

# SWANS ISLAND ELECTRIC COOP NEWSLETTER

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## **From the Manager:**

As I have mentioned in prior newsletters we have started regular tree removal and trimming along our primary power lines. This is necessary to minimize the risk of power outages during the winter storm season. Because of the magnitude of the work we are not making contact with individual homeowner prior to starting the work. If you have any concerns about particular trees please call the office and speak to me. We will do our best to minimize the aesthetic impact.

The State of Maine exempts certain fisheries related businesses from sales/excise taxes. In order for SIEC to remove this tax from your account you must file an "Affidavit of Exemption" form (available at the SIEC office) and copy of your valid exemption certificate with Bonnie. If SIEC does not receive these documents by November 1st your account will revert to taxable status.

We are happy to inform you that the library has

some "Kill-A-Watt Energy Detector" kits to be checked out just like books. These units have been provided by Efficiency Maine, a program of the Maine Public Utilities Commission. This detector is plugged into a wall outlet and your appliance is then plugged into the detector. The kit comes with simple instructions on how to use the unit and how to use the results to determine if you have an "energy hog" in your house.

## **From Your Board of Trustees:**

Your Electric Cooperative has been awarded a Rural Utility Service Work Plan Loan guarantee and the green light to invest in upgrading its grid on both Swan's Island and Frenchboro. This is a strong vote of confidence on the part of our Federal Government in the health and future of your Cooperative and much credit goes to our Manager Tom McAlloon as well as Bonnie and Gwen for being able to negotiate all the hurdles which seem to be part of any of the

Federal programs of this size. Over the next 3-4 years this will enable the Cooperative to secure funding (up to \$813,000) to rebuild and modernize our aging electrical infrastructure on both islands. This will put us on the road toward a safer and more efficient grid which will hold us in good stead beyond this next decade.

Your Board will be carefully studying both the amount of new debt to assume, as well as the pace of work to be accomplished over the next six months, with new work to begin in earnest during the Spring, 2012.

## *Windpower Update:*

The Migratory Bird Study on Big Mountain – as part of our Wind Power Feasibility Study – concludes this week with a report expected in early November. Stay tuned for an update to the community in mid-November.

**October  
2011**

## **Town of Swans Island Notice:**

There is now a 48 hour maximum parking time in the "back" line for the ferry. Please display the time and date of your anticipated departure in your vehicle window. Forms are available at the ticket office.

- ELECTRIC CO-OP OFFICE
  - PHONE # 526-4336
  - HOURS: 7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM MON - FRI
  - LUNCH CLOSED 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
  - OFFICE CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS.
- EMERGENCY NUMBERS:  
TOM MCALLOON  
207-479-0657  
STEVE GREEN  
207-479-0658  
BONNIE TURNER  
526-4282
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