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Local developer, MTEMC collaborate on Tennessee's first geothermal subdivision

Middle Tennessee Electric and some local builders and developers are leading the way in Tennessee with the state's first all geothermal subdivision – The Masters View in Mt. Juliet.

The geothermal units installed at the Masters View take advantage of the constant year round temperatures of the Earth and works by taking the summer heat out of the home and replacing it with cool, comfortable air from the ground. In the winter, the process is reversed as the cold air in the home is replaced with warm air that is produced by the earth's natural heat from the sun.

"We're excited to be a part of this ground-breaking event," MTEMC's Energy Advisor Phillip Price said. "Our main priority in this effort is to work with builders to achieve the highest levels of energy efficiency."

As part of Middle Tennessee Electric's marketing and residential services, the cooperative offers incentives to builders and homeowners for choosing to meet Energy Star requirements when building a new home.

"I really wanted to develop this property with the highest regard for efficiency and the environment," Masters View Developer David Donaldson said. "All of the homes promise to be right on track to receive an Energy Star rating, which is the top certification in the United States for efficient methods of construction and materials."

MTEMC's Price, who is a nationally certified home energy rater, reviews the Masters View house plans with the builder before the beginning of the construction process. At least two inspections are completed to ensure the required Energy Star level insulation, windows and other construction materials are used.

"The units use renewable energy from the earth, making it possible for homeowners to expect up to as much as a 30-percent savings in heating and cooling costs," Price said. "These new homes, built to MTEMC program standards, will rate high in comfort, quality, value and energy savings."

Persons interested in MTEMC's New Homes Program can call 1-877-777-9020.