

**DARKE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**  
**Geothermal Heating and Cooling Rebate**  
**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**  
**July 1, 20245– June 30, 2026**

The installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system in a home, office or other building which uses electricity from Darke Rural Electric Cooperative (Darke REC) qualifies for a rebate from Darke REC. The system may serve either a new or existing structure.

The purpose of the requirements which follow is to aid Darke REC in inspecting and verifying the geothermal heating and cooling system installation's eligibility for a rebate from Darke REC. **All requirements must be met to receive a rebate.**

**A. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Qualified Equipment and Installation**

- a. Equipment shall be rated by ARI (Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Institute) test standards and certified by ARI or CSA (Canadian Standards Association) or other nationally recognized testing organizations.
- b. Equipment installed shall be in compliance with ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> requirements for both EER and COP minimums at the time of installation. This will ensure systems will meet requirements for Federal tax credits for geothermal system installation.

<u>Efficiency Requirements</u>	<u>EER</u>	<u>COP</u>
Closed loop water-to-air	17.1	3.6
Open loop water-to-air	<u>21.1</u>	<u>4.1</u>

*NOTE: See [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for minimums for water-to-water or DGX system qualifications.*

- c. The complete system, including any necessary supplemental devices, shall be listed by Underwriters Laboratories or other nationally recognized testing organizations in accordance with U.L. standards.
- d. The installer shall be a dealer approved by Darke REC.
- e. The system must include properly-sized duct work.
- f. The system shall be wired according to Darke REC's requirements concerning second meters and possible future installation of load control switches for direct load management efforts and in compliance with the National Electric Code and local or Ohio Electric Code requirements.
- g. Open loops shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and recommendations and shall meet applicable federal, state or local agency standards. Open loop installations shall also have documented water quality and quantity tests conducted by the installer, distributor or manufacturer evidencing the suitability and availability of water required for the application.
- h. Closed loops shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and recommendations and shall meet applicable federal, state or local agency standards.

- i. Direct Expansion loops shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and recommendations and shall meet applicable federal, state or local agency standards.
  - j. Ground loops should be installed by professionals who follow procedures established by the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA).
- 2. Dealers shall provide to consumers, as part of the sales-installation agreement:
  - a. Owner's manual and instruction for equipment operation.
  - b. Installation instructions and warranties.
  - c. An offer for a maintenance/service contract.
  - d. Dealer shall also provide a sketch of the loop layout location in reference to existing buildings.
- 3. The participating dealer or consumer shall be required to submit to Darke REC:
  - a. Application for reimbursement.
  - b. Upon request by Darke REC, copies of equipment and duct sizing calculations.

#### B. ELIGIBILITY FOR REBATE

- 1. The building must be a residential, commercial or industrial structure which uses electricity from Darke REC (which receives power for the facility from Buckeye).
- 2. Rebate is to be paid to the Cooperative consumer who owns the building, or for new construction, the rebate can be paid to the builder/dealer.

#### C. CONDITIONS OF REBATE

Darke REC shall inspect or confirm the installation before issuing the rebate.

#### D. REBATE

- 1. An \$800 rebate will be paid to the member on the basis of one rebate for each unit installed. The rebate goes to the cooperative member who owns the building, or for new construction, the rebate can be paid to the builder/dealer.
- 2. A maximum of two rebates may be paid per residential, commercial or industrial structure.

#### DI. MISCELLANEOUS

Advising a consumer of the benefits to be gained from improving the thermal envelope of a structure prior to the installation of qualified equipment is an essential part of the Geothermal Heating Program.

#### F. ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW

Darke REC Board of Trustees will annually review this program for continuation as applicable.