

Ripley POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

- Ripley Power & Light will be closed...**
- Friday and Saturday, December 24-25, for Christmas
 - Friday, December 31, for New Year's
 - Monday, January 17, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 - Monday, February 21, for Presidents' Day



Pay your bill online, inquire about our programs, learn how to conserve energy ... at www.ripleypower.com

Office Hours & Locations

We are open 47 hours each week to serve you better!

7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday

You can pay your utility bill at...

- 150 S. Main St. in Ripley
 - 409 S. Church St. in Halls
- If you have not been receiving your bills, call our office immediately so we can verify your mailing address.

RP L

731-635-2323 ■ 731-836-7595
www.ripleypower.com



State's appliance rebate program rewards energy-efficient purchases

You have until February 17, 2011, to take advantage of the state's Energy-Efficient Appliance Rebate Program.

With funds from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the state's rebates include \$40 for room air conditioners and \$250 for central air conditioners and air-source heat pumps with the purchase of qualified ENERGY STAR® models.

The state has \$5.9 million to spend in rebates. Here are the details...

- Tennessee residents who replace an existing room air conditioner, central air conditioner or air source heat pump with a new ENERGY STAR® qualified model are eligible to apply for the rebate.

- Appliances must be purchased on or between April 22, 2010, and February 17, 2012.

- You may apply for one rebate per household, and the appliances

must be installed in Tennessee.

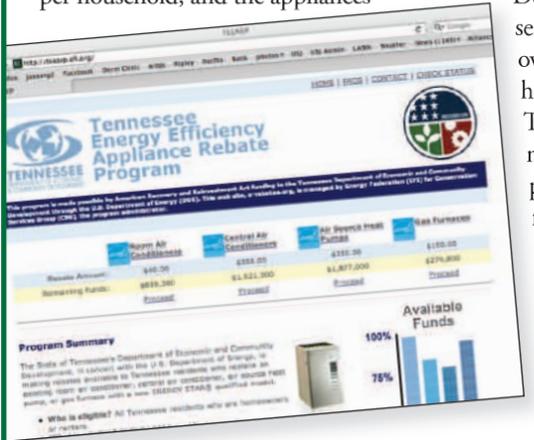
- You can begin the application process at www.e-rebates.org/teearp by filling out the online rebate request. Those without Internet access can call 877-741-4304 to request an application through the mail.

- Approved applicants will receive a MasterCard® Prepaid Card via mail in about 6 to 8 weeks. Rebate checks only can be mailed to a Tennessee address or post office box.

- Rebates will be paid on a first come, first serve basis, based on the postmark date associated with a completed, signed application with all the required documentation. When the incentive funds are exhausted, no further rebates will be paid.

Tennessee residents also may be eligible for further financial assistance through the In-Home Energy Evaluation Program available through TVA and Ripley Power & Light, said Mike Demeris, residential energy services specialist. "Homeowners who schedule an in-home evaluation by a TVA-certified evaluator and make recommended improvements may be eligible for up to \$500 in rebates."

For more information on the In-Home Energy Evaluation Program, visit www.ripleypower.com and go to the Energy Conservation link.



Visit www.e-rebates.org/teearp to begin the rebate application process.



Organizations decorated for last year's Festival of Trees. Ripley Power and Light's tree, with a light bulb on top, is in the center.

Festival offers 12 magical days of Christmas trees

If you enjoy the holidays, you'll enjoy the 2010 Festival of Trees. Benefitting the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center in Lauderdale County, the 2nd Annual Festival of Trees runs through December 4 at the Mid-South Family Farms Building at North Main and Jackson streets in historic downtown Ripley.

Visitors will experience a magical holiday spectacle as they embark on a self-guided tour of Christmas trees and animated windows that are decorated by local businesses and organizations.

Last year, more than 4,000 people walked through the Festival of Trees in just four days, voting on their favorite tree. With votes costing \$1 each, the event raised more than \$10,000 for the Carl Perkins Center.

"Folks told us it was not long enough, so we decided to extend it to 12 days," said Center Director Annette Maxwell. "This community really comes out in force. We have trees from churches, schools, civic organizations, clubs and busi-

nesses. It seems like everyone wants to participate so we have more trees this year."



The festival ends with an invitation-only gala that includes an auction of professionally decorated trees, donated wreaths and a large nativity scene. Donating trees this year are Charlene's of Halls, Kevin Connell, Accents Gift Shop, AT&T, Lane Flooring and the Center's Advisory Board and volunteers.

Janie West of Something Special is donating the nativity scene, while area businesses and organizations have contributed more than 15 holiday wreaths to the auction.

Proceeds from the festival benefit the Carl Perkins Center, and the funds raised stay in Lauderdale County. Last year, the center served more than 486 people.

The idea for the festival originated from a holiday memory Maxwell shares with her sons — visiting the Enchanted Forest in Memphis each year. "What a better way to make a child smile," she said. "Many children in this area have never even had a Christmas tree. So this is a treat for them."

More than 2,000 school children are scheduled to view the trees on field trips. "Many of the kids are so mesmerized by the trees that they will bring their parents back so they can vote," said Maxwell. "They want to see it again and again. They just 'ohh' and 'ahh' the whole time they walk through."

If you go ...

Admission: Free
Dates and Hours:

- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. November 22, 23, 29, 30 and December 1
- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 24
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November 26
- 1-5 p.m. November 28
- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. December 2
- 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. December 3
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. November 27 and December 4

Location: Mid-South Family Farms Building at North Main and Jackson streets, downtown Ripley

Alex Haley Museum encourages others to explore their roots

A new interpretive center behind Alex Haley's boyhood home in Henning allows you to explore your roots just as the famous author did.

The \$1.2 million interpretive center, which opened officially last August, offers a computer-area for genealogy research, an exhibit of highlights from Haley's life, a meeting area and gift shop.

"The new building adds to the whole experience of visiting the Palmer House, the late author's boyhood home," said museum director, Janis Sanders.

Floor-to-ceiling windows in the back wall of the interpretive center act as a telescope as visitors look towards the house where Haley's search for his roots began.

The exhibit in the interpretive center, on loan from the Tennessee State Museum, offers highlights of Haley's life. The center features interactive exhibits, interpretive educational pieces, and mementoes and artifacts from Haley's life and career. A video shows Haley discussing his life.

A major exhibit item is a reproduction of his grandparents' front porch where Haley heard oral accounts of his ancestors, including Kunta Kinte, who arrived in America from West Africa aboard a slave ship, and his great-grandfather Chicken George, who moved his family from North Carolina to the Henning



Museum staff members, left to right, are Museum Director Janis Sanders, Office Manager Katherine Markley, Kamisha Dixon, Program Director Beverly Johnson and Matthew Bell.



Out-of-town visitors, above, Barbara Sellers and Carlessia Lewis, look at the Bertha George Palmer wedding dress exhibit. Below, tourists on a two-day "whistle stop" tour of West Tennessee cultural sites walk from the Interpretive Center to the Palmer House.



area. These stories inspired Haley to research his ancestors. Haley's grandparents, Will and Cynthia Palmer, owned a lumber mill and were the first black business owners in West Tennessee.

Haley spent 10 years researching his ancestors and writing "Roots," a best-selling book that was turned into an eight-night television mini-series watched by 90 million Americans. Artifacts from the miniseries featured in the exhibit include Haley's director's chair, a photo of the cast and the hat worn by Ben Vereen, who portrayed Chicken George.

A reproduction of part of an 18th century slave ship highlights the perilous and forced voyage of Africans into slavery.

Museum staff members are looking for ways to get the community involved in the museum. Programs are being developed for school children. This holiday season, businesses will decorate the rooms of the Palmer house. Special events are being planned for Black History Month in February. "What we can do has endless possibilities," Sanders said.

To help offset its tight budget, the center can be rented out for receptions, meetings and other events, said Sanders.

The Alex Haley House Museum is at 200 S. Church St. in Henning. To get there, exit U.S. Highway 51 at Tennessee Highway 87 into Henning. At the stoplight in Henning, turn right on Main Street, then turn right on Haley Street.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for ages five to 18 years old and free for children under five. Group rates are available for parties of 15 or more. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and on Sundays by appointment.

For more information, email alexhaleymuseum@bellsouth.net or call 731-738-2240.



Dalles and Marta St. John, above at the computers, donated two computers and printers to the museum to help visitors research their genealogy. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, they are Family History Advisors with a program called Family Search (www.familysearch.org). The museum staff is being trained to assist patrons with the use of the program.

How about a GREEN holiday season?

With cooking, decorating and company over the holidays, our energy bills often go up. Here are 11 ways to use less energy, have a greener Christmas and save a little money, too!

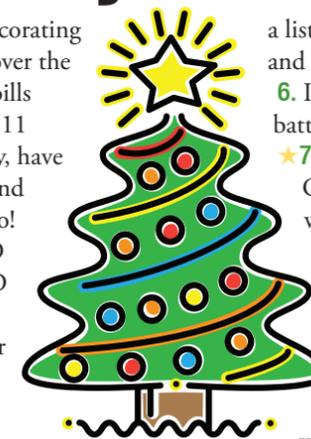
★1. Switch to LED Christmas lights. LED lights use 90% less electricity than regular Christmas lights and cost \$10 a strand.

★2. Limit the time lights are on. Wait until dark to turn on your Christmas lights and turn them off before you go to bed. If you have trouble remembering to turn your lights on and off, set a timer.

★3. Turn off room lights when the tree is lit. The lights on your Christmas tree should provide more than enough lighting to navigate around the room.

★4. Turn the thermostat down when you have guests. Extra bodies in the house create extra warmth.

★5. Buy ENERGY STAR® electronics. ENERGY-STAR certified TVs, DVD players, VCRs and cordless phones use up to 60% less electricity than their non-certified counterparts. Visit energystar.gov for



a list of qualifying models and shop smart.

★6. Invest in rechargeable batteries and a charger.

★7. Take a walk to see the Christmas lights. A walking tour of your neighborhood will be just as fun and won't use any gas.

★8. Bake several dishes at a time to make the most of your oven. It takes the

same amount of energy to heat a full oven as it does a nearly empty one.

★9. Use the smallest appliance to get the job done. Use your microwave and toaster oven for small holiday cooking tasks and save the oven for big cooking tasks.

★10. Keep lids on pots. Foods cook faster (meaning less energy use) when the lid is on.

★11. Unplug phantom energy users before you go on a trip. TVs, DVD players, computers, printers, radios and many other electronics use energy even when they aren't turned on. Unplug these items before you leave, and enjoy the energy savings.

Thank you to about.com for these GREEN suggestions.



A new look to our logo? You'll start seeing this logo on some items identifying Ripley Power and Light employees, equipment and other aspects of the power company. We're not abandoning our old logo, we're just adding a new, simpler design.

