

Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Purpose

Brazos Electric's Energy Efficiency Rebate Program ("EERP") is designed to encourage member cooperatives ("Members") to promote energy efficiency measures that will reduce energy consumption and support a Participating Member's individual energy innovation¹ goals. Brazos Electric's EERP rewards energy efficient practices by paying incentive rebates to Participating Members when retail members install more efficient lighting, HVAC, insulation and other various qualifying equipment that reduces energy consumption.

Introduction

After reviewing an independent consultant's recommendation of energy efficiency programs in January 2009, the Members reached consensus on trying to develop an EERP with an assortment of energy efficiency measures and programs. In June 2009, the Brazos Electric Board of Directors approved implementation of the EERP with a September 2009 start date.

Some of the identified benefits and program assumptions at the inception of the EERP were as follows:

1. Provide the Participating Members with cost effective energy efficiency programs for use by their respective retail members.
2. Brazos Electric to document the program design, develop forms, and provide education of available programs for Participating Members.
3. A Participating Member may select from the approved list of cost effective energy efficiency programs included in the EERP that the Participating Member wants to offer and market to its retail members.
4. Currently include only those programs that have a positive benefit/cost ratio as determined by GDS' analysis of specific measures included in its study.
5. Limit the administrative costs of the programs and maximize the incentives to the end-use retail member that participates in the energy efficiency program.
6. Enables Participating Members to choose eligible programs they prefer to include in their respective member services program.
7. A rebate program is easier to administer at the G&T level resulting in lower costs with a larger percentage of funds available for incentive rebates.
8. Centralized measurement, verification and incentive rebate processing.
9. Potential for economies of scale purchasing.
10. Incentive rebates and administrative costs limited to the allocated EERP annual budget for each Participating Member based on the Participating Member's previous year's MWh sales multiplied by the applicable surcharge rate.

Eligible Energy Efficiency Measures

Below are the specific energy efficiency measures that have been approved for the Brazos Electric EERP for 2013. The incentive levels developed by the independent consultant in its Energy

¹ NRECA's adoption of resolution 09-f-1, Wise and Innovative Energy Use, details energy innovation as a four-legged platform consisting of conservation, energy efficiency, demand response and distributed resources.

Efficiency Study were based on a 30% reimbursement of the incremental cost of the energy efficient measure.

CFL and LED Lighting (Bulbs)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Program B/C Ratio	MWH Savings 2013	Summer Pk MW Savings 2013
CFL/LED	\$1.25	\$0.50	\$1.75	5.66	39,396	4.03

Compact Fluorescent & LED Lighting: Residential and commercial application of compact fluorescent lighting (“CFL”) and light-emitting diode (“LED”) bulbs present a significant opportunity for energy and maintenance savings. On a per lamp basis, CFL/LED lamps are generally 75 percent more efficient and can last up to ten times longer than incandescent bulbs. In addition, CFL/LED bulbs produce about 75 percent less heat, so they are safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling. Dimmable and 3-way CFL/LED bulbs are also eligible.

The Member can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate after CFL/LED bulbs are *purchased* for distribution to retail members.

HOME ENERGY AUDIT

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Program B/C Ratio	MWH Savings 2013	Summer Pk MW Savings 2013
Home Energy Audit				2.08	5,575	1.27
CFL/LED	\$1.25	\$0.50	\$1.75			
Low Flow Showerhead	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$15.00			
Low Flow Faucet Aerators	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$7.50			
Water Heater Blanket	\$15.00	\$7.50	\$22.50			
Pipe Wrap	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$15.00			
HVAC Tune-up	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$150.00			

All incentive rebates for the Home Energy Audit (excluding the HVAC Tune-up) will only apply for those homes that have **residential electric water heating only**. The eligible energy efficiency measures are: Low Flow Showerhead, Low Flow Faucet Aerators, Water Heater Blanket and Pipe Wrap. While Brazos Electric has no specific information or knowledge on this issue, some have raised a concern that some manufacturers may consider the use of a water heater blanket to void the warranty for the hot water heater. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for reimbursement after Low Flow Showerhead, Low Flow Faucet Aerators, Water Heater Blanket and/or Pipe Wrap are *purchased* for distribution to retail members. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate for the HVAC Tune-up program after the Member determines that the tune-up was completed at the retail member’s residence in accordance with the tune-up requirements described below, as applicable.

Low Flow Showerheads: An existing showerhead is replaced with a new unit that has a low-flow rate (less than 2.0 gallons/minute). Significant savings in hot water use can be achieved by installing low-flow showerheads and faucets. The single best action is to replace old showerheads as showers use 37% of the hot water in typical U.S. homes. Members should procure and install the replacement showerheads in the home. Retired showerheads should be removed and retained by the Member.

Low Flow Faucet Aerators: An existing faucet is replaced with a new unit that has a low-flow rate (less than 1.5 gallons/minute in bathrooms and less than 2.2 gallons/minute in kitchens). Members should procure and install the replacement aerators in the home.

Water Heater Blanket: Water heater blankets are designed to wrap around an existing water heater tank to improve insulation, prevent heat loss, and save energy. Installing an insulating blanket can reduce standby loss (heat lost through the walls of the tank) by as much as 25-40%. Members should procure and install the water heater blanket.

Pipe Wrap: Insulating hot water pipes will reduce losses as the hot water is flowing to the faucet and, more importantly, it will reduce standby losses when the tap is turned off and then back on within an hour or so. Pipe wrap will conserve energy and water that would normally be lost waiting for the hot water to reach the tap. Energy loss still occurs after pipe wrap has been installed, though to a smaller degree than the losses observed in non-insulated pipes. Members should procure and install the pipe wrap on all exposed and accessible hot water lines.

HVAC Tune-Up: HVAC tune-up and maintenance helps to keep heat pump and central air conditioning units running at top efficiency, prevent equipment failures, and extend the life of the equipment. A tune-up by a service professional can improve unit efficiency by as much as 20%. An annual HVAC tune up includes: checking and correcting the unit’s refrigerant pressure and tubing, checking and adjusting belt tension, cleaning and lubricating the indoor blower unit, replacing filters, cleaning inside the “A” coil, and checking the thermostat, wiring, and other electric parts. A receipt from a qualified contractor stating that the above work was completed should be provided to the Member.

ENERGY EFFICIENT NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Program B/C Ratio	MWH Savings 2013	Summer Pk MW Savings 2013
Energy Star	\$500.00	\$50.00	\$550.00	1.00	4,908	1.10

Energy Efficient New Home Construction: The Residential Energy Services Network (“RESNET”) Home Energy Rating Standards (“HERS”) of Practice establish minimum and uniform standards for home energy raters who are certified by RESNET- accredited rating providers. Home energy ratings performed to these standards of practice are intended to provide the home owner/builder with a certified rating according to the RESNET’s Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Standard. These standards are posted at <http://www.resnet.us/standards/mortgage>.

(HERS RESNET Certified Rating) - Nationally, for a home to be labeled as ENERGY STAR®, it must achieve a HERS score of 86 or lower to qualify or be at least 15% more efficient than the local minimum energy code.

(Energy Star® Home Rating) - New homes are designed to be built to Energy Star® standards: at least 15 percent more energy efficient than those built to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (“IECC”).

Savings are based on heating, cooling, and hot water energy use and are typically achieved through a combination of the following: high performance windows, controlled air infiltration, upgraded heating and air conditioning systems, tight duct systems, high efficiency water heating equipment, and high efficiency building envelope standards. Energy Star® homes also encourage the use of energy-efficient lighting and appliances. These features contribute to improved home quality and homeowner comfort, and to lower energy demand and reduced air pollution. The Member should receive an Energy Star® Certificate or an HERS Certificate with an overall score of 86 or less to qualify a new home for the program. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate for the Energy Efficient New Home Construction program after receipt of verification that the new home meets the standards set forth above for the residential retail member’s served by the Member.

CEILING INSULATION (SPACE HEATING & COOLING)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Measure B/C Ratio
Insulation Upgrade	\$275.00	\$25.00	\$300.00	1.16

Ceiling Insulation: Ceiling insulation levels vary greatly depending on the age of the home, type of insulation, and activity in the attic (*i.e.*, using the attic for storage and HVAC equipment). To be eligible for this rebate, the existing insulation must be less than or equal to R8 (3.75 inches of insulation or less) and must be improved to R38 or greater (approximately 17 inches or greater of insulation). Incentive rebates for this program are limited to ceiling insulation upgrades for single family homes and not for mobile homes; further, the upgrades only apply to electric air conditioners with electric resistance heating and cannot be used in situations where a heat pump is installed as a primary heating source. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate for the Ceiling Insulation program after the Member determines that the installation was completed at the retail member’s residence in accordance with the preceding requirements.

HIGH EFFICIENCY ELECTRIC HEAT PUMP (SPACE HEATING & COOLING)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Measure B/C Ratio
High Efficiency Heat Pump				
15 SEER Heat Pump	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$150.00	
16+ SEER Heat Pump	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$300.00	

High Efficiency Electric Heat Pumps: Electric heat pumps operate by transferring heat from one place to another. In the heating mode, a heat pump extracts heat from outside a residence and delivers it to the house. Like a furnace, most heat pumps work with forced warm-air delivery systems. Heat pumps can also be operated to cool a house during summer months. In the cooling

mode, the cycle is reversed and heat is taken from the house and transferred to the outside air. Because heat pumps rely on the outside air as the heat source in the wintertime, they are much more common in warmer climates.

Heat pumps are rated for both heating and cooling – both in terms of capacity and efficiency. Heating efficiency is indicated by the heating season performance factor (“HSPF”). Cooling efficiency is indicated by the seasonal energy efficiency rating (“SEER”). Both indicate the relative amount of energy needed to provide a specific heating or cooling output.

15 SEER High Efficiency Heat Pumps: For this program, the baseline replacement model remains at HSPF 8.2 and SEER 14. The 15 SEER High Efficiency Heat Pump must have a HSPF of 8.2 or greater and a SEER of 15.

16 SEER High Efficiency Heat Pumps: For this program, the baseline replacement model remains at HSPF 8.2 and SEER 14. The 16 SEER High Efficiency Heat Pump must have a HSPF of 9.0 or greater and a SEER of 16 or greater.

The incentive rebates for this program apply for replacement of existing HVAC equipment at any residential home (including mobile homes) and new home construction. The retail member must obtain a receipt with the Air-Conditioning Heating and Refrigeration Institute (“AHRI”) designation of the qualifying installation from the retail member’s contractor to present to the Member for verification purposes. This incentive rebate is not applicable for homes that use natural gas, propane or other fossil fuel for heating.

The incentive rebates for this program are as follows: (1) the 15 SEER rebate is applicable to any unit purchased and installed with (a) a SEER equal to or greater than 15, and (b) a HSPF equal to or greater than 8.2; and (2) the 16 SEER rebate is applicable to any unit purchased and installed with (a) a SEER equal to or greater than 16, and (b) a HSPF equal to or greater than 9.0. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate for the High Efficiency Heat Pumps program after the Member determines that the installation was completed at the retail member’s residence in accordance with the preceding requirements.

ENERGY STAR ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Measure B/C Ratio
Energy Star Room A/C	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	2.11

Energy Star Room Air Conditioners: Room air conditioner units are typically mounted in a window so that part of the unit is outside and part is inside. An insulated divider to reduce heat transfer losses typically separates the two sides. The outdoor portion generally includes a compressor, condenser, condenser fan, fan motor, and capillary tube. The indoor portion generally includes an evaporator and evaporator fan. The minimum federal standard used in this analysis (based on model type and capacity) is an Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) of at least 9.8. Currently, units with an EER of 10.8 are eligible for the ENERGY STAR® label. This analysis assumed a room air conditioner cooling capacity of 8,000 Btu/hr and 1,926 full-load cooling hours (Dallas climate zone).

ENERGY STAR DISHWASHER (Electric Water heating Only)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Measure B/C Ratio
Energy Star Dishwasher	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$15.00	1.29

Energy Star Dishwasher: Dishwashers exceeding minimum qualifying efficiency standards established under Energy Star Program with an Energy Factor (EF) $\geq .65$ (versus the current federal standard energy factor $\leq .46$). Energy Star labeled dishwashers save energy by using both improved technology for the primary wash cycle, and by using less hot water to clean. Construction includes more effective washing action, energy efficient motors and other advanced technology such as sensors that determine the length of the wash cycle and the temperature of the water necessary to clean the dishes. In addition, a high efficiency dishwasher can save approximately 635 gallons of water a year if used to run an average of 4 loads per week. This measure is limited to homes having electric water heating and dishwashers.

HIGH EFFICIENCY WATER HEATER

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Measure B/C Ratio
High Efficiency Water Heater	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	1.10

High Efficiency Water Heater (stand-alone): In this measure, baseline replacement stand alone electric water heaters are replaced with high efficiency stand alone storage tank water heaters. Storage water heaters work by heating up water in an insulated tank. However, because heat is lost through the walls of the storage tank, energy is consumed even when no hot water is being used. New high-efficiency storage water heaters contain higher levels of insulation around the tank, reducing standby losses. In this analysis a baseline replacement model (EF=.90) is replaced with a high efficiency model (EF=.94). This measure applies to homes operating primarily electric heating systems and electric water heaters. Heat pump water heaters qualify for this rebate since they have an efficiency greater than .94. (Note: Does not apply to electric tankless water heaters.)

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING (T-8 BULB REPLACEMENT)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Avg Measure B/C Ratio
32w to 28w Bulb Upgrade	\$1.00	\$.50	\$1.50	1.09
32w to 25w Bulb Upgrade	\$1.50	\$.75	\$2.25	1.91

T-8 Commercial Bulb Replacement: A variety of high efficiency fixtures, ballasts and lamps exist in the market today, producing the same amount of lumens, while consuming less electricity. Deemed lighting savings are mature components of utility-sponsored demand-side management offerings around the country. This measure considers BULB REPLACEMENT only, not replacement of fixtures or ballasts.

Numerous commercial and industrial buildings already have T8 bulbs and ballasts, but are looking for a low-cost way to save energy. Standard T8 bulbs typically sold as 32 watt bulbs, but can be replaced with 28 watt or 25 watt bulbs to save energy immediately. Utilities that are currently

running these programs offer a \$1.00 incentive to change out to a 28 watt bulb and a \$1.50 incentive for a 25 watt bulb.

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING (FIXTURE UPGRADES)

Program	Incent	Admin	Total	Avg Measure B/C Ratio
Fixture Upgrade(per watt saved)	\$.20	\$.10	\$.30	2.95

A variety of high efficiency fixtures, ballasts and lamps exist in the market today producing the same amount of lumens while consuming less electricity. Deemed lighting savings are mature components of utility sponsored demand-side management offerings around the country.

Many different types of energy efficient fixtures exist today. The Commercial Lighting Fixture Upgrade program measures the difference between the original fixture and the new fixture in base wattage. Incentive rebates are calculated based on this difference. Due to the many potential variations of fixture upgrades for lighting, this program does not specifically designate the eligible incentive rebate for a particular fixture types. Rather, the incentive rebate is calculated using the savings in base wattage comparison between the original and new fixture.

The Member should work with its commercial retail member to perform a detailed pre- and post-audit to verify base wattage differences and upgrade verification. Members can submit a RRR to Brazos Electric for the incentive rebate for the Commercial Lighting Fixture Upgrade program after the Member determines that the installation was completed at the commercial member’s location in accordance with the preceding requirements.

A non-exclusive list of potential upgrade items are listed below:

Super T8 Fixture - from 34W T12; from standard T8: High-Performance or Super T8 lamp/ballast systems have higher lumens per watt than standard T8 systems. This results in lamp/ballast systems that produce equal or greater light than standard T8 systems, while using fewer watts. When used in a high-bay application, high-performance T8 fixtures can provide equal light to high intensity discharge high-bay fixtures, while using fewer watts.

T5 Fluorescent High-Bay Fixtures; Troffer/Wrap; Industrial Strip; Indirect: A T5 high-bay fixture has a fixture efficiency of over 91%, while a metal-halide fixture has a fixture efficiency of approximately 70%. By using a more efficient fixture, a space can be lit with fewer watts or fixtures. Typically, a 4-lamp F54T5HO system using 240 watts will provide as much light on a target surface as a standard 400 watt metal-halide fixture using 455 watts.

Induction Fluorescent 23W: Inductive fluorescent lamps are white light sources with very good color rendering and color temperature properties. These lamps are energy efficient and offer extremely long life (over 100,000 hours), good lumen maintenance characteristics, and instant-on capability. The lamp enclosure is called a "vessel" that varies in shapes and is coated on the inside with phosphor. Dimming capability is already available in Europe and will be available in the near future in the United States. They are powered by a small generator (about the size of a fluorescent ballast) attached to the lamp via a short fixed-length cable. The generator induces a current in the lamp which causes it to glow (there are no electrodes to wear out). The larger, diffuse nature of

these sources makes them excellent for lighting larger volumes and surfaces. They are often used in place of low- to medium-wattage high intensity discharge sources because of the instant-on capability and reduced maintenance associated with the longer lamp life. This lamp source has promising application for indoor and outdoor lighting applications.

Exterior High Intensity Discharge: Exterior metal halide (“MH”) or high-pressure sodium (“HPS”) high intensity discharge fixtures less than or equal to 100 watts. Assumes an efficient high intensity discharge 90 W bulb replaces a baseline quartz halogen 200 W bulb.

Electronic High Intensity Discharge Fixture Upgrade: This measure assumes that a 320 W Pulse Start Metal Halide (MH) high intensity discharge light fixture replaces a standard 400 W high intensity discharge fixture.

Halogen Infra-Red Bulb: A new development in halogen technology is the advent of Infra-Red bulbs. Available only in PAR30, PAR38, and MR16 type bulbs, it is used for spot-lighting, often in museums, retail establishments, and restaurants. The technology generally offers around 20% energy-savings, and longer lamp life.

Metal Halide Track: A metal-halide track head produces equal or more light as compared to halogen track head(s), while using fewer watts. Typically, a 39 watt PAR20 metal-halide track head using 43 watts can be used in place of three 50 watt halogen PAR20 track heads.

Integrated Ballast MH 25W: Integrated ballast 25W Par 38 metal halide lamps are three times more efficient than the Par 38 halogen lamps that they replace. Light output is comparable and the 10,500 hour life of the metal halide lamps is up to three times longer than standard halogens. Very good color rendering of 87 and a crisp white light (3000K) make this a good replacement lamp for general, ambient or accent lighting. The integrated ballast allows for an easy upgrade from a halogen Par 38. Due to the high pressure and operating temperature of metal halide lamps, there are some safety considerations concerning these efficient lamps.

Lighting Power Density: Efficient lighting with a reduced wattage compared to the baseline, other than controls. This methodology is generally applied to commercial new construction and remodel or renovation of existing buildings, including both facilities that are and are not subject to Act 250 review.

LED Exit Sign: Exit signs illuminated with light emitting diodes (“LEDs”).

Traffic Signal Upgrades: Traffic signals illuminated with LEDs save energy over the traditional light bulb traffic signals. Several utilities across the country have initiated programs for this type of upgrade.

LED Freezer/Display Lighting: Replacing standard bulbs in freezer display departments with LEDs allows both energy savings from light and heat. Further, several studies indicate that LED lighting in freezer sections actually provide better lighting colors for consumers.

**Brazos Electric Cooperative
EERP Measure Summary
For the EERP Year(s) Presented as of 12/31/13**

EERP Year	2013
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	Sum of RO-																
Member Coop	Sum of CFL Bulbs	LED Bulbs	Sum of Low Flow Shower Head	Sum of Low Flow Faucet Aerator	Water Heater Blanket	Sum of Pipe Wrap	Sum of HVAC Tune-up	Sum of Energy Star Home - 15% More Efficient	R8 upgrade to R38+ (A/C & Resistance Hrgl)	Sum of 14 SEER Heat Pump	Sum of 15 SEER Heat Pump (2013)	Sum of 16 SEER Heat Pump (2013)	Sum of Fixture Upgrade (per watt savings)	Sum of Energy Star Dishwasher	Sum of High Efficiency Water Heater	Sum of T-8 Bulb Replacement t32w to 28w	Sum of T-8 Bulb Replacement t32w to 25w
Tri-County	1,852	263	21	41	42	15	597	232	14	0	4	28	46	8	12	3	0
Grand Total	1,852	263	21	41	42	15	597	232	14	0	4	28	46	8	12	3	0

Total	1,852	263	21	41	42	15	597	232	14	0	4	28	46	8	12	3	0	
Incentive	\$ 1.75	\$ 1.75	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 22.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00	#####	#####	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 2.25
Total Rebate	\$ 3,241	\$ 460	\$ 315	\$ 308	\$ 945	\$ 225	\$ 89,550	\$ 127,600	\$ 4,200	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,200	#####	\$ 65,741	\$ 240	\$ 180	\$ 75	\$ -
% of Total \$	<u>1.04%</u>	<u>0.15%</u>	<u>0.10%</u>	<u>0.10%</u>	<u>0.30%</u>	<u>0.07%</u>	<u>28.68%</u>	<u>40.86%</u>	<u>1.34%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.38%</u>	<u>1.34%</u>	<u>4.42%</u>	<u>21.05%</u>	<u>0.08%</u>	<u>0.06%</u>	<u>0.02%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>

Estimated kWh and kW Annual Impact

Annual kWh Savings	53	53	186	48	100	40	616.37	2550	158	390	825	390	825	n/a	163	137	175	7.5	13.1
Annual kW Savings	0.01	0.01	0.022	0.007	0.01	0.004	0.23	0.57	0.082	0.119	0.252	0.119	0.252	n/a	0.085	0.017	0.02	0.004	0.007
Useful Life	7	7	10	10	10	10	10	20	20	18	18	18	18	15	9	12	14	10	10
Annual kWh Savings % of Total kWh	<u>5.21%</u>	<u>0.74%</u>	<u>0.21%</u>	<u>0.10%</u>	<u>0.22%</u>	<u>0.03%</u>	<u>19.52%</u>	<u>31.38%</u>	<u>0.12%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.18%</u>	<u>0.58%</u>	<u>2.01%</u>	<u>39.52%</u>	<u>0.07%</u>	<u>0.09%</u>	<u>0.03%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
Peak kW Savings	18.52	2.63	0.46	0.29	0.42	0.06	137.31	132.24	1.15	-	1.01	3.33	11.59	175.00	0.68	0.20	0.06	-	-



TRI-COUNTY

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"A Commitment to Service and Savings"

Central Headquarters Office / 600 N W Parkway / Azle, Tx 76020 / Ph:(817)444-3201 or 1-800-367-8232 / Fax # (817)444-3542
Southwest District Office / 1623 Weatherford Hwy. / Granbury, Tx 76048 / Ph:(817)279-7010 / Fax # (817)279-7012
Northeast District Office / 4900 Keller Hicks Rd. / Fort Worth, Tx 76244 / Ph:(817)431-1541 / Fax # (817)431-9680
B-K District Office / 419 N. Main, P O Box Drawer 672 / Seymour, Tx 76380 / Ph: (940)888-3441 / Fax # (940)888-3820

Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Application for Rebate Payment Effective January 1, 2013

Rebate payments are subject to suspension in the event that funds budgeted for the program are consumed.

HOME ENERGY AUDIT

Date: _____

Electric Service Account Number: _____ Ph: _____

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Compact Fluorescent and L E D Lighting

Replace existing incandescent bulbs with CFL or L E D lighting.

Qualified Rebate: \$1.25 per bulb. Attach Purchase Receipt for CFL or L E D bulbs to application for rebate.

Low Flow Shower Heads

Replace existing shower head with a new one having a flow rate under 2 gallons per minute.

Qualified Rebate: \$10.00 per shower head, electric water heating only. Attach Purchase Receipt for Shower Head to application for rebate.

Low Flow Faucet Aerators

Replace an existing faucet with a unit that has a low-flow rate of 1.5 gallons per minute in bathrooms and less than 2.2 gallons per minute in kitchens.

Qualified Rebate: \$5.00 per faucet, electric water heating only. Attach Purchase Receipt for Faucet Aerators to application for rebate.

Water Heater Blanket

Install an insulating blanket on your existing electric water heater.

Qualified Rebate: \$15.00 per electric water heater. Attach Purchase Receipt for Insulating Blanket to application for rebate.

Pipe Wrap

Insulate all exposed hot water pipes to reduce heat loss.

Qualified Rebate: \$10.00 per electric water heater. Attach Purchase Receipt for Pipe Wrap Insulation to application for rebate.

Heating and Air Conditioning Tune-Up

A HVAC tune-up includes checking and correcting the unit's refrigerant charge, repairing leaks if required, cleaning and lubricating the blower unit, inspecting and cleaning of refrigerant coils, replacing filters, thermostat inspection, wiring inspection and duct work inspection.

Qualified Rebate: \$100.00 per unit, one HVAC Tune-up allowed for each Member's applicable delivery point.

Attach a legible copy of the invoice from a licensed HVAC contractor to application for rebate.



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Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

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RESIDENTIAL NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION

Date: _____

Electric Service Account Number: _____ Ph: _____

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

ENERGY EFFICIENT NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION

The Residential Energy Services Network ("RESNET") Home Energy Rating Standards ("HERS") of Practice establish minimum and uniform standards for home energy raters who are certified by RESNET- accredited rating providers. Home energy ratings performed to these standards of practice are intended to provide the home owner/builder with a certified rating according to the RESNET's Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Standard. These standards are posted at <http://www.resnet.us/standards/mortgage>.

(HERS RESNET Certified Rating) - Nationally, for a home to be labeled as ENERGY STAR®, it must achieve a HERS score of 86 or lower to qualify or be at least 15% more efficient than the local minimum energy code.

(Energy Star® Home Rating) - New homes are designed to be built to Energy Star® standards: at least 15 percent more energy efficient than those built to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code ("IECC").

Qualified Rebate: \$500.00, Energy Star Certificate or an HERS Certificate with a score of 86 or less must be provided by the builder for the residence applying for the rebate. A copy of the certificate must be attached to the application for rebate.



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Rebate payments are subject to suspension in the event that funds budgeted for the program are consumed.

CEILING INSULATION

Date: _____

Electric Service Account Number: _____ Ph: _____

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

CEILING INSULATION UPGRADE

This rebate is available to members living in conventional single family homes using electric air conditioning and resistance electric heat. Homes with R-8 insulation or less must increase insulation to a minimum of R-38 to qualify for the rebate.

A receipt from the contractor performing the upgrade must document existing insulation R-Value prior to upgrade and the resulting R-Value after the upgrade.

Qualified Rebate: \$275.00, per residence. A copy of the contractors invoice must be attached to the application for rebate.



TRI-COUNTY

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"A Commitment to Service and Savings"

Central Headquarters Office / 600 N W Parkway / Azle, Tx 76020 / Ph:(817)444-3201 or 1-800-367-8232 / Fax # (817)444-3542
Southwest District Office / 1623 Weatherford Hwy. / Granbury, Tx 76048 / Ph:(817)279-7010 / Fax # (817)279-7012
Northeast District Office / 4900 Keller Hicks Rd. / Fort Worth, Tx 76244 / Ph:(817)431-1541 / Fax # (817)431-9680
B-K District Office / 419 N. Main, P O Box Drawer 672 / Seymour, Tx 76380 / Ph: (940)888-3441 / Fax # (940)888-3820

Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Application for Rebate Payment Effective January 1, 2013

Rebate payments are subject to suspension in the event that funds budgeted for the program are consumed.

HEAT PUMP INSTALLATION

Date: _____

Electric Service Account Number: _____ Ph: _____

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

HIGH EFFICIENCY ELECTRIC HEAT PUMP

On January 1, 2006, heat pump manufacturers were required to achieve a minimum performance of 13 SEER for cooling and 7.7 HSPF for heating to market equipment inside the United States. Members are encouraged to purchase equipment with better performance to reduce kW demand and energy consumption. Members requesting a rebate must provide a purchase receipt from a licensed HVAC contractor showing the brand name and model numbers of the equipment installed. The equipment efficiency will be certified by the Air-Conditioning Heating and Refrigeration Institute, (ARI) and a copy of the certification must accompany the sales receipt.

15 SEER Heat Pump, with a HSPF of 8.2 minimum. Qualified Rebate: \$100.00, A copy of the invoice showing brand name, model numbers of equipment and ARI certification must be attached to application for rebate.

16+ SEER Heat Pump, with a HSPF of 9.0 minimum. Qualified Rebate: \$200.00, A copy of the invoice showing brand name, model numbers of equipment and ARI certification must be attached to application for rebate.

ENERGY STAR ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS

Room air conditioners are typically mounted in a window so that part of the unit is outside and part is inside. The unit must be new with a minimum Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) of 10.8 to qualify for the Energy Star label. To claim this rebate simply complete this form and attach a copy of the purchase receipt. Also include a copy of the Energy Star Certificate showing that the unit performs to the minimum EER. Rebate amount \$30.00.

ENERGY STAR DISHWASHER (Electric Water Heating Only)

New dishwashers exceeding the minimum qualifying efficiency standards established under the Energy Star Program with an Energy Factor (EF) Rating greater than or equal to .65. Energy Star dishwashers save energy by using both improved technology for the primary wash cycle, and by using less hot water to clean. These units include more efficient washing action, energy efficient motors and other advanced technology to reduce hot water and electricity consumption. To claim this rebate simply complete this form and attach a copy of the purchase receipt. Also include a copy of the Energy Star Certificate showing that the unit performs to the minimum .65 EF rating. Rebate amount \$15.00.



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Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Application for Rebate Payment Effective January 1, 2013

Rebate payments are subject to suspension in the event that funds budgeted for the program are consumed.

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING UPGRADE

Date: _____

Electric Service Account Number: _____ Ph: _____

Customer Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING FIXTURE UPGRADES

A variety of high efficiency fixtures, ballasts and lamps exist in the market today producing the same output of lumens while consuming fewer watts of electricity. Replacing existing lighting with new high efficiency lighting will result in a reduction in the number of watts of electricity needed to operate the lighting.

Qualified Rebate: \$0.20 per watt saved per fixture. Details on existing fixtures, bulbs and ballasts must be included with application for rebate and information on replacement fixtures, bulbs and ballasts. This information will be used to calculate the watts saved per fixture and the number of fixtures being upgraded for each class. This information must be attached with the application for rebate.

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING (T-8 BULB REPLACEMENT Remove 32 Watt Bulb Upgraded to 28 Watt)

Qualified Rebate: \$1.00 per bulb. Details on the existing fixtures and the number of 32 watt bulbs being removed and replaced with 28 watt bulbs must be included with application for rebate. A paid receipt from the contractor performing the upgrade must also be provided and attached to the application for rebate.

COMMERCIAL LIGHTING (T-8 BULB REPLACEMENT Remove 32 Watt Bulb Upgraded to 25 Watt)

Qualified Rebate: \$1.50 per bulb. Details on the existing fixtures and the number of 32 watt bulbs being removed and replaced with 25 watt bulbs must be included with application for rebate. A paid receipt from the contractor performing the upgrade must also be provided and attached to the application for rebate.



TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.

" A Commitment to Service and Savings "

Happy New Year!

Start the New Year Out With A Resolution To Schedule a FREE Home Energy Audit Learn How to Save Energy!

Our homes always need attention and sometimes we need to sit down and work up a long term plan for maintenance and improvements. Failure to properly maintain your home can lead to very expensive repairs after years of neglect. Tri-County Electric Cooperative has a free home energy audit program that can help members identify problems around the home. In many cases the savings can be substantial and those savings can be reinvested in the home to further reduce energy cost.

6631001



Attic insulation slows heat loss in the winter and stops heat gain in the summer. Insulation and proper attic ventilation are important for comfort and efficiency.

If your home is five years old or older, chances are that the amount of attic insulation is below the Department of Energy's recommendation for North Central Texas which is presently R-38.

Proper amounts of attic insulation coupled with improved attic ventilation can reduce heating and cooling costs by as much as 25%. Adding additional insulation is relatively easy in most homes and offers a quick return on investment. Savings can improve significantly depending on the amount of insulation presently in the attic. The savings for a home with no insulation will be much greater when compared to homes with an R-19 value that is being upgraded to R-38.

Our home energy auditor will look at your attic, doors, windows and electrical and plumbing penetrations and work up a list of

areas that need attention in your home.

241400002

Poor fitting exterior doors are a leading cause for infiltration. Each time we open and close a door we put wear on the weather-stripping. The effectiveness of weather-stripping is compromised when door jambs are painted along with the weather-stripping. Paint makes the weather-stripping stiff and prevents it from sealing tight against the door. Older weather-stripping loses its elasticity and becomes hard and brittle. It will frequently break or tear leaving an exterior door in a poor state of performance.



At the bottom of a door is the threshold which seals the floor to the bottom of the door for an airtight fit. Make a visual inspection for missing or torn weather stripping. Use the dollar bill test at various points along both sides of the door and the top and bottom. Simply place a dollar bill or a piece of paper of similar thickness and size inside the door jamb and close the door. If the weather-stripping is working properly, you should encounter firm resistance when attempting to remove the dollar bill from the closed door.

Check multiple locations on every edge along the door. If the dollar bill falls out or has very little resistance to removal, then the weather-stripping is not working like it should and needs realignment or replacement.

800613750

Control your home's temperature while you're away or asleep by using one of the convenient pre-programmed settings on a programmable thermostat. When used properly, programmable thermostats can save you up to \$180 every year in energy costs. Look for Energy Star qualified products. Whether you are replacing light bulbs or appliances in your home, Energy Star qualified products can help you save energy and reduce energy bills.



A programmable thermostat will lower and raise the temperature in your home or business based on a program that you select. By running a lower temperature when the building is empty, you reduce heating cost. The program is set to warm the building just prior to your return and you enjoy both comfort and savings.

7000027401



Using Your Electric Space Heater Safely

An electric space heater can increase your comfort during cold months, especially in garages, workshops and other areas that may not have central heating. But using space heating requires some attention to safety as well as comfort. Before you purchase an electric space heater make sure it has the following safety features.

- An automatic safety switch that will turn the unit off if it is tipped over.
- An overheat sensor that shuts off the heater if it gets too hot.
- A low surface temperature to protect family and pets from burns.
- A screen or grill to prevent kids from reaching inside with fingers or toys.
- A label or tag noting the heater has been tested and approved by an independent testing lab.

If you already have a space heater check it to make sure it offers the above safety features.

800725607

Check the power cord for worn insulation, look carefully for weather cracks or hard brittle areas along the length of the cord. If you find a problem, don't try to repair it with tape and never attempt to replace the cord yourself.

800635915

Never use an extension cord with an electric space heater.

Keep the heater away from water sources or damp places to avoid potentially deadly electric shock.

Keep the heater at least three feet away from curtains, sofas, magazine racks or any other potentially flammable surface.

Remember that a small 1500 watt space heater is capable of using 1,080 kWh if placed in an area where it will run continuously for 30 days. At a cost of 8 cents per kWh that one heater can use \$86.40 worth of electricity.



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Pay By Phone: 817-444-7617

From The Cooperative Kitchen



This month's recipe was provided by Floriene Fertig from Granbury. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.



Black - eyed Pea Soup

800676232

14093001

... Ingredients ...

1 - Pound of Ground Beef Brownd

1 - Small Onion Chopped & Fried with Beef

1 - 15 oz. Can of Black-eyed Peas

1 - 15 oz. Can of Cajun Tomatoes

1 - 15 oz. Can of Water (Use Tomato Can to Measure)

1 - 5.5 oz. Can of Tomato Juice

... Instructions ...

Brown the ground beef in a skillet, once brown add chopped onions and simmer on low heat. Add salt and pepper to your taste. Once the onions are tender pour off excess fat and transfer the skillet's contents into a large cooking pot. Add the remaining ingredients from the list and simmer for at least one hour.

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TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Simple Green Steps For Energy Savings



A refrigerator freezer thermostat should be used to verify settings.

Home Appliances Check your refrigerator's temperature. Refrigerators account for about 20% of household electricity use. Use a thermometer to set your refrigerator temperature as close to 37 degrees and your freezer as close to 3 degrees as possible. Make sure that it's energy saver switch is turned on. Also, check the gaskets around your refrigerator/freezer doors to make sure they are clean and sealed tightly.

621150001

Set your **clothes washer** to the warm or cold water setting, not hot. Switching from hot to warm for two loads per week can save nearly 500 pounds of CO2 per year if you have an electric water heater, or 150 pounds for a gas heater.

Make sure your **dishwasher** is full when you run it and use the energy saving setting, if available, to allow the dishes to air dry. You can also turn off the drying cycle manually. Not using heat in the drying cycle can save 20 percent of your dishwasher's total electricity use.



Turn down your **water heater** thermostat. Thermostats are often set to 140 degrees F when 120 is usually fine. Each 10 degree reduction saves 600 pounds of CO2 per year for an electric water heater, or 440 pounds for a gas heater. If every household turned its water heater thermostat down 20 degrees, we could prevent more than 45 million tons of annual CO2 emissions.

Select the most energy-efficient models when you replace your old **appliances**. Look for the Energy Star Label - your assurance that the product saves energy and prevents pollution. Buy the product that is sized to your typical needs - not the biggest one available. Front loading washing machines will usually cut hot water use by 60 to 70% compared to typical machines. Replacing a typical 1973 refrigerator with a new energy-efficient model, saves 1.4 tons of CO2 per year.

800724674

Home Heating and Cooling Be careful not to overheat or overcool rooms. In the winter, set your **thermostat** at 68 degrees in daytime, and 55 degrees at night. In the summer, keep it at 78. Lowering your thermostat just two degrees during winter saves 6 percent of heating-related CO2 emissions. That's a reduction of 420 pounds of CO2 per year for a typical home.

Clean or replace **air filters** as recommended. Energy is lost when air conditioners and hot-air furnaces have to work harder to draw air through dirty filters. Cleaning a dirty air conditioner filter can save 5 percent of the energy used. That could save 175 pounds of CO2 per year.

850320001

Small investments that pay off Buy energy-efficient **compact fluorescent bulbs** for your most-used lights. Although they cost more initially, they save money in the long run by using only 1/4 the energy of an ordinary incandescent bulb and lasting 8-12 times longer. They provide an equivalent amount of bright, attractive light. Only 10% of the energy consumed by a normal light bulb generates light. The rest just makes the bulb hot. If every American household replaced one of its standard light bulbs with an energy efficient compact fluorescent bulb, we would save the same amount of energy as a large nuclear power plant produces in one year. In a typical home, one compact fluorescent bulb can save 260 pounds of CO2 per year. Tri-County Electric Cooperative will pay a rebate of \$1.25 per bulb purchased.



Wrap your **water heater** in an insulating jacket, which costs just \$10 to \$20. It can save 1100 lbs. of CO2 per year for an electric water heater. Tri-County Electric Cooperative will pay a rebate of \$15.00 for a water heating blanket installed on a electric water heater.

7000048701

Use less hot water by installing **low-flow shower heads**. They cost just \$10 to \$20 each, deliver an invigorating shower, and save 300 pounds of CO2 per year for electrically heated water. A low flow shower head using less than 2 gallons per minute will qualify for a \$10.00 rebate from Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

Weatherize your home, using caulk and weather stripping to plug air leaks around doors and windows. Caulking costs less than \$1 per window, and weather stripping is under \$10 per door. These steps can save up to 1100 pounds of CO2 per year for a typical home. Schedule a free home energy audit through

Tri-County Electric to find out where your home is poorly insulated or energy inefficient.

7201800001

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Reduce the amount of waste you produce by buying minimally packaged goods, choosing reusable products over disposable ones, and recycling. For every pound of waste you eliminate or recycle, you save energy and reduce emissions of CO2 by at least 1 pound. Cutting down your garbage by half of one large trash bag per week saves at least 1100 pounds of CO2 per year. Making products with recycled materials, instead of from scratch with raw materials, uses 30 to 55% less for paper products, 33% less for glass, and a whopping 90% less for aluminum.

Home Improvements When you plan major home improvements, consider some of these energy saving investments. They save money in the long run, and their CO2 savings can often be measured in tons per year.

Insulate your walls and ceilings. This can save 20 to 30 percent of home heating bills and reduce CO2 emissions by 140 to 2100 pounds per year. With the proper amount of insulation you can save 5.5 tons of CO2 per year for gas-heated homes, 8.8 tons per year for oil heat, or 23 tons per year for electric heat. If you have electric heat, you might also consider switching to more efficient heat pump.

Modernize your **windows.**

Replacing all your ordinary windows with argon filled, double-glazed windows saves 2.4 tons of CO2 per year for homes with gas heat, 3.9 tons of oil heat, and 9.8 tons for electric heat.



Plant **shade trees** around the exterior your home to protect the home from the harsh summer sun. Reductions in energy use resulting from shade trees can save up to 2.4 tons of CO2 emissions per year. (Each tree also directly absorbs about 25 pounds of CO2 from the air annually.)

800635915

For more information on Energy Efficient Rebates available through your cooperative go to www.tcectexas.com and select "MEMBER SERVICES" and then "EFFICIENCY REBATES".



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From The Cooperative Kitchen



14093001

This month's recipe was provided by Joyce Pence from Granbury. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.



Hot Chicken Salad

*** Ingredients ***

- 5 - Cups of Cubed Cooked Chicken
- 1 - Can Water Chestnuts
- 1 - Small Onion
- 1 - Cup Celery
- 1 - Boiled Egg
- 1 - Cup of Mayonnaise
- 1 - Cup of Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 1/2 - Tablespoons of Lemon Juice
- 1 1/2 - Cup of Cheddar Cheese
- Potato Chips
- Salt and Pepper to Taste

*** Directions ***

Thoroughly mix above ingredients and pour into a 9 X 13 inch pan. Sprinkle top with crushed potato chips, and bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes or until hot.

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800644456



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TEXAS Weather Often Difficult to Predict



With the approaching Spring, the North Texas area will see an increase in thunderstorm activity. The recent storms should remind everyone of the possible danger associated with such atmospheric phenomenon. Even with today's sophisticated technology and early warning systems, thunderstorms frequently leave a trail of death and destruction. All the advanced warning systems in the world will not do any good if the information goes unheeded.

Spring storms develop when hot and cold air masses collide with each other. Storms building on these conditions can strike in the late evening hours when most families are sleeping. This makes it difficult for the National Weather Service to notify people through television and radio broadcasts. When you hear thunder late at night, it's a good idea to check with the weather service to verify the intensity of the storm and confirm that no warnings have been issued. Local radio stations like WBAP 820 do an excellent job of keeping the public informed on deteriorating weather patterns. Another modern way to verify weather conditions is through the Internet. The National Weather Service's address is:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/forecast>

800629772

Simply type in your postal zip code and the latest weather alerts, satellite images and weather radar will display on you computer monitor.

800586811

Take advantage of today's early warning systems because it can save lives. Make sure your family has a severe weather plan, and be prepared with flashlights, candles and a portable radio. Bathrooms and closets are one of the stronger rooms in the house because of the minimum ceiling area. Bathtubs offer protection from flying objects and a mattress or heavy blanket over the tub improves protection. It is far better to be over cautious during severe weather than unprepared.

23642001

Daylight Savings Time Change the Clocks on March 10 and Change Those Batteries Too!



You remembered to change your clocks to daylight savings time but did you remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors? It's a good habit to get into when making that seasonal time change. You already have the step ladder out to reach that clock in the kitchen, so take a few extra minutes to replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide sensors. Once the new batteries are in, check the units out by pressing the test button. Make sure all family members recognize the sound of the alarm and discuss emergency exit plans with family members. Remember to include a meeting place outside the home so you know everyone is safe.



Are You Considering an Alternative Way to Receive Your Electric Bill?

A growing number of Cooperative members are requesting paperless billing. Reports of items missing from the mail box are becoming more common and the cost for the service is on the rise. If you have an e-mail address and monitor it daily, paperless billing is a great way to eliminate the cost for paper, envelopes and postage.

Simply e-mail us at www.customer_services@tcectexas.com and request paperless billing. We will update your electric account with the e-mail address and code the account to send you an e-mail each time a bill is processed. The e-mail will give you the amount of the bill and due date. It also contains a link to our web site www.TCECTexas.com where you can view a PDF copy of the bill and submit electronic payment using e-check, Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

This is an environmentally great way to receive billing information and it moves at the speed of light from our office to your telephone, tablet, or personal computer.

Come Join Us at the 8th Annual
**COUNTRY SPIRIT
 JAMBOREE**

Dinner • Drinks • Dancing • Auction • & More

Entertainment By:

The Cross Country Band



BT Rhodes

Larry Harkins

With The **CROSS COUNTRY BAND**

April 6th

From 6:00 PM to ???

Reunion Grounds
 Granbury TX



Cancer Care Services
the caring place

Benefiting Cancer Patients In Hood County!

Tickets available at Lake Granbury Area Chamber of Commerce or by calling: 817-408-5623 or 817-573-3775

800702704

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From The
**Cooperative
 Kitchen**



800692837



This month's recipe was provided by Lesta Smith from Poolville. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.

**Honey Baked
 Chicken
 Breasts**

... Ingredients ...

4 - 5 ounce Chicken Breasts
 (Boneless & Skinless)

1/2 - Cup of Honey

1/2 - Cup Dijon Mustard

1 - Cup Seasoned Bread Crumbs

... Instructions ...

Combine honey and mustard in a small mixing bowl. Rinse chicken breasts in cold water and towel dry. Dip chicken in honey mustard mixture and roll in crushed seasoned bread crumbs.

6194001

Place chicken on foil covered baking pan. Preheat oven to 400 degrees and bake chicken in oven for 30 minutes.

800606037

Remove chicken from oven and spoon remaining honey mustard sauce on top of chicken. Return chicken to oven and bake for an additional 10 to 15 minutes.



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Right of Way Clearance for Safety and Reliability



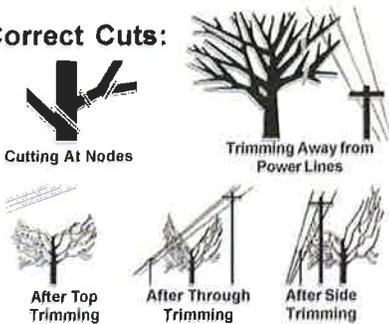
Horton Tree Service and Whitmire Line Clearance are two contract crews that work for TCEC to maintain proper clearance between trees and power lines.

Everyone loves trees. Trees provide beauty and shade, serve as wind, noise and visual barriers, help reduce energy usage, reduce airborne pollutants, and increase property values. Trees that touch or fall on power lines can cause wildfires, power outages, property damage, or personal injury.

TCEC recognizes that trees add beauty and comfort to your home, and we want to help you preserve the beauty and aesthetics of your trees whenever possible. However, there are times when it is necessary for TCEC to visit your area to trim trees that have grown too close to overhead electric lines. The tree can pose a potential hazard to anyone working on it or climbing in it if the tree happens to come into contact with a high-voltage power line. In addition, downed trees and limbs are a leading cause of power outages and wild fires.

Trees are trimmed along primary distribution lines on a four or five year cycle. TCEC is required through various means to maintain the easements in which it serves. TCEC tree trimming crews follow approved standards

Correct Cuts:



designed to preserve the health of the trees. The National Electric Safety Code (NESCC) defines the amount of clearance needed based on the voltage of the line.

Occasionally, it may

be necessary to remove trees or brush. During routine inspections, TCEC employees identify trees that pose a threat to property or human life. For several years now our service area has been experiencing severe drought conditions placing trees under stress. A tree outside the TCEC right of way that is dead or dying could pose a threat to distribution lines, so they must be safely removed. Hazardous conditions also arise when children climb trees growing too close to power lines. If you are considering removing a tree in bad health but fearful that it may contact a power line, please call TCEC at 1-800-367-8232. Our crews can be scheduled to come out and top the tree so it will not make contact with the power line.

800625010

Selecting a tree for planting is not a decision to be taken lightly, and is especially important around utilities. A tree requires space to grow both above and below ground. The mature height and spread of the tree should remain 10 feet from power lines.



Selecting the proper tree species and the appropriate planting site will provide trouble free beauty and pleasure for years to come. A helpful tool for selecting the correct species tree and location is available on line through the Texas A & M Forest Service.

715600004

texastreeplanting.tamu.edu

Your cooperative spends millions of dollars every year trimming trees away from power lines in the communities we serve, so you can continue to receive safe, reliable electric service that you and your neighbors deserve.

800698967

2431387001

10th Annual Spring Gift & Craft Show May 18th



9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Central High School • 9450 Ray White Rd. • Keller • TX
Sponsored by the Lightning Dancers Service Organization

Free Fun for the whole family!!

- Amazing Vendors
- Unique Gifts
- Silent Auction Baskets
- \$1 Whataburger-for-a-Year Raffle
 - Door prizes all day
 - Kiddie Korner crafts
 - Great Food
- Live Entertainment

Please join us as we support our community throughout the craft show!



FIGHTING HUNGER IN 13 COUNTIES

We will be collecting single serving items* for "Backpacks for Kids"

* fruit cups • cereal & granola bars • tuna packs • peanut butter crackers • raisins • Ramen Noodles • dried fruit • Vienna Sausages

Visit: www.lightningdancers.com for complete details

Mark the date on your calender now and lend a hand for those who truly need it.

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It pays to stay informed!

3628600002

From The Cooperative Kitchen



This month's recipe was provided by Gloria Auvenshine from Azle. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.

7272001



Bacon Wrapped Green Beans

... Instructions ...

Slice bacon in half, roll 3 or 4 green beans in a slice of bacon. Use a tooth pick to secure bacon to green beans. Place bacon and beans in a shallow roasting pan. Continue rolling green beans in bacon until you have a sufficient number for your dinner group.

Sprinkle with salt and pepper and brown sugar or if you choose to spice things up try some cajun seasoning instead of the salt and pepper.

Set your oven to broil and place the pan in the oven. When bacon starts cooking you need to remove the pan and roll each of the bacon wrapped beans over. Add additional seasoning and return the pan to oven. When bacon is done remove pan from oven and serve.

This dish is great with a little ranch dressing to dip it in.

8000887901

700007912



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Our area lakes in North Central Texas are already under filled and summer won't officially start until June 21. These are some of the major lake levels as of May 15, 2013 within the TCEC service area.

Lake Name	Conservation Pool Level	Current Elevation	Feet Down
Bridgeport	836.0	819.21	16.79
Eagle Mountain	649.0	643.99	05.01
Lake Worth	594.0	591.20	02.80
Lewisville	522.0	516.85	05.15
Grapevine	535.0	529.06	08.74
Possum Kingdom	1000.0	989.20	19.54
Granbury	693.0	686.22	06.78

Starting summer with area lake levels considerably less than full will require an effort on everyone's part to conserve water resources. It's time to take a close look at your home, business, farm and ranch to make sure water is not being wasted. The following tips on water conservation will get things moving in the right direction.

3194900001

Only run the dishwasher and washing machine with a full load. Consider upgrading older appliances with equipment that better conserves water and electricity.

Make sure you follow watering restrictions imposed by your water supplier. Only apply water on the days you are authorized and follow the time line as outlined in the restriction.

7000039401

Fix leaky faucets on the exterior of your home and make sure your lawn irrigation system is not allowing water to leak past the control valves out to sprinkler heads.

Turn water off when you brush your teeth. This simple step can save as much as 8 gallons of water per day per person.

Inspect toilets for leaks caused by an old flapper valve. If you periodically hear water running in the toilet this indicates that the flapper valve needs to be replaced. They frequently become hard and fail to seal to the bottom of the tank. When sufficient water leaks past the flapper valve fresh water from the fill valve opens to replace it. If you hear a constant hiss and notice water flowing into the overflow tube, then a new filler valve is needed.

43094003

Inspect showers, tubs and sinks for dripping faucets. A dripping faucet can waste seven or more gallons of water per day. If the leak is on the hot water side the cost of reheating fresh water is another incentive for getting things fixed. Take a picture of the faucet and note the manufactures name. Take the information to a local home center and they can assist with recommending how to fix the problem and supply the necessary parts. If you're not comfortable doing it yourself, contact a licensed plumber. Getting the job done right is always cheaper than coming home to a flooded house.

800695330

Install low flow faucet aerators on all the faucets in your bathrooms and kitchen. The flow rate for the bathroom must not exceed 1.5 gallons per minute and the kitchen can not exceed 2.2 gallons per minute. Tri-County Electric will reimburse you with a rebate of \$5.00 per aerator installed. Simply print out a rebate claim form available on our web-site www.TCECTEXAS.com. Complete the form and attach a copy of your purchase receipt to the claim form. Return the information to one of the offices listed at the top of the form and a check will be mailed to you.

Take a look at your toilet and see how many gallons of water per flush are being used. Toilets account for about 25% of a families monthly water consumption. Older toilets commonly use 3.0 GPF and newer models have ratings of 1.5 GPF. Some manufacturers even offer units with two flush selection buttons, soft flush and hard flush. Upgrading the bathroom porcelain can reduce water consumption for your family for many years to come.

7000029702

Stay Clear And Report Downed Power Lines



Storms or accidents can strike and inflict damage to our power distribution system, leaving our members in the dark. If you witness this damage in your neighborhood, remember to contact your Electric Cooperative. The information that you provide our customer service staff can reduce downtime by improving our response to the scene of the problem.

On May 15, 2013 a severe thunderstorm rolled through the Granbury and Millsap communities. Several tornadoes destroyed homes, uprooted trees, damaged vehicles and regrettably several people lost their life. Evening storms can be the worst because families have gone to bed and never hear the radio and TV warnings to seek shelter. We become complacent because weather forecasts keep talking about rain and severe weather and all too frequently it fails to happen.

8004176501



A small battery powered weather alert radio should be in every home. You set the receiver to the radio frequency for your area. On evenings when the forecast includes possible thunderstorms, you can set the radio to "ALERT" and place it by your night stand. If the National Weather Service issues a warning for your zone, the radio will emit a siren like noise to wake you. You can select to listen to the weather information on your alert radio or go to your television and view radar images of the storm system as it approaches.

If the information being provided indicates your home is at risk, get everyone together in a small room. Use a mattress, heavy blankets or pillows for protection from flying debris.

Remember that only an experienced, professional utility crew should come into contact with a downed power line. Make sure that everyone stays clear until help arrives.

It Pays To Stay Informed!

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It pays to stay informed!

28325001

From The Cooperative Kitchen



800730451

This month's recipe was provided by Mary Eastman from Aledo. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.



Easy Pineapple Pie

... Ingredients ...

- 1 - 20 oz. or 15 oz. Can Crushed Pineapple
- 1 - 3.5 oz. Package Instant Lemon Pudding
- 1 - Cup of Milk
- 1 - Cup of Cool Whip, Thawed
- 2 - Tablespoons of Lemon Juice
- 1 - 9 Inch Graham Cracker Pie Crust

... Directions ...

Open and drain pineapple. Combine lemon pudding mix and milk in a medium bowl. Beat with mixer for three minutes or until it is very thick.

Fold in Cool Whip, pineapple and lemon juice. Once thoroughly mixed, pour bowl into graham cracker pie shell. Cover pie or place in an air tight plastic pie saver. Place pie in refrigerator for a minimum of four hours, best if left chilling over night.

This is a refreshing desert for a summer evening and you won't have to heat up the kitchen with a hot oven!



A Father's Day Drum & Bugle Corps Event
June 16, 2013 7PM - 9PM
Southlake Town Square - Rustin Park Pavillon

Crossmen
World Class Drum Corps



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Information Systems & Power Flow Management

Power outages occur for a number of reasons which include weather, accidents, and equipment failure. Weather is by far the leading cause for electric service interruptions in the state of Texas. We experience hurricanes, thunderstorms, ice storms, snow, extreme cold and of course the heat of summer. Restoring service is a complex production of equipment, material and manpower to repair damaged distribution lines.

7000017501

Information flows into our command center through a number of paths that includes telephone calls. Phone calls are answered by our member service staff and an **Interactive Voice Response system (IVR)**. The IVR is integrated with our Geographic Information System (GIS). Each incoming call is loaded into the Responder system and this information is used to model the outage event and predict the locations of open devices. Information from Responder is provided to field personnel who verify the location and cause for the outage. A damage assessment is made detailing material and equipment needed to make repairs. The material is pulled from the warehouse inventory and loaded on trucks and trailers and

dispatched to the field. The linemen will work to clear or isolate the fault in an effort to restore service to as many members as possible. Many homes and business may also have damage and need repair prior to reconnecting service. Those locations are isolated from the distribution system. The power will be restored when the member notifies the Cooperative that the repairs are complete.



Key personnel have access to the information being generated within the command center. They can also monitor storm conditions and the path of the storm.

Crew and equipment assignments are assessed and assigned to speed the recovery and return power to as many members as possible.

7000002002

Future modifications to the responder system will allow members to access our web-site TCECTEXAS.com and view maps of our distribution system and power outages that have been identified by the Responder system. They will also be able to view dispatcher comments and estimates on time required for restoration.

Emergency service crews are frequently faced with challenges after severe weather. Downed trees that block access to the utility right of way must be cleared away so equipment can be positioned to replace distribution lines. Finding ways around low water crossings and navigating roadways which no longer have the benefit of operating traffic signals and intersection lighting can be tedious and even dangerous. The safe restoration of electric service is a top priority for everyone at Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

A severe thunderstorm can sweep in and make a beautiful neighborhood look like a war zone in a matter of minutes. Our crews arrive as quickly as possible and make sure that the electric system is isolated and safe for emergency crews to do their job of search and rescue. Our members are more than just customers, we raise families together, support our schools and community. The cooperative got its start in 1939 with a group of people wanting to bring electric service to their homes and farms. It hasn't changed that much, we still work together for a common cause.



TCEC built a command center in our main office to more efficiently coordinate our response to storms and other power outages. During larger storms, personnel are called to the Command Center. It is equipped with Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, (SCADA) and our Responder outage management system. Detailed maps of our distribution system display a picture of the outage events and crew assignments.



Energy Saving Tips for Pools & Spas!

If you have a swimming pool or spa you may have already learned that they are expensive to operate. The largest expense for most pool or spa owners is for heating the water to a comfortable temperature, but the cost of operating circulating and filtration pumps can be considerable, too.

Pool and spa pumps use electrical energy to move water. An electric motor turns a pump, and the pump pushes water through pipes, filters, and valves. Some of that energy can be wasted if the motor is oversized, if the piping is too small, or if dirty filters restrict the flow of water.

Most filtration motors run only part of the time, and are controlled by a timer that turns the motor on and off only as needed to keep the water clean. You can save a substantial amount of electricity by reducing the time that your circulating motors operate. Try reducing this time little by little and observe the water quality of your pool or spa for a few days. You may discover that you don't need to run the filter motors all the time. Avoid running the pumps during the peak demand periods from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM during the summer. The less time the motor runs, the more you'll save.

2366100002

Keep an eye on the water pressure level in your filter system. Excess pressure will cause the pump motor to work harder and is usually caused by a dirty filter. Backwash or replace the filter cartridge to reduce the pressure on the system and allow more water to flow thus reducing run times on the pump motor.

Chemicals are more efficiently displaced in the water by using foliation dispensers. If tablets are placed in the skimmer baskets the water is only treated when the pumps are running. Foliation dispensers release chemicals continuously and will allow you to reduce run time on the pump while maintaining water clarity.

Enjoy your swimming pool this summer and remember to operate your pool in a safe and efficient manner.

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45554002

From The Cooperative Kitchen



800731201

This month's recipe was provided by Loyce Rowe from Weatherford. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.



Squash Souffle

*** Ingredients ***

800730830

- 3 - Lbs Yellow Squash
- 1/4 - Cup Onions Finely Chopped
- 2 - Eggs Beaten Well
- 1/2 - Cup Cracker Crumbs
- 1/4 - Lb Grated Cheese
- 1 - Teaspoon Sugar
- 1/4 - Teaspoon Salt

*** Directions ***

800709209

Boil squash until soft then drain and mash. Add eggs, cracker crumbs, 1/2 the cheese, sugar and salt. Mix well in either a casserole or souffle dish. Bake for 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

Add remaining cheese on top and bake for another 10 minutes. This batch will serve six people and help reduce the squash population from the family garden.

1700001



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Keeping Pace With The Demand For Electricity

Anticipating the demand for electricity across sixteen counties in North Central Texas is one of the most challenging tasks for Tri-County Electric Cooperative. Our service area which was once predominately residential is evolving to include a strong mix of retail centers, commercial enterprise including schools for our children, medical facilities, investment centers and an ever growing mix of members needing reliable electric service.

Every electric system upgrade is an investment in the future. The need to anticipate growth has never been greater. Fortunately technology has played a major role in providing information to track system demand for today and the future. Distribution substations are continually monitored and the data is stored so engineering models can be run and project future need for system upgrades and improvements. Firm two year work plans are drawn up and budgeted to add capacity to the distribution system. New sections of line are constructed and interconnection points provide for emergency back feeds to restore service as quickly as possible. Automated transfer switches allow remote transfer of load through a secured network.



Line crews are working to install a automated transfer switch that will enable remote open and close commands from the office and service trucks.

7000065401

800676273

Service crews are dispatched to locate the damaged section of line. Once the problem is found a damage assessment is made to determine what material, equipment and manpower is required to repair or isolate the damaged section of line. Detailed digital circuit maps automatically display the area where outages are being reported. This information is reviewed in our command center and on computers operated from the service trucks. As service crews work to isolate or repair the damage, back feed assessments are being reviewed in an effort to restore service to as many members as possible. By opening a switch located near the damage and closing another feeding from a different direction, electric service is back on for everyone except those directly affected by the damage and isolated section of line.

8004877501

New distribution substations are being built to make sure our members have the power they depend on. Distribution substations take electricity delivered by transmission lines from power plants and reduce the voltage to a distribution voltage 7,200 to 14,000 volts.



This is a view of the new Zion Hill Substation. Built at a cost of \$2,266,558.00 and located about midway between Weatherford and Azle.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative builds and operates the distribution system which takes the power from the substations to your home and business. As of June 30, 2013 TCEC operates and maintains 6,008 miles of overhead distribution line and 2,393 miles of underground distribution line. The TCEC service area covers sixteen counties within North Central Texas and that adds up some exceptional exposure to the whims of mother nature. Keeping your electricity safe and reliable is the most important task for everyone at Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

8003907201

Your Thermostat Is The Best Tool For Cost Reduction



The thermostat on the wall of your home or business is one of the quickest ways to lower electric air-conditioning costs. For every degree of increase in temperature your operating cost can be reduced by as much as 3 percent. Make sure your thermostat is level and tightly mounted to the wall. A mechanical thermostat that is out of plumb will cause inaccurate operation of equipment.

Remember to service the air filter on a regular basis. If the area in which you live is dusty, it may need attention more frequently. Take note of the condition of the filter each time you remove it for maintenance. If you are on a monthly schedule and note that the filter is extremely dirty, you need to shorten the number of days between maintenance. Remember that during the hot summer months your unit is required to run longer to maintain the temperature. Longer run times means that the filter is seeing more cubic feet of air per day. Another condition affecting maintenance schedules is air quality. Hot dry conditions will result in more dusty conditions around the home.

519190001

Make sure the outdoor condensing coil is clean and free of grass and other debris. This will improve efficiency and also prevent costly equipment failures.



Dirty coils increase operating cost and can cause serious equipment failure. Keep them clean and save!

Inspect doors and windows to make sure they are closing properly. A missing or torn weather seal can cause increased air infiltration resulting in higher operating cost. Keep windows latched as the locking mechanism frequently results in a tighter seal. Use the dollar bill inspection around doors.

Close the dollar bill in each side and several locations around the door. If the seal is working properly you should meet firm resistance when you close the door and attempt to pull the dollar free. No resistance indicates a defective door gasket.

43693001

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800627405

From The Cooperative Kitchen



800736355



This month's recipe was provided by Carol Ehlers from Springtown. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.

Green Tomato Bread

... INGREDIENTS ...

- 1/2 - Cup of Pecans
- 2 - Eggs
- 1 - Cup Sugar
- 1/2 - Cup of Oil
- 2 - Cups of Flour
- 3/4 - Teaspoons of Baking Soda
- 1/2 - Teaspoon of Cinnamon
- 3/4 - Teaspoons of Salt
- 1/2 - Teaspoon of Baking Powder
- 1 - Cup Grated Green Tomatoes
- 1/2 - Cup of Raisins (Soaked in water and drained.)
- 1/2 - Teaspoon of Vanilla

... INSTRUCTIONS ...

Chop pecans and set aside. Beat eggs, and gradually mix in sugar and then the oil. Combine dry ingredients and add to the eggs, sugar and oil mixture. Add in the grated green tomatoes, raisins, nuts and vanilla stir until thoroughly combined.

Pour into a lightly greased and floured loaf pan (9X5 X3). Bake in oven set to 350 degrees on lower rack for approximately 55 to 60 minutes or if necessary a little longer.

Let stand on a wire rack for about 10 minutes before removing from pan. This moist bread keeps well and freezes well. This recipe is for one loaf of bread and is another great way to make use of summer tomatoes.



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Are Electrical Hazards Lurking in Your Kitchen?

From coffee makers to toasters, blenders to waffle irons, microwaves to ovens — today's modern kitchen sports more electric appliances than ever before. These appliances, like other electrical devices in your home, need to be operated safely and conscientiously in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines. As an increasing number of electrical appliances in our homes become necessities, our home's power circuits will grow more overloaded. This puts you and your family at risk. To ensure you don't have a potential safety hazard brewing in your kitchen, the Leviton Institute urges you to follow these important safety tips:

1. Unplug kitchen appliances, like toasters and coffee makers, when you're not using them and never allow appliances like a stove or microwave to remain running when you leave home.
 2. Never use a fork, knife or other metal object that conducts electricity to clean debris from "live" kitchen appliances such as toasters and toaster ovens. For routine cleaning, make sure these appliances are switched off and disconnected before you clean their internal parts.
 3. Avoid using electricity near water and other liquids. Clean up all spillages in or around an electrical appliance after making sure the power supply has been disconnected. Never submerge an appliance or its electric cord or plug in water or any other liquid.
 4. Install a sufficient number of GFCI's in your kitchen. GFCI's are designed to prevent shock hazards by interrupting power if electrical current leaks from a damaged cord or appliance.
 5. Always check your kitchen appliances for damaged cords or plugs before you use them. Contact with a faulty or frayed power cord or a broken appliance can cause electric shock. If an appliance malfunctions or appears to be damaged in any way, make sure the appliance is disconnected from the power outlet and have it repaired or replaced immediately.
 6. Never let power cords or plugs dangle over the edge of counters or come in contact with hot surfaces. Dangling cords are a danger to small children and pets who might pull on them. Kitchen appliances should never be placed near a hot gas or electric burner.
- Keep your kitchen safe for family and friends and start baking a memory that everyone will enjoy.

Will Your Home Be Ready for Colder Weather?

Attic insulation is one of the best ways to reduce heating and cooling costs and dollar for dollar nothing is more effective. According to the Department of Energy, homes in North Central Texas should have attic insulation with an R-Value of at least 39. The most common blown materials are fiberglass, mineral wool and cellulose. If you are not sure what the R-value is of your existing blown insulation, the following information will allow you to make a close estimate.



Blowers make the job easier and are available at most home centers selling blown insulation. You will need help loading the hopper with material or you will have to make several trips up and down the ladder.

Fiberglass Insulation will provide an R-value of 2.1 per inch of material. Material is commonly pink, white or yellow.

800706628

Mineral Wool insulation will provide an R-value of 2.9 per inch of material. This material is normally charcoal gray in color.

37094004

Cellulose insulation will provide an R-value of 3.7 per inch of material. Cellulose is a light gray in color.

These values are approximate and will vary depending on the manufacturer. Use a tape measure to check the amount of attic insulation you presently have and multiply the number of inches times the value shown for the material in your attic.

If your attic comes up short on R-value, you need to decide if you want to hire a professional or attempt the improvement yourself. Either way, once it is properly done the savings will start adding up through reduced energy consumption. And with cooler weather, the attic is not such an unbearable place to work. Take advantage of the opportunity to check it out and upgrade if necessary.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

**Play It Safe
On Halloween
Night By
Following A
Few Simple
Rules That
Will Make
Halloween
Fun For
Everyone!**



- I. Wear costumes that are flame retardant.
- II. Make sure visibility is unrestricted by masks.
- III. Use high visibility colors or reflective tape.
- IV. Make sure that all trick-or-treaters have a good LED flashlight to carry with them.
- V. Watch out for animals, a dog fenced in a backyard can be dangerous, never climb fences or enter backyards without permission.
- VI. Remind kids that candy should not be eaten until each piece is inspected at home.

From The Cooperative Kitchen



800963627

This month's recipe was provided by Joan Goodkin from Azle. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.



Rolled Tortillas With Sour Cream and Cottage Cheese

... INGREDIENTS ...

3 - Cups of Sour Cream

2 - Cups of Cottage Cheese

1/2 - Teaspoon of Salt

1/2 - Teaspoon Ground Black Pepper

1/2 - Cup Margarine

18 - Corn Tortillas

1 - Pound Monterey Jack Cheese, cut into 18 Strips

1 1/2 - Cups of Chopped Fresh Green Chillies or
four 4 ounce Cans

1 - Cup Grated Longhorn Cheese

... INSTRUCTIONS ...

Mix the sour cream, cottage cheese, salt and pepper together. Melt the butter in a frying pan and heat tortillas for 30 seconds on each side. (Just until soft) Divide strips of Monterey Jack and green chili on the tortillas and roll them up. Place the rolled tortillas in a lightly buttered, shallow baking dish. Spoon sour cream mixture over top of tortillas. Sprinkle with grated Longhorn cheese and bake in a preheated oven set at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, or until very hot.

Note: The tortillas can be heated in a microwave oven if you have a tortilla warmer. Eliminate the butter, just place tortillas in the warmer and microwave for 1 to 2 minutes, turning tortillas once.

Also great when topped with chopped black olives. Serves 6

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It pays to stay informed!

800647302



Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors save lives but require periodic maintenance and testing. Do your part to keep the family safe and replace batteries and test units.

It's Time to Fall Back On November 3, 2013 and set the clocks back one hour. When you have the ladder out to change the clocks, don't forget to change the battery in your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors!

800718816

Family Safety should always be a Top Priority.

8001996601



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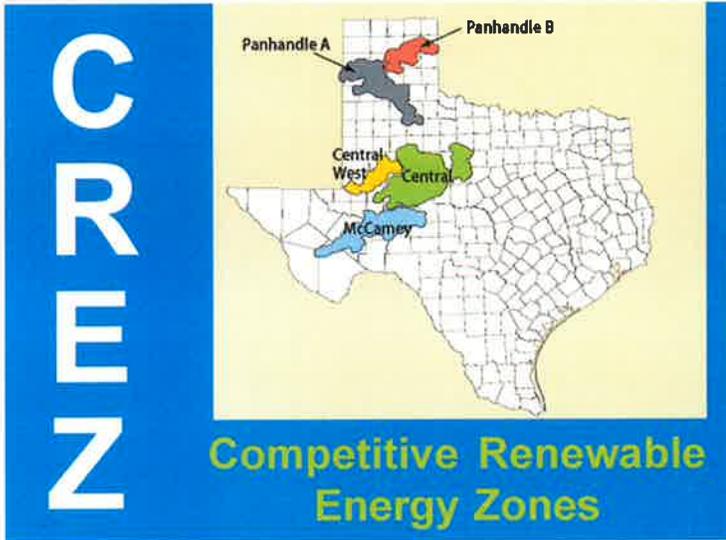
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The oil price shocks of the 1970s and 1980s spurred a national movement to develop other kinds of energy and decrease our dependence on petroleum. During this period Texas oil and gas production peaked and the industry began to play a diminished yet still important role in the states' economy. As energy prices declined, the public lost interest in renewable energy sources. A new force to help spur interest in renewal energy is now more environmental as concerns over global warming are continuously in the forefront of media attention.

800689670

State governments have been important supporters of renewable energy development. State policies used to promote renewable energy sources include renewable portfolio standards, renewable energy credits (RECs), interconnection, net metering rules and financial incentives, including exemption from state taxes.

800596533

The Texas Legislature has also recognized the need for new transmission lines in areas of the state with renewable resources. The Legislature authorized the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to designate Competitive Renewable Energy Zones. Thus far the zones are focused on wind energy, however all renewable energy sources are eligible to participate. The five CREZ areas shown in the map above were chosen because they have sufficient wind to make electric wind generation viable. However, construction of wind generation is not possible without a means to transmit the electricity to the metropolitan areas where it is needed. The PUC and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) were charged with the responsibility to develop routes for

the construction of high voltage transmission lines to move the wind generation from west Texas and the northern Texas Panhandle to the markets like Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Houston and San Antonio. A study indicated that the cost of construction for these facilities would be in the range of \$1.5 million dollars per mile and construction cost would be equally shared by ERCOT customers.



Construction of CREZ transmission lines was estimated at \$1.5 million dollars per mile. Construction cost to be recovered through ERCOT which schedules generation and transmission assets within North Central Texas.

After nearly a decade in the making the CREZ \$6.9 billion dollar transmission based project is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The project includes 186 projects comprising the construction of 345 kV transmission lines and network upgrades spanning across nearly 3,600 miles of the state. Once complete the transmission projects will have the capability to transmit approximately 18.5 GW of wind power to the major metropolitan areas of Texas.

800733246



As coal fired generation is being taken out of service, natural gas fired generation is in favor because of reduced emissions, quick start response and an abundant fuel supply.

Without question, wind energy is environmentally exceptional, however the wind is not always available. Predicting weather in Texas is possibly one of the most difficult tasks and the use of wind energy will always take priority over other sources.

Simply put, generating companies must have conventional facilities in place to backup wind energy when it is unavailable. The cost of these facilities will be recovered through rates which will reflect higher cost associated with reduced production. Power plants have fixed costs that must be recovered and ultimately the electric rate payers and the tax payers of Texas will be responsible. Maintaining electric reliability must always be a top priority for Texas.

HOLIDAY LIGHTING SAFETY TIPS!



Christmas Lighting is fun for the entire family but we need to exercise care when decking the halls. Inspect the light string for cracks and damage to the insulation. If you have any broken or burnt out bulbs they need to be replaced. Use extreme care when mounting the strings to prevent damaging the insulation when driving insulated staples around wire. Read the manufacturer's recommendations on use of lights. When using lights outdoors, make sure the light string carries an outdoor rating. If you are one of those people who never took the lights down from last year, then a close inspection is going to be necessary. Wind and sunlight can cause the insulation to break down leaving exposed wire. Check wire closely around staples to make sure that it has not chafed or worn through. Never exceed the manufacturer's recommendation on number of interconnected strands of lights. This will cause the fuse in the strand to blow. Never replace a blown fuse with anything except the proper size fuse for the strand. Wiring around the fuse link will cause overheating and could possibly result in a fire.

Holiday Candles add a glow to the festivities but special care needs to be taken to avoid possible tragedy. Never leave burning candles unattended and use extreme caution when selecting or building Christmas decorations. Never construct ornamental decorations that could ignite if the candle is allowed to burn down to the base. Little Christmas elves that hug dinner candles are attractive, but should never be left on the candle once lit. Candles burn down and will ignite combustible decorations if left unattended. Don't set yourself up for tragedy, avoid the use of candles around combustible materials. Also remember that the warm glow of a candle can attract inquisitive children, so stay alert and keep the holiday season safe.

8005305501



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From The Cooperative Kitchen



8003106101

This month's recipe was provided by Dian Scarborough from Azle. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC.

800724738



Raw Cranberry Salad

... Ingredients ...

2 - Packages of Ground Cranberries

4 - Cups of Sugar

Let the above ingredients stand while chopping the following ingredients.

3 - Cups of Diced Celery

3 - Cups of Diced Apples

2 - Cups of Chopped Pecans

1 - 6 Ounce Can of Frozen Orange Juice

1 - Orange (Peeled)

3 - 4 Ounce Packages Raspberry Jello

1 - Cup of Hot Water (To Dissolve Jello In)

... Instructions ...

Mix all prepared ingredients together and refrigerate. This recipe makes almost a gallon. The longer it sits the better it tastes. A colorful holiday treat that looks good on the Christmas table.

800633800

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800723039