Inland Power AND LIGHT COMPANY

Light Reading

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Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

The Benefits of Cooperative Membership: Capital Credits

One of the unique benefits of co-op membership is the capital credit. Since Inland Power and Light is a member-owned, non-profit electric utility, any excess revenues over expenses are returned to you, our members, in the form of capital credit checks.

Last year, Inland issued $1.5 million in capital credit refund checks. Some of these checks were returned to the co-op "address unknown." Perhaps you or someone you know are one of these recipients. To find out, go to our Web site, www.inlandpower.com.

You may have other unclaimed money. Here are some helpful Web sites to search:

www.missingmoney.com

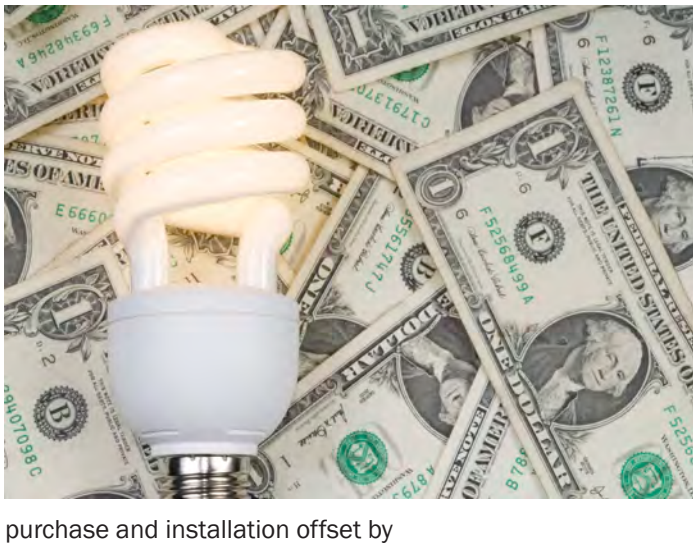
www.unclaimed.org

And while finding the money is easy, some warnings:

Never pay anyone to get your own money back.

There are companies that will call or send you a letter stating they've found money for you– but they'll want to take a cut of your money... as much as 30 or 40 percent and there is absolutely no need for it.

Stimulus Bill Changes Home Energy Tax Credits



On Feb. 17, 2009, President Obama signed a stimulus bill that made some significant changes to the energy-efficiency tax credits. The highlights are as follows:

- Tax credits that were previously effective for 2009 have been extended to 2010.
- The tax credit has been raised from 10 to 30 percent.
- The tax credits that were for a specific dollar amount — $300 for an energy efficient furnace — have been converted to 30 percent of the cost.
- The maximum credit has been raised from $500 to $1,500 for the two year period (2009-2010). However, some improvements such as geothermal heat pumps, solar water heaters, and solar panels are no longer subject to the $1,500 maximum.
- The $200 cap on windows has been removed, but the requirements for windows have increased significantly.

Combine Tax Credits with Inland's Energy Efficiency Programs for Real Savings

Inland's Energy Efficiency programs include incentives for heating and cooling improvements; purchasing ENERGY STAR®-rated appliances; and installing an energy-efficient water heater.

An Inland member considering a geothermal heat pump could expect to have approximately 47 percent of the purchase and installation offset by federal credits and Inland Power and Light energy efficiency incentives. See the chart below for the details.

Geothermal Heat Pump	$18,000
Federal Tax Credit of 30%	$5,400
Inland Power Energy Efficiency Credit	$3,000
Total Member Cost	$9,600
Savings	47%

Inland also offers rebates for appliance recycling (refrigerators and freezers), ENERGY STAR® Site Built and Manufactured Homes, commercial lighting, irrigation and agriculture improvements.

To learn more about these and other programs Inland offers, you can contact us at (509) 747-7151, or visit our Web site at www.inlandpower.com.

How Close to the Power Line Can I Plant a Tree?

This depends largely on the type of tree you are planting. Inland maintains a 20-foot right-of-way (10 feet on either side of the power lines) so you want to be certain any tree you plant will not encroach within ten feet of the conductors.

There are a variety of trees that can be planted to add beauty to your landscaping without ever having to be trimmed. Trees such as Redbud, Dogwood and Crabapple, as well as some varieties of Evergreen are examples of trees that are considered “utility friendly”.

A tree that doesn’t have to be topped and/or trimmed adds value to your property and is much more aesthetically pleasing. If a tree does grow within the right-of-way it will be trimmed or removed so it is important to consider both the short and long term health of your trees.

We should all be good stewards of the land and one way to help achieve this is to use good judgment when planting trees.

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Whole House Fans -- A Fresh Idea

What Are The Benefits?

Whole-house fans are a simple and inexpensive method of cooling your house. It can greatly reduce or even possibly eliminate the need for air conditioning.

How Does It Work?

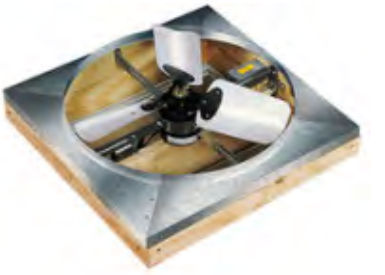
The whole-house fan draws cool outdoor air inside the house through windows and exhausts hot indoor air through the attic to the outside. Operating the whole-house fan during the morning, late evening, and night will cool down your home. Ceiling or circulating fans will create an additional cooling effect to keep your home more comfortable.

Installing a Whole-House Fan

You should never try and install a whole-house fan by yourself—make sure it is done by a professional. They will take your attic measurements and install your dedicated electrical wiring and—if needed—your new attic vents. Attic vents are necessary to exhaust the fan’s air outdoors. The more vent area you have available, the better your whole-house fan will perform.

Keep In Mind

If your fan does not come with a tight-sealing winter cover, you should either buy one or build one. If you switch between air conditioning and cooling with a whole-house fan as the summer weather changes, build a tightly-sealed, hinged door for the fan opening that is easy to open and close when switching cooling methods.



Also, be careful when operating these large exhaust fans. If enough ventilation is not provided, the fans can cause a back draft pulling combustion products such as carbon monoxide into your living space.

May Is National Electrical Safety Month

Here are some things to keep in mind while working around power lines.

- Always check the location of power lines before you start work.
- Power line heights are deceptive--know the operation and maximum height of your machine.
- Have an observer check your position when working near overhead power lines.
- Never stack irrigation pipes, hay stacks, or park machinery under power lines
- Never ride on top of loads.
- If aerial crop-dusting is to be performed, inform the pilot beforehand about any power lines in the area.
- Plan farm access roads to avoid passing under power lines.
- At least two days before excavating or digging, call the local underground utility locator service, (800) 424-5555 or 8-1-1.
- Remember to look up, look down, and look out when working near overhead power lines.