

Michigan

COUNTRY LINES



Michigan-made:

Luminature

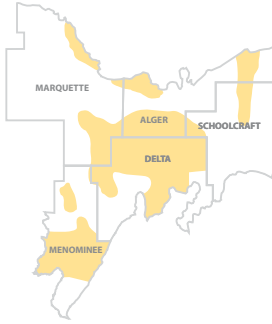
*Wildly unique lighting
and decor*

Don't miss your co-op's
ANNUAL MEETING
June 20
(See back cover for details)

4 Co-op Election Results
Announced

5 Jerry Apps To Speak
At Annual Meeting

25 Recycle Those
Appliances



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Co-op Election Results Announced

Alger Delta held its first district meeting of 2012 in Grand Marais, MI, on March 29, where incumbent Nancy Gardner-Platt was elected to a second term on the Alger Delta board with 62 percent of the vote total. About 45 members and employees of the cooperative attended the meeting. Gardner-Platt's opponent in the election was James Krempa, also of Grand Marais. Both candidates garnered solid support from the community, as evidenced by the good meeting turnout.

On April 3, the Harvey-Deerton district convened their election meeting at the Onota Town Hall. Sam Simonetta took the majority of the votes, unseating incumbent director Gerald Krieg. Simonetta garnered about 60 percent of the votes. About 45 members and employees attended.

The Cedar River district meeting was



Tom Harrell
General Manager

held on April 9. About 35 members and employees turned out to witness the results of the District 4 election where Bessie Anderson prevailed over Jim Bruner in the only open-seat election. The open seat was created when incumbent director Roy Hubbard recently retired from the board after more than 26 years of service.

Alger Delta's board president, Paul Sederquist (District 6, Nathan-White Rapids) chaired each of the three district meetings.

In addition to the elections, General Manager Tom Harrell gave a review of business activities and the cooperative's overall performance in 2011. Harrell also discussed activities planned for 2012 and answered members' questions.

Board members elected in 2012 will be officially seated at the annual meeting on June 20. Hope to see you there!

Why Do We Send You Michigan Country Lines?



Sure, *Michigan Country Lines* is full of great articles, valuable energy-saving tips, and—of course—delicious recipes. But why does your electric co-op send you this magazine?

Country Lines is the most economical and convenient way to share information with our members. It takes the place of many mailings we would otherwise make to get information to you about our services, director elections, member meetings, and the staff and management decisions you should know about as an owner of the co-op. The magazine also carries legal notices that would otherwise have to be placed in local media at a substantial cost. And, sending *Country Lines* to you helps the co-op fulfill one of its basic principles—to

educate and communicate openly with its members.

The board of directors authorizes the co-op to subscribe to *Country Lines* on your behalf at a cost ranging from \$3.69 per year, paid as part of your electric bill. The current magazine cost is 62 cents per copy—only a few cents more than a first-class stamp.

Country Lines is published for us, at cost, by the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association in Okemos. As always, we value your comments about your magazine.



Meet Jerry Apps at Your Co-op's Annual Meeting!

Alger Delta is celebrating its 75th anniversary, and as a tribute, we have arranged for a special guest speaker. Jerry Apps, a celebrated presenter on rural life, will speak at the cooperative's 2012 annual meeting on June 20.

Born and raised on a Wisconsin farm, Apps is professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the author of more than 30 books, many on rural history and country life.

Some of his nonfiction books include: "Humor from the Country," "Country Ways and Country Days," "Cheese," "Ringlingville USA" (History of Ringling Brothers circus), and "Campfires and Loon Calls." He's also written an audio book, children's books including "Eat Rutabagas" and "Tents," and published four novels, "The Travels of Increase Joseph," "In a Pickle: A Family Farm Story," "Blue Shadows Farm" and "Cranberry Red."

Apps is also a former publications editor for UW-Extension, an acquisitions editor for the McGraw-Hill Book Company, and editor of a national professional journal.

Besides farming, his interests include wilderness canoeing, nature study, and cross-country skiing. Visit jerryapps.com for more information.

For the third consecutive year, Alger Delta's annual meeting will be held in the gymnasium at Grace Church (see details at right and on the outside back cover). Seating is limited to 225 people, so members must call ahead to reserve a place. Seats will be filled on a first come-first reserved basis.

Newly-elected co-op directors will also be officially seated at the annual meeting.

See you there!

Notice To Members:

Beginning May 2012 Alger Delta will no longer be mailing a separate disconnect notice. If you are subject to receiving this notice or to be disconnected for nonpayment, you will still receive a shut-off notice on your monthly bill and two courtesy phone call reminders. Please make every effort to pay your bill on time or your account will be subject to disconnect.

Notice of Annual Meeting of the Members of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association

Pursuant to the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association will be held on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, at Grace Church, 528 28th St. (off of M-35), in Gladstone.

A meal will be served from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Eastern time. The business meeting will start at 6:15 p.m. Actions will be taken on the following matters: 1) Installation of directors; 2) Presentation and consideration of reports; 3) New business.

Dated at Gladstone, MI,

March 21, 2012

Gail Petersen, Secretary



Why Does the Type of Power We Provide Matter?



Up to 75 percent of every dollar you pay your local electric cooperative goes directly for wholesale power costs. Bucket trucks, poles and wire, right-of-way trimming, payroll, and other operating expenses are covered by the rest.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



Photo - Shawn Malone/LakeSuperiorPhoto.com

America's National Parks:

Elliot Creek Falls along the North Country Scenic Trail in the U.P.

Big Value for a Low Price

When it comes to vacations, America's national parks are a perennial favorite. From roaring geysers and sandy seascapes to frontier forts and presidents' homes, these unique treasures boast magnificent landscapes and cultural enrichment.

Lately, they've been getting even better. Visitors are reaping the benefits of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which funded improvements to national park facilities and roads. Ninety-nine percent of these projects are finished, says Jeff Olson, spokesman for the National Park Service (NPS) in Washington, D.C. For example, the scenic Skyline Drive in Virginia's Shenandoah National Park sports dozens of new overlooks with jaw-dropping views and new interpretative signs.

Something for Everyone

National parks, nearly 400 now, offer something for everyone at a relatively low price. Enjoy hiking, biking, swimming, fishing and rafting, shop for locally made crafts at gift

shops, tour museums, explore cliff dwellings, take guided full-moon walks, and learn about science and biology from ranger talks.

The beauty and slower pace of a park vacation also draws people together. Parents are reminded that food cooked over a campfire tastes better. Kids remember how to make their own fun. Those in their '20s finally bond, adult to adult, with their parents. Even the most sullen teenager may crack a smile by the end of a day or two.

"For generations now, people have introduced members of their family to national parks," Olson says. "Parents and grandparents are now introducing their children to parks. These are places where you learn about American heritage and culture."

And, those who enjoy technology won't be disappointed, either. Visitors to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., can use the NPS' free app. The app displays the user's location, highlights historical and cultural points and offers tour suggestions, and gives directions to over 70 sites. Inside other national parks (rural or urban), visitors can deepen their

experiences by using smart phones and other mobile devices at visitors' centers and exhibits. Park websites sport live webcams, podcasts and links to lively social media, as well.

Michigan National Parks

Traveling closer to home, Michigan has its own wonders waiting for discovery within Isle Royale National Park, Keweenaw National Historic Park, Sleeping Bear Dunes, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, or the North Country Scenic Trail. Together, these national parks hosted 1,912,324 visitors in 2011.

A visit to **Isle Royale**, the country's only island national park, truly means "getting away from it all." At 45 miles long and 9 miles wide (third largest in the U.S.), hikers especially love its remote location and total automobile ban. It's also common to hear distant wolf calls or see a wandering moose or other wildlife in its wonderful, rugged scenery.

Over 160 miles of foot trails, 36 campgrounds, and one hotel are described as ample for those who make the effort to visit "one of the most pristine wilderness areas on earth." Note that the visiting season here is short (mid-April through October), and the Park Service's M.V. Ranger III ferry connects

Isle Royale with Houghton from early June to mid-September.

Established in 1992, **Keweenaw National Historic Park** celebrates life and history on the Keweenaw Peninsula, especially relating to 7,000 years of copper mining. The peninsula houses the oldest, largest lava flow, which created the largest known deposits of accessible pure (97 percent) native copper on Earth. Early miners could break the red metal from the rock to make jewelry and tools, and into coins and electric wire by later generations.

The entire picture of copper mining here, according to Wikipedia, is best-represented by the Village of Calumet (social, ethnic, commercial themes); former Calumet and Hecla Mining Company properties (corporate paternalism and power); and former Quincy Mining Company properties (extraction/processing themes). There's lots more for visitors to experience, from the Quincy Mine Hoist Museum in Hancock to a tour of the Delaware Mine near Copper Harbor, and many other museums, heritage centers, and Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park is nearby, too.

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore stretches 42 miles along Lake Superior, and offers 15 miles of giant red, orange and gold-colored sandstone cliffs.

The home of America's first national lakeshore, the rock formations shape natural



Learning about birds of prey from a national park ranger.

Photo - John F. Mitchell

archways, sea caves and waterfalls that are framed by sand dunes. You can see the Rocks close by paddling a kayak through their tunnels, or backpack among the peaks and bases. Most visitors, however, get close on boat tours that depart daily from Munising, or you can hire a plane in Grand Marais or drive to the Miner's Castle overlook.

Other notable sites are many waterfalls,

including Munising Falls, interpretive centers, and nearby forests, lakes and opportunities for four-season activities.

Running through Pictured Rocks is the longest finished segment (581 miles) of the **North Country Scenic Trail**, which also winds through Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and other parts of the U.P. before crossing the Straits of Mackinac into the Lower Peninsula.

Crossing seven northern states, this is the longest of eleven National Scenic Trails. Designed to provide peaceful recreational opportunities in some of our country's outstanding landscapes, it will stretch 3,200 miles from North Dakota to Vermont when it's done. Over 2,100 miles are already certified.

The North Country Scenic Trail is accessible mostly on foot, by hiking, snowshoeing or cross-country skiing, although bicycles and horses are allowed in some designated areas.

Most Michiganders know that a visit to **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore** has to include "climbing the dunes," but while you're around, try the seven-mile-long Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive. This route takes you through several hundred feet of changes in elevation, vegetation, climate and great views of Lake Michigan. From the top of Sleeping Bear, you can see the Manitou Islands, a favorite place for campers and scuba divers.

Michigan also has 1,776 National Register of Historic Places listings, one National Heritage Area, 12 National Natural Landmarks,

Continued on page 20 ▶

Admission to Most National Parks Is Free!

Most of America's national parks don't have an entry fee.* For parks that do, admission is from \$3 to \$25 (good for an entire carload of people for a week). There are also bargain annual passes, good at over 2,000 federal recreation sites, including a seniors' pass for \$10.

The National Park Service has fee-free days in 2012 at over 100 national parks that usually charge entry fees. The dates are:

- **June 9** – Get Outdoors Day
- **Sept. 29** – National Public Lands Day
- **Nov. 10-12** – Veterans Day weekend

Search nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparksbystate.htm by park name or state to see which states are offering fee-free days, call 202-208-3818, or connect on YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. Also, visit the Public Broadcasting Service's website for enriching park stories at pbs.org/nationalparks.htm.

Many park-related hotels, restaurants, shops and tour operators offer specials on fee-free days (see National Park Hospitality Association at parkpartners.org/Special-Offers-for-2011.html and National Parks Promotions Council at nationalparks.org/special-offers/).

To find other free attractions (zoos, museums, concerts and festivals) check free-attractions.com or a city's visitor center, chamber of commerce or state tourism websites for ideas in the area you're traveling. Washington, D.C., and New York City boast an array of free activities at washington.org and nycgo.com.

*Fee waiver includes entrance fees, commercial tour fees, and transportation entrance fees. Other fees such as camping, tours, concessions and third party fees are not included, unless stated otherwise.

National Parks, from page 9

and 34 National Historic Landmarks, according to the tourism website at michigan.org.

Lodging = More Than Camping

For lodging, people sometimes picture a grand historic lodge or a tent campground. While these are great options, there are typically other choices through concessioners in the park or in nearby towns. One reason that Great Smoky Mountains Park is continually ranked as most popular U.S. national park is accessibility. It's close to Gatlinburg, TN, and Cherokee and Bryson City, NC, which cater to visitors with a wide variety of affordable accommodations, restaurants, shops, museums, and other attractions.

Popular Acadia National Park in Maine has no "roof" lodging, but the nearby historic village of Bar Harbor offers house vacation rentals, cottages, motels and bed-and-breakfast inns that suit all budgets.

Planning Ahead Is Key

Consider your travel priorities—do you want to drive your car, or fly to the closest airport and rent one? Cook or eat out? Sleep under the stars in the back country or on a real bed? Do you prefer to be near cities or to venture out?

People are surprised that some parks are close to major metropolitan areas. Cuyahoga Valley National Park, blessed with a winding river and fascinating canal history, is only 30 minutes from Cleveland. It also hosts scenic train rides and evening concerts. Stanford House, a bed-and-breakfast inn in the park,

has a self-service kitchen and wireless internet. The renovated farmhouse's room rates, which include a continental breakfast with cereal and fresh fruit, start around \$50 for a small room with a bunk bed and shared bath.

If staying in a quaint cabin is for you, primitive ones can be rented in Shenandoah. The large capacity cabins (roughly \$30-\$45 nightly) have no running water or electricity, but are equipped with mattresses, cookware, and either a wood fireplace or woodstove. In most cases, you carry your items in from between a few tenths of a mile to several miles in. Returning guests rave about the mountain views and the cabins, booked through Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, an authorized concessioner.

Another get-away-from-everything place is Big Bend National Park in Texas. It has

spectacular canyon and mountain scenery, with lots of plants and animals and more types of birds than any other national park in the United States.

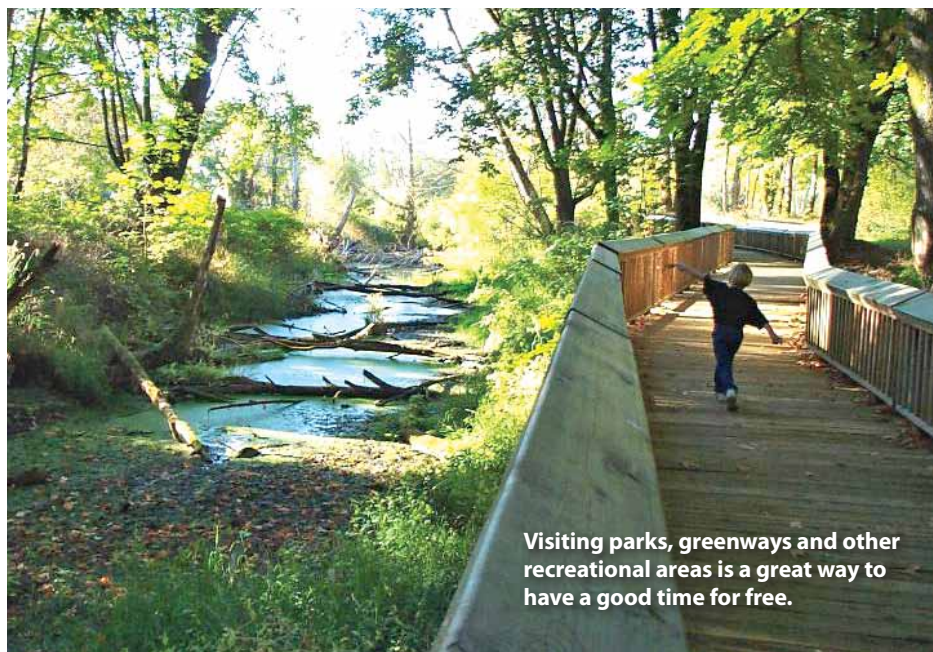
It pays to do your homework. Biscayne National Park boasts urban proximity, colorful coral reefs, and first-rate scuba diving and snorkeling. It's within sight of downtown Miami, but that doesn't mean its logistics are easy. More than 95 percent of this marine park is covered by water, so transportation is by boat here.

Finally, stay open to lesser-known parks. A newer park, the Black Canyon of the Gunnison in Colorado, receives a fraction of the Grand Canyon's numbers. However, its canyon's combination of narrowness and vertical drop are unmatched by any other in North America.



Grotto Falls in the Great Smoky Mountains

Source - Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Visiting parks, greenways and other recreational areas is a great way to have a good time for free.

Source - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Finding Other Travel Deals

Popular websites such as tripadvisor.com, smartertravel.com or travelzoo.com offer advice from fellow travelers about places to eat, play and stay, plus a wide variety of planning tools, including searches for flights, hotels, restaurants and vacation rentals.

There are also many free or inexpensive cell phones apps that help travelers save money, too. Check user reviews before downloading, and some travel websites (tripadvisor.com) and companies offer free mobile apps.

Social media is great for getting current travel advice. From photos to tweets on great-and-not-so-great deals, insiders dish about lodging, food and attractions. One of the oldest is virtualltourist.com.

Other handy sites for travel deals include affordabletours.com, restaurants.com, hotels.com, and ecruises.com.

How to Buy an Energy-Efficient Appliance



Source - Samsung

You go shopping for a new refrigerator, and you're on a budget. The best buy is the one with the lowest sales price, right?

Not necessarily. If you buy the lowest-priced refrigerator, you may end up spending more than if you buy a more expensive one. The reason? The cost of owning a home appliance has three components: the initial purchase price, the cost of repairs and maintenance, and the cost to operate it.

To figure out how much you'll spend over the appliance's lifetime, you have to weigh all these factors. The appliance with the lowest initial price, or even the one with the best repair record, isn't necessarily the one that costs the least to operate. Here's an example of how an appliance's energy consumption can affect your wallet.

Suppose you're in the market for a new refrigerator-freezer. Different refrigerator models with the same capacity can vary dramatically in the amount of electricity they use. For one popular size and configuration, for example, the annual electricity consumption varies across models from a low of about 600 kilowatt-hours (kWh) to a high of more than 800 kWh, per year. Based on national average electricity prices, that means the annual cost to operate this refrigerator can range from about \$50 to \$70, depending on which model you buy.

A \$20 difference in annual operating costs may not sound like much, but remember

that you will enjoy these savings year after year for the appliance lifetime, while you must pay any difference in purchase price only once. As a result, you may actually save money by buying the more expensive, more energy-efficient model.

You can learn about the energy use and efficiency of an appliance (determined in independent laboratory tests) from the yellow-and-black EnergyGuide® label. The Federal Trade Commission's Appliance Labeling Rule requires appliance manufacturers to put these labels on refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, clothes washers, TVs, water heaters, furnaces, boilers, central air conditioners, room air conditioners, heat pumps, and pool heaters.

When you shop in a dealer's showroom, you should find the labels hanging on the inside of an appliance or secured to the outside. The law requires that the labels specify:

- The capacity of the particular model;
- For refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, clothes washers and water heaters, the model's estimated annual energy consumption.

■ For air conditioners, heat pumps, furnaces, boilers and pool heaters, the energy efficiency rating.

■ The range of estimated annual energy consumption, or energy efficiency ratings, of comparable appliances.

Some appliances may also feature the Energy Star® logo, which means it is significantly more energy efficient than the average comparable model.

The Energy Star program also provides a number of rebate opportunities when you purchase qualifying products and appliances, including ceiling fans, compact fluorescent lightbulb fixtures, light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures, smart power strips, room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators and low-flow aerator kits. Before buying a new appliance, check out available rebates through Midwest Energy Cooperative's Energy Optimization Program (see details below).

— Sources: Federal Trade Commission;
U.S. Dept. of Energy

Appliance Aid

Federal tax credits for appliances expired at the end of 2011, but some Michigan utilities provide rebates and appliance loan programs. Check michigan-energy.org or call 877-296-4319 for available rebates and programs through Alger Delta Electric Co-op's Energy Optimization Program. These programs and incentives are applicable in Michigan service locations only, and other restrictions may apply.

Treat Do-It-Yourself Wiring Projects Carefully

If spring sends you into remodeling mode, consider checking with professionals before migrating to the nearest hardware store. While do-it-yourself (DIY) projects can be very satisfying to complete, they pose risks when it comes to electricity.

“Mistakes can be costly—or even deadly,” warns John Drengenberg, consumer affairs manager for Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., (UL), a Chicago-based nonprofit firm that tests and sets minimum standards for electric products. “The first and best safety tip is to call in an expert rather than be your own electrician.”

An ongoing study by the Fire Protection Research Foundation has given UL engineers a better understanding of typical DIY wiring mistakes. The most common are:

Working With a Live Wire

It may seem obvious, but thousands of do-it-yourselfers get electric shock injuries each year. To avoid becoming a statistic, always turn off the circuit breaker (or remove the fuse) before working on or replacing electrical equipment. If you have a pre-1940s home, you probably have more than one breaker box, or panel board, as electricians call them.

Using the Wrong Lightbulb

Most lighting fixtures have a sticker on the socket that tells you the proper type and maximum lightbulb wattage to use. Installing a different type of bulb, or one with higher wattage, will not only make the room brighter, but could damage the lights and cause a fire. The higher the wattage, the hotter the bulb, and the hotter the wire that goes to the lighting fixture.

Not Being Grounded

For optimal safety, receptacles should be wired with the proper grounding and polarity. Generally, three-pronged outlets signify an effective ground path in the circuit. However, homes built before the mid-1960s probably don't have a grounding path, and simply replacing the existing outlet with a three-pronged outlet won't give you one.

“You see instances of this in homes with older wiring,” Drengenberg says. “It's no

worse than if you plug your two-pronged device into a two-pronged outlet. But it does give the homeowner a false sense of security.”

Wiring with a grounding path usually has a copper grounding wire with the cable. If you are uncertain whether your home's wiring is grounded, inexpensive UL-listed outlet circuit testers are available to check for proper grounding and polarity. If your outlet is improperly grounded, call an electrician before moving forward in any project.

Splicing, Splicing, Splicing

Always make sure your wiring size and type match. Splicing wires by simply twisting them together and covering them with electrical tape is rarely a good idea. Instead, use wiring suitable to your home's wiring and place wiring connections in metal or plastic boxes to decrease fire risk.

Also keep in mind that circuits protected by 15-amp fuses or breakers should be wired with No. 14 AWG copper wire minimum. For 20 amps, use No. 12 AWG minimum size copper wire. Other guidelines apply, so seek professional help before you begin.

Hooking New Lights to Old Wires

Most light fixtures are marked with instructions for supply connections, such as “Use wire rated for at least 90C,” which refers to the maximum temperature—90 degrees Celsius or about 200 degrees Fahrenheit—under which a wire's insulation can safely be used. Again, if you have an older home (pre-1984, in this case), wiring may have a lower temperature rating than a new luminaire.

“This isn't something most DIYers even think to consider,” Drengenberg cautions. “It probably won't burst into flame immediately, but it does increase the risk of a fire.” To avoid that risk, check your wire rating first, and either upgrade it or buy fixtures within the supply connection range.

Other Electrical Clues

Electrical upgrades often require a professional who knows what inspections and permits are needed. Following are a few other clues to help you find out if your home's electric network needs a professional switch.



Source—Electrical Safety Foundation International

Be careful not to install new lighting to old, inferior wires. To avoid this fire hazard, check your wire rating first, and either upgrade it or buy fixtures within the supply connection range.

- **Type of wiring.** Modern wiring is insulated, meaning covered in plastic. Older homes may have copper or aluminum wiring. Copper wiring can work just as well as modern wiring if it is still in good condition and has not been altered or improperly installed. However, fire risk also increases in homes with both copper and aluminum wiring. Corrosion to aluminum from copper can lead to loose connections causing fires. Use only aluminum-approved switches, outlets, and other accessories if your home has aluminum wiring.

- **Plugs fall out of outlets easily.** Loose plugs are a high fire danger. Older outlets that have lost their grip need to be replaced.

- **Not enough outlets.** The increasing use of chargers for phones and electronic devices means outlets are in high demand, especially in older homes where outlets are not as plentiful. This can result in overuse of extension cords and power strips. Be sure to use quality, 14-gauge or thicker cords that are approved by Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Never overload an outlet. Overloading can cause heat, leading to fire risk. Consider hiring a licensed electrician to add outlets to your home.

- **Danger in wet areas.** GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets are now required in areas around water like near a kitchen or bathroom sink or outdoors. But in older homes, GFCIs may not have been installed. It is fairly simple to replace old receptacles with GFCIs; hire a professional to upgrade outlets near water.

- **Wind causes lights to blink.** If you notice your lights blinking on windy days, it may be due to worn wiring in the weatherhead (where overhead lines enter your home). Contact your electric co-op to check weatherhead wiring.

Sources: *This Old House*, Underwriters Laboratories, Kelly Trapnell

Out With the Old...For Real

Alger Delta Co-op offers recycling for refrigerators and freezers.

Over the past two years, many consumers received federal rebates when purchasing a new refrigerator, water heater, or other household appliance. About 1.7 million rebates were redeemed, and the U.S. Department of Energy estimates these appliances will cut \$65 million from electric bills every year. Around \$48 million of that chunk will be saved mainly by consumers who bought energy-efficient refrigerators, clothes washers, and dishwashers.

Great news, right? But suppose you just bought a new refrigerator or freezer, what did you do with your old one? Kick it to the curb? Move it out to the garage? Recycle it? The reason we ask isn't to make you feel guilty, but to point out that recycling old appliances isn't the first thing most of us think about.

In fact, a lot of us are still using our old refrigerator and the new one. A national survey from the Cooperative Research Network, a branch of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, reported that 19 percent of U.S. homes have two refrigera-

tors running at all times. Another 2 percent of U.S. households operate three or more refrigerators at the same time.

So much for the adage, "Out with the old and in with the new."

One Is Best

The problem with keeping an old refrigerator or freezer is simple: It costs you money. By continuing to use these "energy hogs" in your basement or garage, your energy bills may be \$100-200 higher per year than necessary.

The older your refrigerator or freezer is, the more energy it wastes. For example, a modern refrigerator costs 60 percent less to use than a 1970s-era unit. In addition, a new refrigerator is about 20 percent larger than the 1970s avocado green or blaze orange

versions, making it easier for most families to have just one fridge.

Energy Optimization Appliance Recycling

As your energy provider, we want to help you really save energy when you buy a new Energy Star® or energy-efficient refrigerator or freezer. That's why we're proud of our refrigerator recycling program.

How you benefit:

- \$30 rebate on each recycled refrigerator or freezer. Appliance must be in working condition. (Limit 2)
- Convenient door-to-door pick up
- Ongoing savings on your electric bills

Bonus rebate alert

You know every dollar counts. So, if you're in the market to buy a new refrigerator or freezer, be sure to check out rebates that may be available through Alger Delta's Energy Optimization program for Energy Star appliances.

Call 877.296.4319 or visit Michigan-energy.org to schedule a pick-up of your old refrigerator.



Get \$30 for your old refrigerator or freezer.

Have an extra working refrigerator or freezer? Don't let it sit there wasting energy. Turn it in. You'll receive a \$30 rebate from the Energy Optimization (EO) Appliance Recycling program and we'll recycle it. Schedule your FREE pick-up today.

recycle it

ENERGY TIP: Shopping for new appliances? Take advantage of EO rebates on ENERGY STAR models.

Online: michigan-energy.org Phone: 877.296.4319



Energy Optimization programs and incentives are applicable to Michigan service locations only. Other restrictions may apply. For a complete list of participating utilities, visit michigan-energy.org.

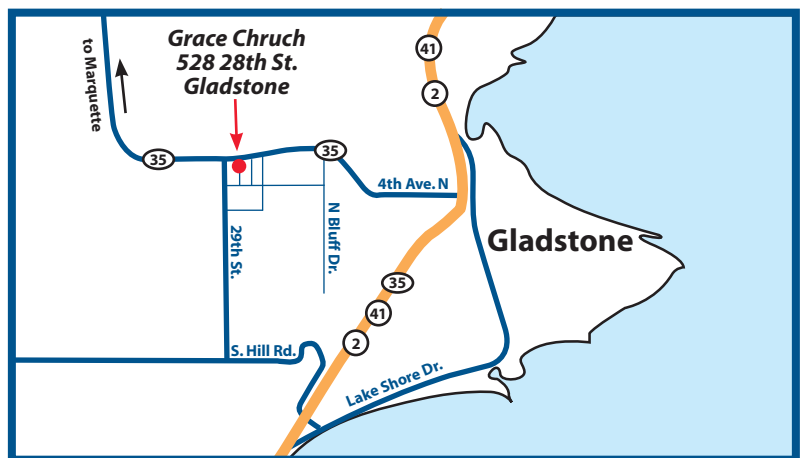
Don't Miss Alger Delta's 2012 Annual Membership Meeting June 20

Free Meal ~ Door Prizes ~ Prize Drawings



Don't miss our special guest speaker, **JERRY APPS**, a celebrated presenter on rural life (see p. 5). His books include, "Humor From The Country" and "Country Ways And Days."

- ▶ **Wed., June 20, 2012**
- ▶ **Meal served 5:30 – 6 p.m. (EST)**
- ▶ **Business Meeting – 6:15 p.m.**
- ▶ **Seating is limited. You must reserve your place in advance. Call 906-428-4141 to RSVP.**



From RAPID RIVER: Take U.S. 2 & 41 west/south. Turn west (right) on M-35. Go to the top of the hill. Turn south (left) into parking lot just before traffic light. **From PERKINS:** Take M-35 south toward Gladstone. Pass Gladstone High School on east side of M-35 and follow curve to the east. Go through traffic light and turn south (right) into parking lot. **From ESCANABA:** Take US 2 & 41 east / north. Turn west (left) on M-35. Go to top of the hill. Turn south (left) into parking lot just before traffic light.

**Remove this full page,
complete the form, and
redeem for a free gift when
you attend the
Annual Meeting.**

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone # _____