

Summer Tours at Hydro Information Centres

Last summer more than 50,000 people visited Ontario Hydro nuclear and hydro-electric generating stations open to the public for tours.

Information centres can provide an interesting place to visit while on vacation, and this year tours can also be arranged at various coal-fired stations throughout the province. Ontario Hydro information centres include:

The Pickering Energy Information Centre, on the site of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station east of Toronto, offers a wide range of exhibits: Walk into a life-sized model of a CANDU nuclear reactor; operate the refuelling machine model; try your skills at a variety of educational computer games; or take a bus tour of the station site.

The Darlington Information Centre is located on the site of what will be one of the largest nuclear generating stations in the world when complete in the early 1990s.. Displays, panels and models help explain how a nuclear reactor works. Visitors have the advantage of seeing construction activities firsthand on a bus tour of the site. Darlington is east of Pickering in Newcastle on the shore of Lake Ontario.

In a glass-enclosed gallery above the R.H. Saunders Hydro-Electric Generating Station, just south of Cornwall on the St. Lawrence River, animated models and colourful panels explain how the mighty St. Lawrence produces power. Displays show how this electricity is carried by an extensive transmission network to

the people of Ontario, and an audio-visual presentation recreates the construction story of the 27 year-old Saunders station.

The Information Centre at the Bruce Nuclear Power Development, south of Owen Sound on Lake Huron, features a working model of the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station and a variety of interesting exhibits and video games. Visitors are also offered bus tours of the site, which is one of the largest energy complexes in the world.

In the northwestern part of the province, visitors to the Thunder Bay Thermal Generating Station can see how a coal-fired station generates electricity.

Other coal-fired stations offering tours this year are Lakeview Generating Station in Mississauga; Lambton Generating Station in Sarnia; and Nanticoke Generating Station near Simcoe, Ontario.

At most facilities, two types of tours are available for visitors. People who drop into the centres will be offered a bus tour, but if they call ahead a tour inside the plant can often be arranged.

For further information please contact the centres at the telephone numbers listed. Admission is free.

The Energy Information Centre at Pickering is open seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Take the Brock Road exit at Pickering south from Highway 401, and follow the signs. Telephone: (416) 839-0465.

The Darlington Information Centre, south off Highway 401 between Oshawa and Bowmanville, is open seven

days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. until Labour Day, and on weekdays starting in September. Telephone: (416) 623-7122.

The R.H. Saunders Energy Information Centre is off Highway 401 near Cornwall and is open every day through to September 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Telephone: (613) 932-3072.

The Bruce Information Centre is open seven days a week between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. from now until mid-October and weekdays thereafter. Tours run every hour from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Take Highway 21 from Kincardine or Port Elgin to just north of Tiverton, then follow the signs. Telephone: (519) 368-8687.

Thunder Bay Thermal Generating Station, on Lake Superior in Thunder Bay, is open Tuesdays and Fridays, starting July 7 through August 28. Tours run at 10:30 a.m. and visitors are asked to book ahead. Take South Syndicate Street in Thunder Bay over the Jackknife Bridge to Mission Island. Telephone: (807) 623-2701.

For other coal-fired stations in Ontario, please call ahead to arrange a tour and receive specific directions: For Lakeview T.G.S., contact the receptionist at (416) 274-3461 and for Lambton T.G.S., contact the receptionist at (519) 867-2663. For Nanticoke T.G.S., at least one week's notice is required, so please call ahead to the receptionist at (519) 587-2203.



Ontario Hydro's BACKGROUNDER

When lightning strikes
Within seconds, Hydro operators can locate lightning as it strikes anywhere in the province using a special scanning system that monitors electrical disturbances on power-lines.

The system, which uses radio signals and a computerized monitor, helps protect over 25,000 kilometres of high-voltage lines throughout the province by alerting Hydro line crews about where disturbances are occurring.

Although most power-lines are protected by overhead lightning wires, Ontario customers experience about 250 outages a year due to severe electrical storms.

Small is big
Small independent power producers are helping Ontario Hydro generate electricity.

An independent power producer near Ramore has built a hydro-electric generating station on Black River that will provide 475 kilowatts of electricity to the utility each month.

The utility encourages parallel generation and has seen a dramatic increase in the number of entrepreneurs who build and operate small hydro-electric stations.

Over the past year the number of independent power producers doubled from the year before as 15 private producers supplied about 20 megawatts of electricity to the province.

Energy demand increases
Ontario customers used 9.3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity in April, down 1.4 per cent from the year before.

Peak demand for the month was reached April 2 at 18 million kilowatts, up 6.2 per cent from the same month in 1986.

Export revenues
Ontario Hydro generated over \$4 million in revenues in April by selling an estimated 579 million kilowatt-hours of electricity to the United States.

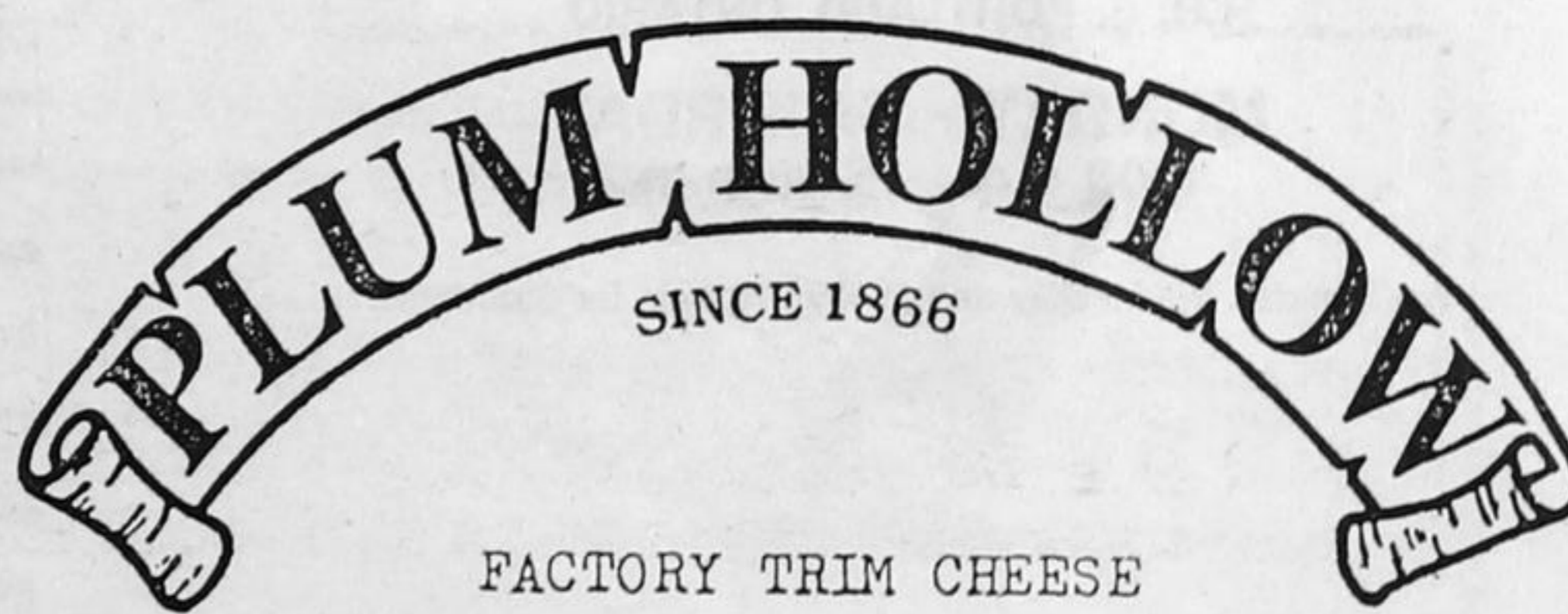
Young Speakers for Agriculture

"If you are a 4-H or Junior Farmer member between the ages of 17-24, you can be one of sixty lucky young people this fall," says Joyce Canning, Rural Organizations Coordinator with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Three public speaking workshops with an emphasis on agricultural topics will be held Sept. 11-12 at Ridgetown, Centralia and Kemptonville Colleges of Agricultural Technology. Up to 20 young people will be accepted at each location. Applicants should have a keen interest, or experience in public speaking to qualify.

Sessions will deal with how to research a topic, how to keep up-to-date on agricultural issues, tips on presentations, actual practice in public speaking and video taping of presentations for review.

Application forms are available at Ministry county offices, through Junior Farmer Clubs or from the Rural Organizations and Services Branch, Guelph Agricultural Centre, Box 1030, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6N1. Deadline for applications is July 31, 1987.



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