



Power Points

www.diversepower.com

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diversepower

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

*Innovation through vision.
Quality through service.*

Help conserve water

With the threat of drought over so much of the country, it's important to save water at home all year-round, especially during a hot summer. You can conserve water and energy by changing just a few habits this summer:



- Wash full loads when you use clothes washers and dishwashers.
- Wash clothes and dishes after dark, when there's less competition for energy from your neighbors.
- Replace older showerheads with low-flow models.
- Fix leaky faucets.
- Save 200 gallons a month by turning water off while you brush teeth or shampoo hair.
- Use water from your fish tank or collect rainwater to water your plants.

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Annual Meeting leads to new lifestyle for Diverse Power couple

When they attended Diverse Power's Annual Meeting in May, Cornelius and Marilyn Wallace didn't know their electric cooperative's routine event would result in a life change for them, but it did. Because of a display and the helpful people there, the Pine Mountain Valley couple purchased an electric car the very next day.

"We'd attended Annual Meeting the year before and enjoyed ourselves, so we planned to go again and make a day of it," says Mrs. Wallace. "The first thing we saw after we registered was the Nissan Leaf display, so we went over and spoke with the fellows there."

Conversations with LaGrange Nissan Sales Associates Brian Moushan and Adam McGhan and Cornelius Willingham, of Nissan U.S.A., led the Wallaces to test-drive a Nissan Leaf. The test-drive led the couple to schedule an appointment at LaGrange Nissan the next day, and that meeting led them to purchase their first electric car.

"Both my husband and I are concerned about global warming and thought the electric vehicle was a good idea," says Mrs. Wallace, admitting it was a "spontaneous purchase" but one backed by their environmental concerns and a desire to decrease dependence on gas and oil.

It seemed only natural that they were introduced to electric vehicles



JACKIE KENNEDY

Cornelius and Marilyn Wallace purchased their new Nissan Leaf after visiting the electric vehicle display at Diverse Power's Annual Meeting in May.

at Diverse Power, according to Mrs. Wallace. "It goes hand in hand with the electric cooperative," she says. "It was a great idea to have the car displayed and to be given opportunity to talk with the sales representatives."

Moushan commends Diverse Power for creating awareness about electric vehicles. "If you establish an electric car as part of your lifestyle, it can save you a lot of money," he says, noting that he pays an average of only \$16 per month to power his own Nissan Leaf.

"We always try to stay ahead of the curve, and this is another way we can help our members," says Diverse Power Marketing Services Coordinator Scott Sawyer. "We try to provide the best lifestyle we can by enhancing the lives of our members with different electricity options, and we feel electric cars certainly have viability."

For more on electric cars, see page 18C.

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Electric Membership Corporation**

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Diverse Power Incorporated provides electricity and related services to almost 35,000 meters on 5,500 miles of power lines in Troup, Harris, Meriwether, Heard, Muscogee, Coweta, Calhoun, Clay, Quitman, Randolph, Early, Stewart and Terrell counties in Georgia and Chambers County, Ala.

Power Points is the official newsletter of Diverse Power Incorporated and is distributed monthly to all its members.

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A Word from Wayne

Check out Co-op Connections

If it's been awhile since you checked out our Co-op Connections® Card deals, take a moment soon to discover the savings our area businesses offer you for their products and services.

The Co-op Connections Card program is offered through Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, a national alliance of almost 750 electric co-ops, including Diverse Power Incorporated.

Designed to help electric cooperative members save money while helping businesses in our service territory thrive, the Co-op Connections Card program connects members with savings at not only local businesses but throughout the nation. The program helps you save money on automotive needs, clothing and accessories, dining, travel and more at many national chains, like Home Depot and Macy's, whether you're at home in our Diverse Power service area or shopping anywhere in the nation where the card is accepted.

The card offers discounts on prescription drugs at more than 60,000 locations, including national chains like CVS, Walgreens and Wal-Mart. Cardholders even receive discounts at participating dental, vision and chiropractic offices.

Locally, businesses like those

featured on page 18D offer deals and incentives when you present your Co-op Connections Card. Along with providing Diverse Power members with great deals on products and services, the program gives participating businesses exposure to our 34,000 electric cooperative members through articles in this newsletter and on our website.

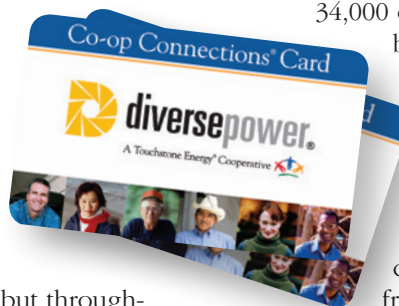
Online, the Co-op Connections' Cash Back Mall gives our members an opportunity to earn cash back on purchases from more than 4,000 leading online merchants, including Bass Pro Shops and Target. In addition to offering cash back, the Cash Back Mall features 20,000 discounts every day.

When you sign on with Diverse Power as your electricity provider, you'll receive a free Co-op Connections Card, two key fobs and a list of participating local and national businesses. If you lose your card or key fobs, please call us at (706) 845-2000, and we'll be happy to replace them.

We hope you'll take advantage of our Co-op Connections Card program to find good deals at great businesses in our service area.



Wayne Livingston
President/CEO



This Month

Visit our Kid's Korner

As children return to school, we invite students, parents and teachers to visit the Kid's Korner section on our website for fun lessons about electricity safety, energy sources and energy efficiency. This interactive site features experiments and activities for students, instructor guides and printable handouts for teachers, and electrical safety tips for parents. If your children pay close attention, they can learn ways to cut down on home energy use and help save you money! Just visit the Home Energy Suite (under the Energy Info tab) at diversepower.com and click on the Kid's Korner button.



Save cash, enjoy comfort of electric vehicle

A Pine Mountain Valley couple's decision to purchase an electric car after test-driving one at Diverse Power's Annual Meeting in May was a smart choice, according to Cornelius Willingham, electric vehicle strategy and business development manager for Nissan U.S.A.'s Southeast Region.

Willingham was on hand at the Annual Meeting, where more than 2,000 co-op members and their families had opportunity to visit displays like one offered by LaGrange Nissan, which provided free test-drives for anyone interested in trying out an electric car. Diverse Power members Cornelius and Marilyn Wallace test-drove a Nissan Leaf at the meeting and returned to LaGrange the next day to purchase one.

"They weren't shopping for an electric car, and it wasn't until they had the opportunity to drive one that they learned just how economical they are to drive, how roomy and quiet they are and how solid they feel," says Willingham,



Cornelius and Marilyn Wallace find their new electric car has ample room for hauling produce to sell at Saturday morning markets in LaGrange and Pine Mountain.

JACKIE KENNEDY



Retired from the U.S. Air Force and Verizon, Cornelius Wallace and his wife, Marilyn, retired from the Federal government, felt purchasing their 2015 Nissan Leaf was a smart choice due to the money savings and environmental benefits that come with electric cars.

noting that other advantages include substantial savings. "An electric car costs 80 percent less to operate than a gasoline-powered vehicle, has higher reliability and fits the driving needs of the vast majority of the population." (The Nissan Leaf averages about 84 miles per charge, according to Willingham who says 70 percent of the population drives less than 29 miles a day.)

After driving their new car for a couple of months, the Wallaces are quick to dispel myths about electric vehicles:

Don't they have slow takeoff?
"It gets up and goes, no question about that," says Mr. Wallace. "It rides beautifully and the handling is excellent."

Aren't electric cars too small?
"It's very comfortable and roomy," says Mrs. Wallace.

Do you really save that much money? "We wave at the gas station every time we drive by," says Mr. Wallace. "Estimates show that if you

used it daily for five years, you'd save \$8,000," adds his wife.

The couple says the only drawback they've experienced is a need for more recharging stations in central west Georgia. Diverse Power is partnering with Nissan U.S.A. to help bring more recharging stations to the region, according to Willingham and Diverse Power Marketing Services Coordinator Scott Sawyer. The cooperative also is considering offering an EV (electric vehicle) rate to give members opportunity to take advantage of recharging during off-peak hours, Sawyer adds.

"Like the Smart Home, this is a coming technology that will continue to grow as more people are exposed, and the Wallaces are an example of that," says Willingham. "They looked at both gas and electric, put a pencil to it in terms of economics, and chose the electric. More and more people are going to do that over time."

Community Connections

Find value in your Co-op Connections Card

Approximately 100 area businesses participate in Diverse Power's Co-op Connections Card program, which offers money-saving deals to our members and increased business to our partners. There is no cost to businesses to participate in the program.

To learn how your business can become a Co-op Connections Card partner, contact Residential Services/Marketing Coordinator Ken Pope at (706) 845-2000, ext. 347. Some of our Co-op Connections Card deals are listed below. For a complete listing of Co-op Connections Card deals, visit our website at diversepower.com.

Printing and Design

Design Group

LaGrange, Ga.....706-883-7741
Free design consultation.



Mud Creek Graphics

LaGrange, Ga.....706-884-5592
10% off up to \$100, any order.

Xpect.it

LaGrange, Ga.....706-882-0415
Free gift with first order of printing, promotional items or signs.

Insurance

Mallory Insurance

LaGrange, Ga.....706-884-3339
\$5 Starbucks gift card with each comprehensive insurance review from one of our personal risk managers.



Jim Bob's restaurant at 108 Corporate Plaza Drive in LaGrange specializes in chicken fingers and offers chicken and catfish platters that are favorites among its customers.

Real Estate

ERA First Realty of LaGrange Inc.

LaGrange, Ga.....706-883-6670
Free home warranty when you buy or sell through us. Must present card first.

Troup County Board of Realtors

LaGrange, Ga.....706-298-0695
\$1 off in-store Georgia Multi-List purchase. (Good only at Troup County Board of Realtors office.)

Restaurants

The Cart Barn

LaGrange, Ga.....706-884-3362
Free drink with purchase of lunch; one per card.

Jim Bob's

LaGrange, Ga.....706-882-9917
Free cookie with regularly priced meal; LaGrange and Columbus locations.

Rogers Bar-B-Que

LaGrange, Ga.706-812-0041
Free tea with dinner plate; one per card.

Rogers Bar-B-Que

West Point, Ga.706-645-2366
Free drink (dine in only).



For a myriad of printing services, including T-shirts, banners, signs, promotional items and more, visit Mud Creek Graphics at 211 Greenville Street in LaGrange.