

CVEA Co-op Connections Program Puts Value In Your Wallet



Membership in your local electric cooperative has always provided benefits. Now, you're about to get more with the Copper Valley Electric Co-op Connections Card program.

Get ready to start saving and enjoying your cooperative member benefits more than ever before, because you will soon receive your own card. CVEA's Co-op Connections Card is a money-saving tool we're proud to begin offering our membership. What else does the card offer? Plenty! The question is, where do we start?

The Co-op Connections Card will get you discounts on merchandise and services with local retailers and merchants who join the program, as well as discounts and other incentives with over 100 national retailers like Walmart, Barnes and Noble, Sears Select, Hertz Rental Cars, Best Western hotels, Motel 6 and ProFlowers.com.

The easiest way to learn about the advantages of membership and the Co-op Connections Card is to visit the website at www.connections.coop and browse the offers, incentives and discounts. A search feature lets you enter your zip code and the product or service you are looking for and gives you a list of participating retailers from across the nation. Discounts offered by participating businesses from around the country are available to CVEA members.

The Co-op Connections Card program will

be launched at the 2011 CVEA Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, in the Copper Basin, and Thursday, April 14, in Valdez. Cards, along with information providing details of the program, will be distributed at the Annual Meeting to those in attendance and mailed to all other members the following week.

You'll be given an up-to-date list of participating businesses with your card. You can also find them at www.cvea.org. To receive local discounts, members must simply show their Co-op Connections Card to any participating business listed on the CVEA website or at businesses displaying a Co-op Connections window sticker.

Businesses can sign up for the program at no cost. CVEA hopes local businesses participating in the Co-op Connections program benefit from increased traffic from CVEA members and members of other cooperatives that may be traveling or visiting the CVEA service territory.

Another very valuable feature of the Co-op Connections Card is the coupon feature that focuses on everyday household items you'd purchase at the grocery store. Just log onto connections.coop, clip and print the coupons you want and they're ready to be redeemed. You can also click on Coupon Codes to find special buys at specific retailers on items that you may be looking to purchase.



Screenshot of the connections.coop website showcasing discount and member offers, including the search feature and categories on the left side of the web page that allows you to find local and national merchants who accept the card and offer you benefits.

Finally, a pharmacy discount allows CVEA members to start saving money on prescription medications. While it is not insurance, the discount can mean savings of 10 to 60 percent on prescription drugs. The logo and information on the back of your card is recognized at more than 60,000 national, regional, and local pharmacies; including the Village Pharmacy of Valdez and Cross Road Pharmacy in Glennallen.

The pharmacy discount has been widely used by members of Touchstone Energy co-ops across the country, resulting in combined savings of nearly \$20 million on prescriptions.

Want to find out more? For a complete list of participating pharmacies, visit locateproviders.com. Before you purchase, check prices on specific medications at rxpricequotes.com. In some cases, the discount may be lower than your insurance.

The card is free, it doesn't expire, there are no charges or fees, and any member of your family can

use it. It almost sounds too good to be true, but in this case it is for real.

CVEA is excited to launch this exciting new program that will bring co-op members' immediate savings. Please join us at our Annual Meeting to find out more.

We're eager to answer any questions you have about the card and how to take advantage of the discounts it provides. Call Sharon Crisp at 822-5506, 835-7005, or email crisp@cvea.org with questions. ■

