

# KILOWATT

An Oklahoma Living Supplement

Published monthly for the Members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc. Cordell, Oklahoma • [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

April, 2007



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

**Got a suggestion  
for a story in a  
future issue of  
Kilowatt?**

**Call Lisa at  
1-888-832-3362**

**Mark your  
calendar now!**

**Kiwash Electric  
Cooperative's 68<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Meeting**

**will be held  
Tuesday, July 17, 2007.**

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Published Monthly for the members of  
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 100  
Cordell, Oklahoma  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

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## Plug It In – But Turn It Off

Computers, printers, air conditioners, TVs, VCRs, DVD and CD players, fax machines, blow dryers, microwaves... We're more "plugged in" than ever before. By 2015, consumer electronics and small appliances will account for almost 30 percent of all household electricity use. As the cost of energy continues to increase, the cost for being so plugged in will become more apparent.

Average households will spend more than \$6,000 on energy in 2007 to power their homes and vehicles, projects the Alliance to Save Energy.

Forgetful? A programmable thermostat automatically coordinates indoor climates with your daily and weekend patterns. And you don't have to remember to turn the air conditioning or heating off when you won't be home.

Look for the ENERGY STAR label, the symbol for energy efficiency, when shopping for room air conditioners other heating and cooling equipment, major appliances, lighting, home office equipment, windows, and electronics. Find retailers near you by checking online at: <http://www.energystar.gov>.



Install appropriate insulation for your climate, and seal air leaks to increase your comfort, making your home quieter and cleaner.

Do online "window-shopping" at: [www.efficientwindows.org](http://www.efficientwindows.org). Discover how high-performance Energy Star windows can increase comfort and reduce heating and cooling costs by as much as 30 percent.

Here's more:

When refinancing your home, consider including energy-efficiency home improvements. Your interest may be tax deductible.

Switch to cold water washing of laundry and save up to \$63 a year. Close blinds or shades on the south- and west-facing windows during the day or install shading devices such as trellises or awnings.

Turn off everything not in use: lights, TVs, computers.

Many additional tips and free resources for all types of home and vehicle energy use can be found on the Alliance to Save Energy consumer web site [www.ase.org/consumers](http://www.ase.org/consumers).



## Manager's Monologue

Dennis Krueger



### **Saving Money through Innovation**

Members have been asking Kiwash, “How can I reduce my electric usage?” These member-owners might be interested in energy conservation, reducing their own electric bills, or concerned for the environment. Kiwash has the “Home Energy Audit” link on its web page ([www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)) that will assist you in this process.

Kiwash's alliance with Touchstone Energy has produced some very worthwhile results. Now, you can find money saving options with the new “Home Energy Audit” that can be done from your home while sitting at your computer. It's free to our member-owners.

Eight months after it was introduced to Touchstone Energy co-ops and their members, the online Home Energy Saver has become a popular resource and valuable tool in helping homeowners manage their energy use. Since its launch, Touchstone Energy's free online energy audit has racked up nearly 20,000 hits.

The Home Energy Saver is a comprehensive, user-friendly resource that helps consumers pinpoint ways to control their home energy use based on a detailed description of a home, its appliances and geographic location.

The online tool is offered in cooperation with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy as part of the national ENERGY STAR Program for improving energy efficiency in homes. As part of the collaboration, Touchstone Energy has customized a frame for the site to ensure that members know this resource is offered by a Touchstone Energy cooperative.

“Our new online audit is easy—and free—to access, and provides a very robust assessment of home energy consumption, so it's easy to see why it's become so popular,” said Jim Bausell, COO of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

Please go to [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop) on the internet and click on the colorful Touchstone Energy Home Energy Audit logo and begin evaluating your home today!

**Anonymous  
Electric Co-op  
Member**

**“I’m saving money  
because...I’ve got  
connections!”**

**Co-op Connections Card**  
**Kiwash Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

**SHOW YOUR  
CARD!  
SAVE MONEY!**

Go to  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)  
for list of  
participating  
businesses!

# Kiwash partners with local schools to offer Co-opCast



Instant weather information, specific alerts for your location, interactive radar screen to pinpoint and track storm movement, plus pertinent information from your local school administrator is delivered directly to your desktop. It's yours for the asking and to make the best better – it's completely free.

The Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives of Oklahoma are announcing a new weather package to their members and non-members alike. Coming your way, this unique tool takes Co-op communications and the Touchstone Energy Brand to a whole new level.

By simply using your computer and Internet connection you can download the application. Go to Kiwash Electric Cooperative's website at [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop). Simple download instructions are provided by completing an online registration form consisting of eight questions: First and last name, email address, city, zip, co-op affiliation, school affiliation and are you a co-op member. With just the click of a few keys, the application is downloaded to your desktop and you are ready to start using the various features offered.

After downloading, the Co-opCast icon is shown on the bottom right of your computer screen. You will immediately be able to view the local weather radar information in your area and receive alerts for inclement weather directly to your desktop. As an added bonus, you will receive text messages concerning important information from your local school. In addition, users will be able to link to the Co-op Connections website where members can identify great money-saving discounts from local, regional and national businesses that are available to Co-op member's compliments of their Connections Card Program.

The fact that local schools will be able to use this communications tool to convey information such as school closings, athletic events, parent-teacher meetings, etc. should prove to be a valuable asset to students, parents, teachers and administrators. These timely bits of info sent directly from school administrators will automatically scroll across the bottom of your computer screen.

One of the major differences between this weather package and others offered online is that your local electric cooperative is controlling the content and communications directed through this application. In this way, SPAM, and other undesirable features typically accompanying similar services will be minimized.

Kiwash Electric Cooperative is proud to partner with schools in your area to offer this unique weather and communications tool. Co-opCast is a program that once again affirms the value of Oklahoma's Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives.

# Easter Bunny Cupcakes

## RECIPE INGREDIENTS:

A cupcake (baked from your favorite recipe)

White icing

Shredded coconut

Pink decorators' sugar

Jelly bean nose

Chewable Sweet Tart eyes

Large marshmallow

Mini marshmallows



1. Frost a cupcake (baked from your favorite recipe) with white icing and sprinkle on shredded coconut fur.
2. Cut a large marshmallow in half widthwise. Squeeze each half slightly to give it an oval shape, then decorate the sticky side of each one with pink decorators' sugar and set them in place for ears.
3. Add a jelly bean nose and either jelly bean or snipped Sweet Tart eyes, and mini marshmallows for cheeks. For a finishing touch, draw on decorators' gel pupils or whiskers if you like.

## BULLETIN BOARD

### What's Happening In Your Community

April 8 – Happy Easter

April 11 – 14 – Clinton Spring Fling Carnival

**KILOWATT**

To report the events in your community, or for more information, call Kiwash Electric Cooperative.  
1-888-832-3362