

2014 Scholarship Winners

SLVREC's Scholarship Committee faced a tough choice! The committee proudly presents this year's scholarship recipients. Congratulations to all graduating San Luis Valley high school seniors.

4-Year ASU

Jessica Crowther of Sargent High School received SLVREC's 4-year scholarship to Adams State University. Jessica, a member of her school's National Honor Society, became inspired by FFA (Future Farmers of America).

She said, "I would like to get my degree in Agricultural Sciences, and a



minor in education so I can become an Ag teacher and hopefully an FFA Advisor and help people as much as my advisor has helped me."

Jessica served as her high school's Student Council Co-President and was a leader in many of her school's clubs. Additionally, she lettered in Volleyball.

SLVREC Lineworker

Ty Blades has enrolled in Colorado Mesa University's WCCC lineworker program. Ty graduated from Sangre de Cristo High School in 2012. He attended Northeastern Junior College in Sterling for a semester before returning to the Valley to attend Adams State University.



He said, "I am currently studying Exercise Science to become an athletic trainer, but recently decided to change my degree and become an Electrical Lineworker." Ty attributes his decision to switch careers, in part, to his love of working outdoors. He has worked for Wilber-Ellis and on family farms most of his life.

Mitchell Vanderpool also received a lineworker scholarship from SLVREC.

He will also attend Colorado Mesa University's WCCC lineworker program. A member of National Honor Society and a leading athlete at Monte Vista Senior High School, Mitchell lettered in football, wrestling, basketball, baseball and band.



Mitchell said, "My 'perfect' career includes: the outdoors, an exciting environment, hands-on learning, challenging and problem solving situations, hard work, a good salary and availability. Being a lineman would fit all these, plus more."

\$1,000 Past Retired Ray & John Villyard

Zane Brink will graduate from Creede High School. He will attend Colorado School of Mines where he will major in psychology with a minor in forensic science. Zane received many academic awards in high school and was listed on his school's honor roll all 4 years. He was a member of the 4-H Consumer Bowl 2nd place National Team.



Why psychology? Zane said, "For me, the field of psychology is about finding and understanding the limitations of most human beings mentally, physically, socially and emotionally and then finding the best methods to exceed those limitations." He hopes this career path will allow him to help other people in a positive way.

\$1,000 Robert Wolfe

Luke Bright will graduate from Del Norte High School. In addition to other academic accolades, he was recognized for excellence on Del Norte's Knowledge Bowl Team. He was invited to partici-



Loren Howard, CEO SLVREC

Co-op Membership: What's In It for Me?

You set up your electric service account with San Luis Valley REC and you think to yourself, "That's done. Now I just have to pay my monthly bill." But the truth is we're more than just a utility provider you pay each month for electricity. We have more to offer—and we want you, our members, to know about these benefits.

There are more than 900 electric cooperatives in the U.S. that serve 42 million members. SLVREC, your local electric cooperative, provides service to over 14,000 meters with lines stretching throughout the entire San Luis Valley. So what makes being a member of an electric cooperative unique?

We're all in this together. You are a *member* of SLVREC—not a customer. And that means you have a voice when it comes to the way we do business. Each June—this year on June 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Inn of the Rio Grande in Alamosa—you have the option to vote for your board of directors. These directors play a key

role in making important decisions for our co-op, which is why members' voices must be heard.

We're local. It's likely that you know an employee of SLVREC. Our employees—your friends and neighbors—share the same concerns for our community that you do. Each year, SLVREC participates in safety demonstrations for school children, awards scholarships to graduating seniors, participates in community events such as Ag Conference, supports local food banks and more.

We help our members save money. We offer energy efficiency advice, energy efficiency credit rebates, the Cooperative Connections Program and the San Luis Valley Energy Foundation. To learn more about our commitment to helping our members, visit www.slvrec.com and click on the "Programs" link.

We're not-for-profit. SLVREC doesn't offer profits to investors—we return money over and above operating costs to you, our members, based on electricity consumption. Annually, electric co-ops nationwide return millions of dollars to members through this capital credits process.

We're here for you. At SLVREC, we work hard to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable elec-

tricity. We care about our members' quality of life, which is why our employees are continuously finding innovative ways to improve our service. That's why we have launched a Facebook page, began Tweeting and established our Thursday morning radio show. It's also why your Board of Directors has chosen to pursue the installation of fiber optic cable to our substations and beyond.

These are just a few facts about electric cooperatives that make us unique. For more information about SLVREC and the services we offer, visit www.slvrec.com. Better yet, mark June 10 on your calendar and set time aside to attend SLVREC's 77th Annual Meeting. Registration opens at 5:30; the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. I look forward to seeing you there!



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

SLVREC's offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. Offices are closed Friday through Sunday.

Board of Directors

Scott Wolfe, President	719-852-0966
Cole Wakasugi, Vice-President	719-379-2629
Ernie Ford, Secretary	719-588-0255
Carol Lee Dugan	719-852-5412
Rick Inman	719-658-2455
Mike Rierson	719-754-2588
Eleanor Valdez	719-274-5680

E-mail power@slvrec.com
Your e-mail will be forwarded based upon the direction you provide in your message.

CEO

Loren Howard	719-852-6630
SLVREC Office (toll free)	800-332-7634
SLVREC Office (local calls)	719-852-3538

Scheduled Meetings

Board Meeting May 27, 9:30 a.m.
The Board of Directors meet the last Tuesday of each month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Statement of Publisher

The Newsboy (publication #551-450) is an official publication of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.; 3625 US Hwy 160 W.; Monte Vista, CO 81144. The *Newsboy* is published monthly for SLVREC's members. Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, CO 81144. Subscription price \$20/year. Postmaster, send Form 3579 to NEWSBOY, P.O. Box 3625, Monte Vista, CO 81144-3625.

© 2014 San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. All rights reserved.

Notice of Annual Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held:

Tuesday, June 10, 2014
Inn of the Rio Grande, Alamosa, CO
(Located just east of the junction
of Hwy. 160 and 17 on Hwy. 160)

SLVREC members are encouraged to attend. Registration opens at 5:30 p.m. Door prize drawings will be held during the meeting.

The business session of the Annual Meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Director for District 6, Mineral/Hinsdale Counties; to vote upon reports covering the previous fiscal year; and transact other business as may come before the meeting. Light refreshments will be served; dinner will not be served.

Door prizes include two Kindle Fires, four \$250 bill credits, half a beef and half a pig. Members who sign up to receive the digital version of the cooperative's newsletter, the *Newsboy*, by June 1 will be included in

Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo Accepts Job

Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo accepted a Marketing and Communications Specialist position at SLVREC in April. A graduate of Adams State University, Andrea has two undergraduate degrees: a BA in English and a BA in art. She is currently enrolled in a MBA program at ASU with an emphasis in business administration and leadership.

When she was young, her father's career as a petroleum engineer kept her family on the move. Andrea was born in Tehran, Iran, and has lived in eight different countries. One of her father's friends lived in Monte Vista, and he suggested Andrea's family should move to the Valley. They did.

Andrea said, "I finished high school in Alamosa after coming back from Singapore. I liked the Valley and decided to go to college here. I have lived here—with a few moves to other places including Durango and Texas—since 1991."

Andrea and her husband Patrick have three children.



a drawing for four \$77 bill credits with 77 reflecting the number of years SLVREC has provided electric service within the San Luis Valley.

An information packet with the cooperative's Annual Report will be mailed to all members in early May. At press time for this packet, the election for Director for Mineral/Hinsdale Counties was uncontested. As a cost-saving measure, the Board of Directors voted to dispense with the printing of ballots for the election. Voting will take place by acclamation at the Annual Meeting.

Please contact SLVREC if you do not receive the information packet in the mail. Members who plan to attend the meeting are asked to RSVP by June 5 to ensure adequate seating for all. Call customer service at 719-852-3538 or 800-332-7634 to reserve room for you and your family.

If you need more information or special accommodations to have full and equal enjoyment of the Annual Meeting, please call customer service or send e-mail to power@slvrec.com. ☺

Their son Aiden is 10, daughter Rhyzan is 7 and daughter Phoenix is 2. Patrick is co-owner of his family business, Agri-Pipe.

Andrea said, "My goal is to help communicate to the public the power of REC in bringing new technology to our area."

Please join us in welcoming Andrea to SLVREC! ☺

Irrigators Act Now

Did you upgrade or change pumps? Leasing or renting a new circle? Are you considering fallowing? To ensure accurate billing, please inform SLVREC of any account changes as soon as possible.

When calling, please have the information of the responsible billing party on hand including the name, address and phone number of the individual or farm to be billed for the account. SLVREC will only do an adjustment on one month's billing if no payment has been applied to the account. You will need the meter number of the account you wish to change. You can find that number on bills and on the meter.

Any changes made to connected horsepower will be effective the date SLVREC verifies the new horsepower. No adjustments will be made to previously billed statements. Please note that all disconnect policies, including late fees and trip fees, apply to irrigation accounts.

pate in the National Knowledge Bowl competition in 2013 and 2014.

He will work towards a degree in physics with a minor in electrical engineering and said, "I have been accepted at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro, NM. They have working arrangements with the Very Large Array, Los Alamosa Labs and Sandia Labs."

\$1,000 Past Director

John Haefeli (not pictured) will graduate second in his class from Monte Vista Online Academy this May. A recipient of academic letters in all four years of high school, John also lettered in track and cross country. In cross country, he was voted Most Valuable Runner and competed as an individual at State.

He has a passion for building and flying aircraft and flew solo in an airplane when he was 16, even before getting his driver's license. He isn't sure of a college; he is sure he will pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering with a minor in mechanical or software engineering.

\$1,000 Basin Scholarship

Diana Flor Gonzalez-Gutierrez from Center High School has excelled both scholastically and academically. Diana has been a cheerleader for all four years in high school and a member of National Honor Society for three years. Diana will attend ASU and aspires to become a registered nurse. She picked this career path because being an RN will allow her to serve others.

She said, "Sixty years from now, I would like to be able to look back as having achieved every goal I set out

to reach. It would make me content to know ... I graduated in the top third of my high school class, went on to earn my college degree in nursing, and had a successful career which allowed me to spend time with my family."

Lindsay Jensen will graduate from Del Norte High School at the top of her class and will speak as her class's Valedictorian. She has been an honor roll student for four years and has received an academic letter for three years. She also lettered in volleyball, basketball, and track and field. The scholarship she received was designated for the child of a cooperative employee.

She will enroll in a pre-pharmacy curriculum at Colorado State University this fall. She said, "After graduating from CSU I will attend pharmacy school. I hope to work for a children's hospital someday."

Tri-State & Tri-State/SLVREC

Three students were awarded \$500 Scholarships jointly sponsored by San Luis Valley REC and Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association. Another four students received \$500 scholarships from Tri-State.

A straight "A" student, **Savanna Faucette**, 2014 class Valedictorian for Sanford High School, will attend University of Utah. First in her class, Savanna said, "I plan to become an ER doctor. I want to be able to help people on a daily basis."

Sarah Ehrlich, Sargent High School, will attend Adams State University this fall. She plans to obtain a degree in Mass Communications with a minor in photography. She said, "I love being informed about everything going on in the world, and I want to share that informa-

Continued on Page 5

Luke Bright



Savanna Faucette



Travis Keller



Melissa Romero



Krista Steinert



Sarah Ehrlich



Jordyn Neely



Diana Gonzalez



Nick Walters



Lindsay Jensen



tion with others through writing and photography."

Travis Keller, Monte Vista High School, has been accepted at Wyotech. He will study diesel mechanics. He has a passion for mechanical things. He said, "I can't remember ever *not* wanting to take something apart to figure out how it worked, and until I was in my teens, I took more things apart than I put back together. How my parents put up with me always having an old printer tore apart in the kitchen or tearing an old greasy weed eater apart on my bedroom floor, I will never know."

Jordyn Neely will graduate from Monte Vista OnLine Academy. She plans to major in Animal Science although she hasn't selected a college yet. A talented horsewoman, she has been active in 4-H. She said, "I have had the honor of qualifying for national competitions during the Western National 4-H Roundup twice."

Melissa Romero, Centennial High School, plans to pursue a career in law. She will major in history/government at ASU with a minor in sociology. She seeks a career in family law as a way to help others. While she is in college, she will look for an apprenticeship or a part-time job with a local attorney.

Krista Steinert will graduate from Sargent High School this spring. She will enroll in Grand Canyon University's BA program in Digital Design with an emphasis in animation. Krista has been active in many community service projects and has won several awards for her art and design projects.

Nick Walters, Sangre de Cristo High School, will attend University of Arizona. His course of study will be directed toward reaching becoming a successful Bio-medical Engineer. Nick played basketball, was on the track and field team and has excelled scholastically. He was on his school's Knowledge Bowl team for four years and participated in Academic Decathlon. ♡

Youth Tour & Energy Camp

Kaitlin Martinez will represent SLVREC on the Washington D.C. Youth Tour this summer. Kaitlin will travel with other Colorado students to Denver. From there, she will fly to D.C. and meet up with high school juniors from around the country. Students will tour monuments, visit legislators, attend a banquet and cruise the Potomac.

Erika Valdez will represent SLVREC at Energy Camp held at Glen Eden Resort near Steamboat Springs. There, students will learn



Grow Lights Can Be Expensive

Gardeners contemplating indoor gardening projects may want to evaluate lighting

choices carefully to avoid a costly shock on electric bills.

To figure out the cost of any new electric device—from a new toaster to a hydroponic growing setup—use this approach. Determine watts used by each piece of equipment, the number of hours the equipment will run each month and the amount you pay for electricity:

$$(\text{Watts} \div 1000) \times \text{monthly hours of use} = \text{kWh (killo watt hours of use)}$$

$$\text{kWh} \times \text{the cost of electricity} = \text{total cost to run the appliance}$$

For residential customers not on time-of-use rates, the cost per kWh is .129 cents.

For example, to calculate the cost of running a light rated at 600 watts for 16 hours per day, first figure the number of hours of use per month: 16 hours x 30 days = 480 hours per month. Then figure 600 watts ÷ 1000 and multiply the sum by 480 to arrive at 288 kWh or kilowatt hours of use per month. Multiply 288 by .129 (the cost per kWh) to determine that this light will add \$37.15 to a monthly electric bill.

Members on time-of-day rates must complete the calculation twice; once for on-peak hours and again for off-peak hours. Add the two for the monthly total. Residential time-of-day rates are .144 cents per kWh for on-peak use and .061 cents per kWh for off-peak use. If you are not sure of your rate class, call customer service.

Calculate other components the same way and add up everything for the total monthly cost. Consider purchase costs and operating costs before deciding which appliances best meet your needs. ♡

about cooperatives, ride the gondola to the top of the ski area, visit local attractions including the hot springs, visit a power plant and complete leadership training.

If you will be a junior next year, keep an ear out for the application deadline for Youth Tour and Energy Camp. Past attendees have proclaimed both trips to be "a trip of a lifetime." Many students have made lasting friends during their travels. Don't miss out! ♡



Rick Inman
Director for
Mineral/Hinsdale Counties
District 6



I have served as a director for Mineral/Hinsdale Counties for the past 24 years. During my tenure, I served as Board President for 4½ years and have served on many subcommittees including, among others, the scholarship selection committee. I appreciate the trust you have placed in me to represent you and your cooperative.

My fellow directors and I are very pleased with the cooperative's CEO, Loren Howard, and the direction he is taking your cooperative. Last year, the cooperative substantially completed the Plaza to Waverly Project which will improve service throughout the Valley and especially within agricultural areas. Under this project, an aging transmission line was rebuilt and upgraded.

Additionally, we have moved forward with a project to install fiber optic cable from the cooperative's headquarters to our substations. We had talked about a project like this in the past. Now, I am pleased to see the cooperative bring the installation of fiber optic cable to fruition. This project is not just about the benefits it provides to the cooperative. When complete, it will also benefit our members and will aid in future economic growth for the entire Valley.

Your cooperative is also continuing to move forward on conservation. Each and everyone of us can continue to improve in this area. I encourage you to continue to swap out incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent and LED bulbs. I also encourage members to consider weatherization in the conservation efforts. Make sure windows and doors are caulked and sealed properly. When you can, update insulation or take other measures appropriate for your situation to control heating costs. It's not getting any easier to keep heating costs down.

I ask for your continued support. Please vote for me in the upcoming election for director for Mineral/Hinsdale Counties.

At the printing date for this newsletter, Rick Inman was running unopposed. Therefore, election ballots will not be mailed in the Annual Meeting information packet expected to arrive in member's mailboxes in early May. The election will take place by acclamation at the Annual Meeting on June 10. Please plan to attend!

Medical Equipment Reminder

If you, or someone you know, depends upon electricity for life-support equipment, give SLVREC a call. SLVREC maintains a list of people who require electricity for equipment such as oxygen concentrators, respirators, ventilators, apnea monitors, dialysis machines and other types of electrically-operated medical equipment.

This list is updated biannually. Members who use electrically-operated medical equipment should contact the cooperative any time their family's medical equipment needs change. Tell the cooperative about the medical equipment used in the home and any special concerns. SLVREC uses this information to build a "life-support list." This list allows the cooperative to help members using these devices prepare for planned power outages and, when possible, deal with unplanned outages.

SLVREC can't guarantee uninterrupted electric service to members on the list. However, the cooperative will provide members relying on electrically-operated medical equipment with information about preparing for power problems. For those on the list, before crews interrupt electric service to safely perform scheduled maintenance to the cooperative's power distribution system, SLVREC will make every effort to provide advance notice about the planned outage.

Those who require the use of electrically-operated medical equipment should always have an alternate source of electric power on hand, such as a battery backup system. Alternatively, consider investing in a portable emergency generator. Please follow all safety guidelines when installing or operating a portable generator. SLVREC can provide assistance to members who use electrically-operated medical equipment and who are interested in learning how to safely install a generator.

SLVREC recommends all members have a telephone that works during power outages. When the power goes out, cordless phones usually will not work. However, corded land-line telephones should continue to operate normally. If you have a cell phone, keep it charged so it is available during emergencies.

Unavoidable power outages happen despite efforts to prevent them. Households with special concerns should be prepared for the possibility of a power outage. ☺

Digital Newsboy Winner!

Congratulations to **Kelli and Justin Schrock** winner of a \$25 bill credit in our monthly digital Newsboy drawing. By signing up for the digital Newsboy and stopping your snail mail subscription to the newsletter, you can help your cooperative save on printing and postage. Plus, you get a chance to win in the monthly drawing! Sign up online! Visit www.slvrec.com.

Wasabi Deviled Eggs

- 12 hard-cooked eggs, peeled and cut in half lengthwise
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. sesame oil
- 2 Tbsp. toasted sesame seeds (with 2 tsp. reserved)
- 1 tsp. wasabi powder
- ⅛ tsp. salt
- ⅛ tsp. black pepper
- pickled sushi ginger (beni shoga)

In a medium bowl, combine egg yolks, mayonnaise, sesame oil, sesame seeds (excluding the reserved 2 teaspoons), wasabi powder, salt and black pepper; mix well.

Fill egg white halves with yolk mixture and place on a platter. Top each egg with a slice of pickled ginger and sprinkle with reserved sesame seeds. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Esquites (Corn Salad)

- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- 3 cups fresh corn kernels sliced from the cob (4 ears)
- Kosher salt
- 2 Tbsp. mayonnaise
- 2 oz. feta or cotija cheese, crumbled
- ½ cup finely-sliced scallion greens
- ½ cup fresh cilantro leaves, finely chopped
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and stemmed, finely chopped
- 1 to 2 medium cloves garlic, pressed or minced
- 1 Tbsp. fresh juice from 1 lime chili powder

Heat oil in a large skillet over high heat until shimmering. Add corn kernels, season to taste with salt, toss once or twice, and cook without moving until charred on one side, about 2 minutes. Toss, stir, and repeat until well charred all over, about 10 minutes total. Transfer to a large bowl.

Add mayonnaise, cheese, scallions, cilantro, jalapeño, garlic, lime juice and chili powder and toss to combine. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and more chili powder to taste. Serve immediately.

Red Potatoes with Green Olive Pesto

- 6 hardboiled eggs, peeled and chopped
- 1 Tbsp. white vinegar
- salt and pepper
- 1½ c. cubed red potatoes, simmered until tender
- ¼ c. packed fresh parsley leaves
- 3 anchovy filets (optional)
- 6 to 10 green olives, pitted
- ¼ c. walnuts
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 large celery stalk, trimmed and cut into small cubes

Make pesto: combine parsley, anchovies, olives, walnuts and lemon juice in a food processor and pulse until coarsely chopped. Drizzle in olive oil while food processor is running and process until pesto is uniform in texture but not completely smooth. Add salt if omitting anchovies.

Toss potatoes with eggs. Add celery pieces and pesto and toss together. Serve at room temperature or cold.

Make-Ahead Mashed Potatoes

- 12 med. potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 2 Tbsp. milk
- ¾ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 carton (8 oz.) French onion dip
- paprika

Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a

boil, reduce heat and cook for 15 to 20 minutes or until tender. Drain. Mash potatoes with butter, milk, salt and pepper until smooth. Add cream cheese and onion dip; mix well. Spread in a greased 2 ½-quart baking dish. Sprinkle with paprika.

Cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove from the refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Bake, uncovered, at 350 °F for 50 to 60 minutes or until heated through.

Slow Cooker Pulled Pork with Dr. Pepper

- 1 small (about 2 lb.) boneless, skin-off pork shoulder roast
- 1 can Dr. Pepper
- 1 tsp. honey
- 1 Tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. black pepper
- 2 cups barbecue sauce
- 6 hamburger buns

Brown pork on all sides in a heavy-bottomed pan over medium-high heat. Transfer the roast to the slow cooker. Return the pan to the stove.

Pour Dr. Pepper into the pan and de-glaze, using a spatula to scrape up all the pork bits on the bottom. Let cook for 2 minutes, scraping the bottom occasionally.

Pour Dr. Pepper over meat in the slow cooker. Add honey, balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper. Stir well. Cover and cook on low for 7 hours.

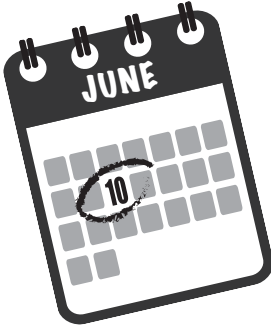
After the meat has cooked for 7 hours, drain off any excess liquid and shred the meat into small bits with two forks. Add the barbecue sauce to the pork and stir well. Cover and cook for 1 more hour.

Add more salt and pepper to taste. Fill the burger buns with pork and serve immediately (from <http://www.seriousseats.com>).

The digital edition of the Newsboy includes bonus recipes. Sign up for the digital Newsboy on SLVREC's web site at www.slvrec.com.



**PO Box 3625
Monte Vista, CO 81144**



Conservation Corner

In this Issue:

- 2014 Scholarship Winners**
- CEO Column: Co-op Membership**
- Notice of Annual Meeting**
- Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo Accepts Job**
- Name Changes on Irrigation Accounts**
- Youth Tour and Energy Camp Winner**
- Grow Lights Can Be Expensive**
- Candidate Profile: Rick Inman**
- Medical Equipment Reminder**
- Recipes: Potlucks, Picnics and Parties!**

**SLVREC will
be closed on
May 26 for
Memorial Day**



May 2014

Plant Trees to Save Energy

Planting the right trees in the right location can shade, beautify and create energy savings for your home. According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), energy-efficient landscaping can, on average, provide enough energy savings to see a return on your initial investment in less than eight years.

Carefully positioned trees can reduce a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling by up to 25 percent. DOE determined that proper placement of only three trees on your property can save an average household between \$100 and \$250 in yearly energy costs.

Shrubs and trees can form windbreaks or protective walls that keep wind chill away from a home. That's important because wind speed lowers outside air temperatures, and ultimately saves on higher heating costs. Evergreens work well—especially when combined with a wall or fence to deflect or even lift wind over a home. For best protection, plan on leaving between two to five times the mature height of the trees or shrubs between the windbreak and the protected home.

Different trees can serve a variety of purposes. To block summer heat while letting sun filter through in the winter months, use deciduous trees or those that lose their leaves seasonally. Evergreens and shrubs, on the other hand, are ideal for providing continuous shade and blocking heavy winds.

Check mature tree heights before selecting a location. Check <http://www.arboday.org/trees/righttreeandplace> for ideas on how to pick the right tree for the right location.

