



SOUTHERN PINE ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

2009 Youth Tour

A look back in history and a challenge for the future highlighted the 23rd Electric Power Associations of Mississippi Youth Tour. A delegation of 52 Mississippi high school students recently participated in the annual visit to our nation's capital.

Amber Hammons and Maggie Harper represented Southern Pine Electric Power Association on the Youth Tour. Amber is the daughter Steve and Sha Hammons of Brandon and will be a senior at Brandon High School this fall. Maggie will be a senior at Pearl High School and is the daughter of Gregg and Sidney Harper of Pearl.

The seven-day trip featured visits to the major monuments and memorials, a play at the Kennedy Center, and tours of Mt. Vernon and the Capitol. The students enjoyed the popular Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial and quietly watched the changing of the guard at Arlington Cemetery.

The students also enjoyed a visit to the Smithsonian Museums and an evening cruise on the Potomac River. In addition, the students attended a Youth Day event with more than 1,450 students representing electric cooperatives from across the nation. At this event, Mark Schlappi, an Olympic gold medal winner in wheelchair basketball, delivered an inspiring mes-



sage. He challenged the young people to make a difference in the lives of others, no matter the problems encountered.

After a tour of the Capitol, Amber and Maggie joined a group of students who visited with Rep.

Gregg Harper in his Washington, D.C., office. Both students also had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Thad Cochran and Sen. Roger Wicker.

The Youth Tour is part of the extensive Youth Leadership program supported by Southern Pine Electric.

"Investing in the lives and activities of our young people is important," said Donald Jordan, general manager of Southern Pine. "The program offers young people the experience they will need as they take leadership roles in their schools and communities. It's never too early to become a leader."

Southern Pine congratulates Amber and Maggie on their accomplishments.



Amber Hammons, left, and Maggie Harper meet with Rep. Gregg Harper during their tour of the U.S. Capitol. Harper took the entire Mississippi delegation to the floor of the House before it convened, where they got a hands-on voting demonstration.



WASHINGTON, D.C.

"Seeing the inner workings of the Capitol and the responsibilities of the leaders within makes me want to drive harder toward my dream as a future leader in D.C." — Amber Hammons

"Coming away from this trip, I feel I have a new sense of leadership and pride for my country." — Maggie Harper

THE ENERGY EXPERT

To manage your energy use, learn how you use energy

When paying your electric bill, do you wonder which appliances use the most household energy? Solving that mystery is the first step in controlling your energy cost while maintaining the desired degree of comfort.

It's important to realize that in the summertime the two biggest users of energy in your home are the air conditioner and the water heater. (See chart below.)

A Mississippi summer may be rainy or dry, but it's always hot.

Extremely hot temperatures arrived even earlier than usual this summer, causing energy bills to be higher than normal, mainly due to the increased use of air conditioning.

I find the following suggestions to be helpful in reducing your energy use:

- The recommended thermostat setting for summer is 78 degrees, or higher. Every degree the thermostat is set above 78 degrees will save as much as 7 percent on your monthly bill.
- The recommended thermostat setting for a water heater is 120-125 degrees. Installing a



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water heater insulation blanket and a programmable thermostat also will help save energy.

- It's important to wash and dry full loads of clothes, and use cold water when possible.
- Many appliances continue to draw a small amount of power when they are switched off.

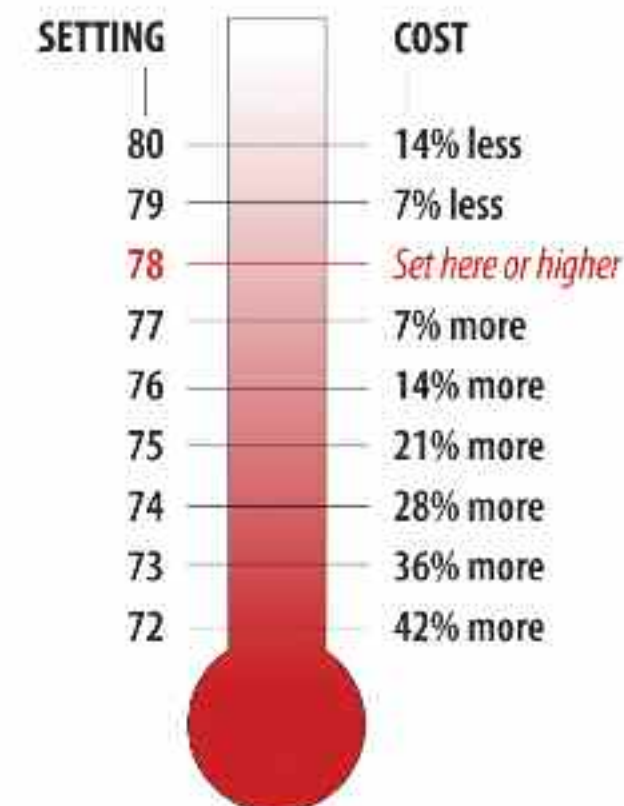
These loads occur in most appliances that use electricity, such as VCRs, televisions, computers, stereos and kitchen appliances.

This can be avoided by unplugging those appliances that do not have to continuously run, or using a power strip's switch to cut all power to the appliances when not in use.

Turning off lights around the house does make a difference in your monthly electric bill, but your efforts are better served by being more aware of the use of the appliances in your home.

Having a clearer understanding of how each appliance affects your electrical use will enable you to make a positive difference in monthly electric bills.

Thermostat Savings



(Based on 92° outdoor temperature)

The following is a list of common electricity-users in your home. The chart estimates the average amount of energy used by each device. Use the chart to estimate your own energy bill and to determine ways to put cash back in your pocket each month.

Appliance:	Avg. Monthly KWH Usage
Refrigerator/Freezer (19 cu. ft. - 1984 purchase)	116
Refrigerator/Freezer (19 cu. ft. - 2003 purchase)	45
Clothes Dryer (5 loads/week)	91
Clothes Washer (front load - 5 loads/week)	44
Clothes Washer (top load - 5 loads/week)	86
Dishwasher (4 loads/week)	60
Dishwasher (4 loads/week - no heat drying)	47
Ceiling Fan (12 hours/day)	44
Lighting (2 60-watt bulbs - 10 hours/day)	36
Lighting (2 15-watt compact flour. - 10 hours/day)	9
Pool Pump (3/4 HP - 8 hours/day)	205
Spa (varies - heat, pumps, & cover)	138 to 550
Computer & Monitor (4 hours/day)	33
Sleep Mode PC all the time	18
Water-bed heater (covered)	117

Average Energy Use

