

THE GREYSTONE REPORT

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New Healthy Savings discounts with Co-op Card!



Many GreyStone members already take advantage of prescription discounts through the Co-op Connections® Card program, which has saved members more than \$1 million since the program launched in 2007. Now, that program is offering even greater benefits with discounts on dental, vision, hearing, lab work and imaging and chiropractor visits.

These new Healthy Savings benefits are free for GreyStone members, but you must have the latest version of the Co-op Connections® Card to take advantage of them. GreyStone members can visit connections.coop to print off the latest card. From the main page of this website, click the link on the left side of the page for "Prescription and Healthy Savings Discounts." You will then find

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Where your energy dollars go: the costs of appliances in the home

When you know the cost of using your home appliances, it can help you reduce your home's energy consumption and cut your power bill. In a typical home, appliances and other devices make up 12 percent of the energy dollars you spend each month. Refrigeration alone draws 9 percent of a typical home's energy dollars, while heating and cooling draws the largest amount at 52 percent.

In many cases, electrical appliances draw power when they are turned off, but still plugged in. These "phantom loads" occur in computers, televisions, stereos and kitchen appliances, and can reach as high as 75 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics. Using a power strip and flipping the switch to cut all power to an appliance, or simply unplugging the appliance when not in use, is one way to cut back on your electricity usage.

The costs of powering your appliances vary, and newer ENERGY STAR models may use less, while older models may use more.

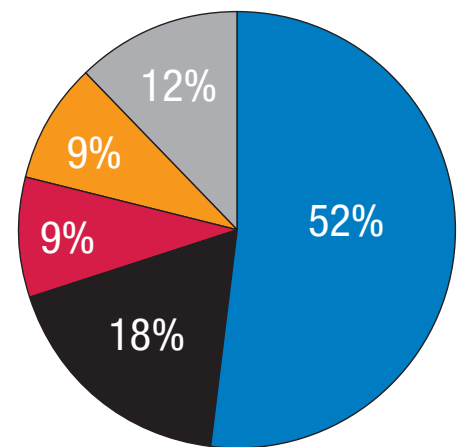
Many refrigerators use between 160 and 220 kWh per month, with the energy cost ranging from \$14.40 to \$19.80* a month. Freezers of various sizes can average 100 to 190 kWh per month, costing consumers an average of \$9.00 to \$17.10 per month. An electric range with an oven averages 90 kWh, or \$8.10 per month. Toasters and microwaves

each use about 20 kWh per month, or \$1.80. A dishwasher with a drying cycle uses about 35 kWh monthly, costing \$3.15 a month, not including the cost of hot water.

In the laundry room, a clothes

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Where energy dollars go in a typical home



- Heating and cooling
- Water heating
- Refrigeration
- Lighting
- Appliances and other devices

*All costs are averages based on combined winter and summer rates.

Appliance costs

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washer typically uses 20 kWh a month, which costs \$1.80. This does not include the cost of hot water. A dryer uses about 120 kWh for 30 loads, costing \$10.80.

In the living room, televisions on the market today have varying costs. A 49-inch plasma TV, operating six hours per day, can use 150 kWh per month or more, while an LCD TV cuts energy usage in half, as well as your costs. An LCD TV that utilizes LED (light-emitting diode) backlighting instead of the standard CCFL (code cathode fluorescent lamps) can save an estimated

additional 10 percent on energy costs. These LCD TVs are called LED TVs and come at higher purchase prices. The standard 27-inch solid state TV uses only 25 kWh per month. A computer running for six hours a day may use 50 kWh a month, which would cost \$4.50 a month.

Another miscellaneous appliance that can drain your energy dollars is a dehumidifier. At 12 hours per day usage, a dehumidifier uses about 225 kWh per month, costing \$20.25 monthly. An electric space heater running 24 hours a day can use 540 to 1,440 kWh monthly, costing \$48.60 to \$129.60 a month.

Members wishing to make energy efficiency upgrades to their homes can

take advantage of the HomePlus Loan offered by GreyStone and GEMC Federal Credit Union. Eligible members may borrow up to \$5,500, interest free, for 36 months! This pilot program will offer interest-free loans until June 30, 2012.

Higher loan amounts from \$5,501 to \$15,000 qualify for interest rates as low as 7.5 percent. Eligible items to be financed include replacement heating and cooling equipment, insulation products, replacement windows and other energy-saving items. Many energy-efficient upgrades must meet ENERGY STAR requirements.

Call GreyStone at 770-370-2070 or GEMC Federal Credit Union at 770-949-3557 to learn more.

Foundation scholarships made possible by members

The GreyStone Power Foundation, Inc. helps students make their education dreams a reality, and the organization would not be viable without the support of GreyStone members. The Operation Round Up® program, which funds the scholarships, is made possible through cooperative members who sign up to round up their power bill to the nearest dollar. Participating members contribute a small amount each year, but those funds add up. As of December 2011, 28,146 members were contributing to Operation Round Up. That's over a quarter of GreyStone's members who choose to give back to the community each month!

Each year, five \$3,000 scholarships are awarded to GreyStone Power members or their children, who are either seniors in high school or enrolled in college for the fall. The scholarships are awarded based on need and academic achievement. Applications are considered and winners are selected by members of the GreyStone Power Foundation, Inc. Board of Direc-



GreyStone awarded the 2011 Foundation scholarships for \$3,000 each to students Ethan Winstead, Khin Khay Khine, Alexis Jones, Traci West and Erick Rodriguez. Khin's brother, Yee Mon Aung, accepted the award on her behalf.

tors, which disburses Operation Round Up funds contributed by GreyStone Power members.

Applications for the 2012 Foundation Scholarship can be downloaded online from GreyStone's website at www.greystonepower.com/Content/gpfscholarship.asp. If you are unable to download the file, an application may be mailed to you. Applications must be

received by April 13, 2012.

Operation Round Up not only contributes to scholarships each year, but also assists various non-profit organizations in the community. Since 1999, more than \$1.2 million has been raised by GreyStone members through the program. To sign up, call 770-370-2960.

Facebook game celebrates co-ops

Remember the days when everyone knew each other in the community and helping your neighbor was something that you were supposed to do? This year, we would like to celebrate those times in conjunction with other cooperatives around the world.

The United Nations has designated 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives. "Co-ops provide a tremendous service to people throughout the world. They are a model of self-reliance and an example of people working together to improve their quality of life," says National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) CEO Glenn English.

One of the seven principles for all co-ops is concern for community. At GreyStone one of the co-op's guiding principles is, "Community service reflects our values and is how we give back to others." In a continuing effort to do our part to help make our community a better place by impacting lives, we are excited to launch a new Facebook game, Co-op Square, which will be available in early 2012.

With the Internet-savvy generation of today, we wanted to provide an opportunity to connect with many of our younger members, while providing a game that is alluring to other genera-



tions as well. The game is designed to inspire fans to share the positive things they do on a daily basis and encourage others to make a positive difference by completing tasks from six categories (community, energy, environment, health, relational and safety). Many will demonstrate different random acts of kindness, some representative of our "Go Green" and energy efficiency campaigns, in exchange for points and the ability to earn badges.

Fans will have the opportunity to share their acts of kindness stories within our Facebook community, and at the same time learn some helpful safety and energy-saving tips.

To learn more about the game, follow us at facebook.com/greystonepower and become a part of this exciting campaign to build a better community for a better tomorrow.



FACTOID:

Gallon of milk:
\$4.78



Powering your
home for one day:
\$4.33*



Membership value:
PRICELESS!

*Now, that's
refreshing!*

*Based on 2010 average
residential member usage.



GREYSTONE
POWER CORPORATION

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

The GreyStone Report

P.O. Box 897, Douglasville, GA 30133

Published monthly for the members of GreyStone Power Corporation. The purpose is to educate and keep you, our members, informed about the cooperative you own. Please send suggestions or ideas for articles to the editor at the above address.

Editor: Ashley Kramer

Communications Staff: Vicki Harshbarger, Ashley Kramer, Amanda Busby, Trisha McBee, Jacques Vincillione

Stay Connected



www.greystonepower.com

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Contact GreyStone

Call Center open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
770-942-6576

To Report an Outage
770-949-7880

Douglasville
4040 Bankhead Hwy.
770-942-6576

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120 GreyStone Power Blvd.
770-942-6576

Co-op Connections Card

770-370-2383
770-370-2273
www.connections.coop/greystonepower

EMC Security
770-370-2030
770-963-0305
www.emcsecurity.com

SurgeMaster Plus
770-370-2070

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770-370-2960 (To Support)

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770-370-2077

Gas South
1-866-563-8129

Use promo code 510

to receive GreyStone discount.
www.gas-south.com/emc

GEMC Federal Credit Union
770-949-3557
770-445-2800
www.gemc.org

Car Solutions

"Serving our members' unique automotive needs."
770-370-2390
www.carsolutions.com

Green Power

www.greystonepower.com
(To Sign Up)

Healthy Savings

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a link to print a temporary card. The new card features the necessary logos to obtain the Healthy Savings discounts. If you have questions about the new card or need further assistance with printing the card, call 770-370-2383.

With the new dental discounts, you can save 20 to 40 percent on most dental services. Vision discounts using the new savings card can bring you 20 to 60 percent savings on eyewear and 10 to 40 percent savings on replacement contact lenses through a convenient mail order program. Members can receive hearing aid discounts for 35 percent off by using their discount card at Newport Audiology Centers.

Other benefits of the new Co-op Connections® Card include discounted imaging and lab work. Members receive discounts of 10 to 60 percent off normal charges for MRI and CT procedures, while utilizing credentialed radiology providers. Members also receive discounts off standard charges for blood tests and other lab testing. Chiropractic services are also discounted using the card, and members can receive 30 to 50 percent savings on diagnostic services and treatments.

Once you have printed your new Co-op Connections® Card, visit connections.carrythecard.com to obtain an up-to-date list of participating providers in your area.

Using either the old or new Co-op

Connections® Card, you can receive prescription discounts. Visit connections.coop/greystonepower for the current list of local and national business offers. To sign up your business to participate, call 770-370-2436.

Look who recently joined the program!

Clean Queen

Riverdale 770-912-3568
10% off business and residential cleaning services.

Ear Q

Douglasville 866-432-7500
35% off manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP); free annual checkup; four-year warranty.

Vanguard Tax Center, Inc.

Mableton 770-944-9001
15% off fees.

Updated offers:

FireStone Complete Auto Care

Douglasville 678-715-9622
5% discount on services; oil change \$24.99 plus tax.

Fast-Fix Jewelry and Watch Repairs

Douglasville 770-949-2248
10% off all services, jewelry and watches (not to be combined with any other offers or coupons).

Western Aire Inc.

Dallas 770-505-7426
15% off all service and repairs.

American Family Insurance, Kevin Head Agency

Hiram 770-250-2040
\$5 gift card when you come in for a quote. Receive 5% off auto insurance when you switch from another carrier.

Fred's Auto Service, Inc.

Hiram 770-222-7004
10% off minimum purchase of \$30 (max cap of \$300); receive a free 27-point inspection with oil change.

Almand & Cohen LLC

Hiram 678-384-1113
15% off attorney fees.

B&B Movers Inc.

Atlanta 404-212-0819
10% off for moving and relocation, excluding packing supplies, dumping fees and freight hauling.

Astoria Riverside Park

Atlanta 404-344-1336
Only pay \$99 administration fee with preferred pricing package with 1/2 off first full month's rent.

Mary Kay Cosmetics: Dana Weeks

Dallas 404-863-2267
25% off first order; 10% off all additional orders.

FastFrame Expert Picture Framing

Douglasville 770-947-0801
\$40 off any custom frame order.

AutoBuffs Express

Acworth 678-213-1313
Douglasville, two locations 678-213-2285;
678-213-0517

Hiram 770-943-5967
\$3 off Manager's Special, regularly \$14. (Enter code 1208.)



EMC Security offers a security system monitoring and installation service for homes and businesses. The monthly monitoring fee is only \$16.95 for residential system owners. Fees are conveniently added to your monthly power bill, giving you only one bill to pay! Call EMC Security at 770-370-2030, or visit emcsecurity.com to learn more about securing your home today.