save money? Oftentimes the answer is no. You might think it's more efficient to lower the thermostat throughout your house and use a space heater only in the room you occupy. The problem is that even energy-efficient space heaters are likely to use more energy than your regular heating system.

Myth: Newer homes are always more energy-efficient than older homes. This doesn't have to be the case. Although newer homes are often built to the latest standards and have new appliances, you can retrofit an older home to be just as efficient. Upgrading insulation and installing new windows and doors can absolutely transform an older home's energy efficiency.

### PLEASE READ YOUR METER ON THE 20TH!!

Letting your reading(s) be estimated during the winter and then get read by our linemen in April can lead to a high April bill or over-payment which means an adjustment must be made. Call it in, enter it on-line or send in your card. Thank you.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# **Assistance to help heat your home this winter**

Having trouble paying your heating bill? There are resources available when times are tough. Please contact MYEC or Action for Eastern Montana if you are in need of assistance.

### Low Income Energy Assistance Program "LIEAP"

A portion of your home heating costs may be met through LIEAP. Benefits are applied to the members' primary heat source (electric, gas, propane, etc.) for the winter heating months starting October 1 through April 30. The member is responsible for usage prior to October 1st, as well as bills in excess of the LIEAP benefit amount.

To be eligible, members must meet federal low-income guidelines based on gross yearly income and the number of persons in the home. The current guidelines are \$26,616 for one person, \$34,805 for two, \$42,995 for three, and \$51,184 for four people.

LIEAP is funded by Federal and State government agencies. Eligibility is based on gross income from all household members and the value of their resources. Primary home, vehicles, and personal property are excluded. Benefit amounts are determined by total income and the number of household members, type of fuel used and size, type, and location of the home. Payment processing may take 6 to 8 weeks.

## **Energy Share of Montana**

Energy Share benefits are a one-time grant to alleviate a temporary heating emergency. Eligibility is not based solely on income but also on the extenuating circumstances the household is facing.

Energy Share is the only assistance available to Montana Families who have income too high to qualify for LIEAP assistance. Applications are accepted year-round. Recipients are encouraged to repay these funds if and when they are financially able to do so.

For more information, contact Action for Eastern Montana at 1-800-227-0703. Call MYEC's office or go to our web site (www.myec.coop) for an application.



### DON'T LET TREES GROW INTO A POWER LINE

Call a professional to trim that tree before it causes a hazard for you or leaves you without power. Children climbing that tree can get shocked or killed; branches can break or fall onto the wire, causing an outage; or the wind can whip a limb into the line and cause an outage. But remember:—when power lines are involved, always leave the trimming to professionals—call your cooperative



**HOLIDAYS IN HYSHAM** 

Friday, December 3

See you there!