



## Offices

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1-800-282-5064

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10229 Busey Road  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
614-837-4351  
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**CIRCLEVILLE**  
2100 Chickasaw Drive  
Circleville, OH 43113  
740-474-6045  
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110 Danville Pike  
Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-3421  
1-800-207-0020

**BARNESVILLE**  
37801 Barnesville-Bethesda Rd.  
Barnesville, OH 43713  
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1-800-468-4717

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

[www.southcentralpower.com](http://www.southcentralpower.com)

## Keep This Number

When reporting an outage, an automated outage reporting system may answer your call. It may ask for your 12-digit account number to help locate the outage site. This number is found on your monthly bill. It's handy to write it down and keep it near the phone.

## Suggestions

Please send your *Country Living* story ideas or comments to the attention of Lisa R. Hooker at South Central's Lancaster office.

# SOUTH CENTRAL POWER COMPANY

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## The switch is on to CFLs

"The Switch is On" is helping Ohio electric cooperative consumers save energy and money by replacing their incandescent light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescent (CFL) light bulbs.

Initiated by Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., the statewide program will replace about 350,000 incandescent bulbs with CFLs by June 30, 2009.

South Central Power has a total of 118,000 CFLs for its consumers.

*Why is South Central Power participating in the CFL exchange program?* CFLs are environmentally friendlier and more energy efficient than incandescent light bulbs, because they use 75 percent less energy, according to ENERGY STAR.

ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy that helps consumers save money and protect the environment through energy-efficient products and practices.

Consumers save money with lower energy bills. Because fewer bulbs are purchased for their home or office, they save even more over time.

South Central Power customers can receive one package of three 19-watt CFL bulbs. Each is equivalent to a 75-watt incandescent bulb.

Annually, consumers will save \$6 per bulb.

The energy savings of each CFL during the 10,000-hour life of the bulb is \$56 per bulb.

It's easy to see why so many homeowners and business are making the switch to CFLs.

CFLs produce equivalent light at a lower cost than traditional incandescent bulbs. By urging co-op consumers to replace three incandescent bulbs, electric load at the Cardinal Generating Station is lessened. Ohio's co-ops buy their power from the Cardinal Station through Buckeye Power, Inc.

While CFLs won't prevent the need for new base load and

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# South Central makes home for ospreys

Story and photo by LISA R. HOOKER

The ospreys called it home.

The problem was “home” was the top of a South Central Power electric pole.

“Two ospreys kept getting into the equipment on the pole as they built their nest. They were very persistent. Our crews would take the nest out and the next day, they’d be there building it again,” says Ron Bussard, area supervisor at the Circleville office.

The nesting pair chose a pole in the Pickaway County community of Williamsport. The proximity to Deercreek State Park and its large 1,277-acre reservoir is likely why the ospreys are so insistent. Ideal nesting conditions are open, high-area near water with a good supply of fish. Deercreek’s reservoir could easily provide plenty of fish, so it’s natural ospreys would be nearby.

“It was aggravating for us, but it was even more aggravating for about 400 Williamsport area customers. They

had outages fairly regularly for a couple of weeks until we figured out what to do about the birds,” Bussard says.

The cooperative sought advice from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

“We put up a pole just for the birds. It’s not attached to electric lines or other equipment. We put a pallet on top, so they’d have lots of room to build their nest,” Bussard says.

Sure enough, it worked.

“They took right to it and it didn’t take long for them to build their nest,” Bussard says.

Every now and again Bussard checks on the cooperative’s feathered friends.

“We don’t know if there are any eggs or babies up there, but the birds are very protective of the nest. They don’t like us to get very close,” Bussard says.

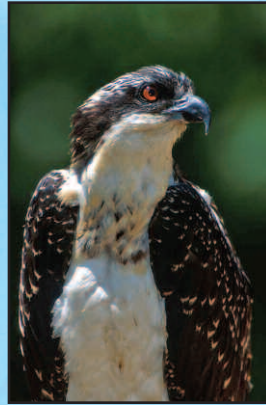
Ospreys, also known as fish hawks or fish eagles, were once plentiful across North America, but their population declined dramatically because of chemical pesticides. ODNR began reintroducing the bird to Ohio in 1996.

At about six months old, the birds fly south and overwinter in Central and South America. About half of the birds survive to return to

Ohio four years later as breeding adults. Once mated, ospreys build stick nests lined with grasses over or near water.

Since ospreys use the same nest year after year, it can easily be five-feet across; a necessary size for a bird with a four-and-a-half-foot wingspan. Usually three or four eggs are laid, and both parents help with incubation. The eggs are similar in size to that of a domestic hen’s, but are white with brown splotches. The eggs begin hatching in about 38 days, usually in the order they were laid.

ODNR says ospreys are spectacular to watch, especially when they feed. The large white and dark brown birds hover high above a body of water searching for fish. Once a fish is spotted, they cruise near the surface, quickly fold their wings and hit the water talons first. Ospreys are the only bird that combines plunge diving with a foot structure that grips and carries the fish.



*Above: An osprey lands in its nest built on top of a South Central Power electric pole specially fitted with a pallet. Right: A closeup of the majestic osprey, courtesy of ODNR/Tim Daniel.*

