

February 2010

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**Save energy.
Save money!**



Trico will show you how!

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Workshops

Saturday, February 13
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
@ Trico

Saturday, April 17
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
@ Trico

Other Trico Events

March 17, Town Hall
@ Trico
6 p.m. to 8 pm.

May 1, Annual Meeting
at Sahuarita
District Auditorium

314301

Trico is CLOSED on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Livewire

Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc. • 8600 W. Tangerine Rd. • Marana, AZ 85658
(520) 744-2944 • www.trico.coop

Trico's renewables program:

2009 a great success!



SunWatts, Trico's renewables program, had a fantastic 2009. There were a record number of rebate applications for residential systems in the second half of the year. Unfortunately, this resulted in the depletion of the surcharge dollars used to fund the rebates. As a result, Trico had to adopt a rebate reservation process so that the many systems being installed will be assured a rebate payment in the future.

Given the overwhelming popularity of the program, Trico has made several changes to the SunWatts program in 2010. In an effort to fund more rebate projects and allow more Trico Members an opportunity to participate, Trico has lowered the rebate to \$3 per watt up to 40 percent the cost of the system. We've also increased the surcharge to a maximum of \$2 per residential member.

These changes will enable Trico to more quickly fund those systems already in the rebate queue and it will also help spread the rebate dollars so more people will be able to take part.

Another change is the addition of an incentive for residential solar daylighting. This includes the installation of devices such as solar tubes. The rebate is 20 cent per kWh saved in the first year.

The SunWatts Green Energy Program is another way you can support renewable energy. You can purchase 50 kWh blocks of power for \$2 per month. This is especially attractive to Members that are unable to install a system, but who want to actively contribute to the renewable energy cause.

All changes, including the change to the monthly REST surcharge you pay, were approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) at its December 2009 open meeting.

Trico's CEO **Vin Nitido** discusses these changes in more detail in his February CEO column, which you can find on page 2 of this Livewire. •

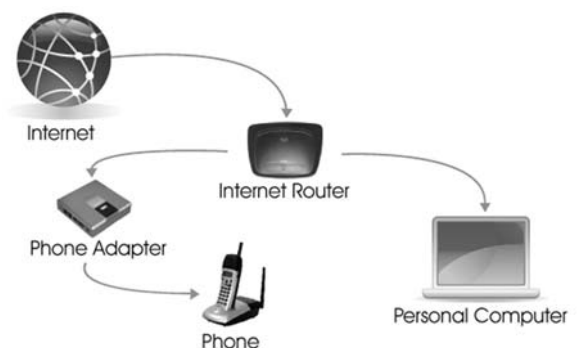
Save money on internet and phone

Trico, with its partner TransWorld Network, has been offering high-speed internet and phone products since 2006. We're happy to announce even more savings with Wi-Power Digital Phone service.

Digital Phone, known as VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) uses a high-speed Internet connection to make and receive local and long distance calls.

How does Digital Phone work?

Wi-Power Digital Phone uses an existing high-speed Internet connection (512k or above) to make and receive local and long distance calls.



How it works

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We've hidden three account numbers in the Livewire! Find yours to get a \$20 credit on your electric bill. You must match your complete account number. If you have an exact match, call 744-2944, ext. 1303, for verification.



Vin Nitido,
Trico GM and CEO

Renewable energy: what does it mean to you?

There's been a lot of talk about renewable energy lately and what it means for us on both a national and local level. A lot of Trico customers are wondering how it affects them personally.

As I've said in previous columns, renewable energy is an important part of Trico's future energy mix. In the past three years, Trico's renewable energy program, Sunwatts, has grown tremendously. I'm proud to say that Trico has 800 kilowatts of renewable energy on the ground and even more will be installed by the end of the year.

But growth can mean growing pains. Our SunWatts rebate program has been so popular that we exhausted all available Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST) surcharge funds last year. We're constantly replenishing this fund, but it's going to take us some time to catch up. Those installing solar systems are being placed on a waiting list and they will be paid when funds are available, according to their place on the waiting list.

When this happened, we realized we needed to fine tune our renewable energy program. Thus, we've made changes to both the incentives offered as well as the REST surcharge Trico collects. Below is a table summarizing the major changes and additions to Trico's SunWatts program. Most significantly, the rebate for the standard residential renewable energy systems is now \$3 per watt, up to 40 percent the cost of the system. We lowered the rebate amount to help distribute the funds to more people.

In addition, this month you'll notice that the REST surcharge on your bill increased from \$1.05 to \$2. This increase, which was approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) in December 2009, will help us to take care of the backlog of renewable energy projects we experienced last year.

So how does all of this affect YOU?

The surcharge you pay each month helps to put more 'green' sources of energy on the ground. More green energy means cleaner air; it means long-term, renewable fuel sources; it means greater flexibility for Trico and its power supply.

So even if you don't plan to put in a solar system and apply for the rebate, you benefit.

If you have questions, feel free to call me at 744-2944, ext. 1307. Or email: vnitido@trico.coop.

"The surcharge you pay each month helps to put more 'green' sources of energy on the ground."

SunWatts Rebate Incentive Program Summary		
Technology	Up-Front Incentive	Performance-Based incentives
Solar Electric	\$3 per watt up to 10 kW (up to 40% of total cost)	For systems 10+ kW; not to exceed \$.14/kWh
Small Wind	\$3 per watt up to 10 kW (up to 40% of total cost)	For systems 10+ kW; not to exceed \$.14/kWh
Solar Water Heating (OG-300 rated)	\$.75/kWh for first-year savings	Not eligible
Solar Daylighting	\$.20/kWh for first-year savings	Not eligible
Geothermal		
Electric	Not eligible	\$.022/kWh over 20 years
Thermal	Not eligible	\$.043/kWh over 20 years
Biogas/Biomass		
Electric	Not eligible	\$.054/kWh over 20 years
Thermal	Not eligible	\$.013/kWh over 20 years
Cooling	Not eligible	\$.029/kWh over 20 years
CHP-Electric	Not eligible	\$.031/kWh over 20 years
CHP-Thermal	Not eligible	\$.016/kWh over 20 years
Solar Space Cooling	Not eligible	\$.115/kWh over 20 years

—continued from page 1

Do I need additional equipment?

You can use your existing phone. We'll send you a small adapter that changes your current analog phone into a digital phone and allows you to make and receive calls over your Internet connection.

Does that mean I can get rid of my existing phone line?

Yes. Digital Phone service means you no longer need a traditional phone line.

Can I keep my existing phone number?

In most cases, yes. Please call 1-866-897-7366 and a TWN Customer Service Representative will be able to tell you for sure.

What does it cost?

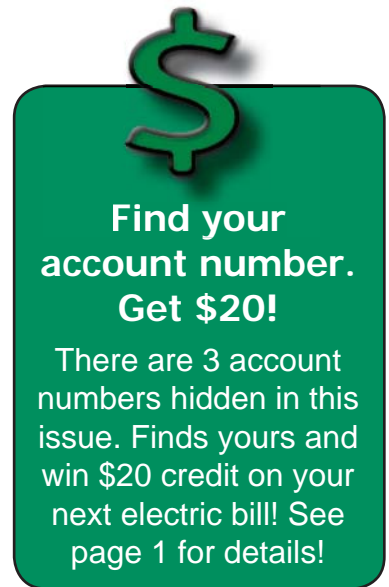
Internet and phone bundles start at \$60. That includes unlimited Internet, as well as local and long distance calls within the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. If you're already a Trico Internet customer, you can add Digital Phone for only \$19.95 per month more.

If you currently use another Internet provider and have at least a 512k connection, you can add Digital Phone service for only \$22.95 per month.

Does my computer need to be on?

No. Unlike other products claiming to be true digital phone service, Wi-Power Digital Phone doesn't require your computer to be on. It uses your existing telephone, not your computer to make and receive calls over the Internet.

If you have additional questions call 1-866-897-7366 or visit www.wi-power.com and click on Digital Phone. •



Find your account number. Get \$20!

There are 3 account numbers hidden in this issue. Find yours and win \$20 credit on your next electric bill! See page 1 for details!

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Co-op Card=Big Discounts!

Since June, Trico Members have saved more than \$21,000 using their Co-op Card Pharmacy discount!

That represents some 1,259 prescriptions filled. At retail, those prescriptions would have cost over \$84,000, but with the Co-op Card, they cost just \$63,600. That's a 25% savings!

Several Trico Members have called to report savings of \$40 to \$60 each month on their prescription medications.

The Co-op Card is also good for discounts a wide variety of local and national retailers like Wal-mart, Orbitz, and 1-800-PetMeds.

Be sure to use YOUR Co-op Card for pharmacy and other discounts.

- To look up prescription discounts, go to: www.rxpricequotes.com
- For participating pharmacies, go to: www.locateproviders.com
- For a list of discounts and vendors, go to: www.connections.coop

Don't have a Co-op Card? Call us at 744-2944, or email: coopcard@trico.coop. •

Summary of the December 22, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Trico Board of Directors

- 1) Policy Review – The Board reviewed its policy EL-17, Political and Legislative Action. The Board took action approving policy EL-17 as amended.
- 2) Director Community Contributions – Community contributions were made to Serenity Baptist Church food bank (\$200), Arivaca Community food bank (\$100), and Arivaca Community Center (\$100).
- 3) Monthly Financials – Staff reviewed the fuel bank and cash flow with the Board. The Board took action approving the reduction of the fuel bank to \$0.013 cents effective January 1, 2010.
- 4) Monthly Write-Off - Staff presented 81 non-pay accounts totaling \$24,270.59 for write-offs representing uncollectible accounts submitted through the month of December 2009. The Board approved the monthly write-offs as presented.
- 5) Associated Organizations Meetings – Directors and Staff reported on the various board meetings they attended the past month at Arizona Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., Southwest Transmission, Sierra Southwest and Grand Canyon State Electric Cooperative Association.
- 6) Miscellaneous/Routine - the Board discussed many other issues and took action on routine monthly items such as meeting minutes and electric service agreements.

The Trico Trading Post

To place ads, call 744-2944, ext. 1604. We'll accept ads for the following month until the issue is full.

Help Our Community through Operation Round-Up: Trico will round up your bill to the next dollar. The extra cents help those in need. Call 744-2944.

For Sale: 1973 Jeep Wagoneer, 4x4 w/ Chevy 350 engine, turbo 400 transmission, \$1,800. Also computer roll top desk, \$150. Call 237-6560 for info.

Needed: Local laborer to help with home projects, lifting ability is required, any age group is welcome. Call Tony at 406-9067.

For Sale: 1979 Travel World motor home, 49K miles, all fiberglass, good condition throughout, \$2,500. Call 623-7955.

'09 Harley Davidson: 883L Sportster, 340 miles, upgraded forward controls, seat, sissy bar, luggage rack, T bag, quick release windshield, all orig. equip avail., \$7,200. 975-1853.

Estate Sale: Tools, finished and unfinished crafts, clothing, Xmas/home goods, furniture, refrigerator, motor home, Dec 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 @ 6760 N. Spring Wagon. 404-0902.

For Sale: 1 acre and mobile home, Rancho del Sol subdivision, 11611 Paseo Anastasia Road., Marana Arizona, \$95,000. Call Cell 302-354-1936.

For Sale: Instant hot water recirculator, no recirculation required, works great, includes mounting, and owner's manual, \$80. Call 818-1354 in Saddlebrook.

For Sale: Kimball piano, asking \$600. Also Cherry dining room suite, asking \$900. Please call 825-3201.

For Sale: Large wood stove, blower, double wall pipe, backer board, plus extras, \$500 Call 682-3159.

For Sale: White steel double bunk bed. 1 box spring, no mattress, \$50. Call 401-7085.

For Sale: Kenmore washer and dryer, the Harvest Gold set, late 1980's, washer has a new pump, \$100/both. Call 883-2706.

For Sale: 1985, 14 x 65 mobile home, 2 BR, 2 BA, excellent condition, \$10,500 OBO. Call 343-9862.

For Sale: 2000 El Dorado Cadillac, beautiful condition, "classic" (Bose system, On-Star), \$6,000. Call 520-818-6562.

For Sale: 2 female Chihuahuas, 12 weeks, 1st shots, \$125. Call 867-2773 leave msg., or 339-4576.

Want More Classifieds? Go to our Online Trading Post. Members can post ads for free. Everyone can view, but you must register with your Trico account number to post. Visit www.trico.coop.

The Livewire, the official monthly publication of Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc., provides news, info and energy safety tips to its members.

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CEO/General Manager: Vin Nitido
Editor: Romi Carrell Wittman
Copies of Trico's rules, regulations, bylaws and line extension policies are available upon request.

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www.trico.coop

NOTICE: The Trico Trading Post is a free service for Trico's members. Ads are placed on a month-to-month basis and are subject to space availability. Ads must be 25 words or less. Trico reserves the right to edit ads. In order to be fair to all Members, any individual Member may not run ads more than three times in a calendar year. Ads are not repeated unless requested via telephone. We do not print ads for business, rentals or services for which a fee is charged or a profit earned. Trico is not responsible for the quality of services or merchandise offered. Any problems with items advertised here is between the buyer and the seller.