



TRI-COUNTY

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

" A Commitment to Service and Savings "

SPRING TIME & THUNDERSTORMS

Understand the Weather Terms and How Best to Protect Yourself and Your Family

Thunderstorms are very common in the Spring and Summer months, and despite their small size, in comparison to hurricanes and blizzards, all thunderstorms are potentially dangerous.

Every thunderstorm produces lightning and has the potential to produce associated dangers such as tornadoes, destructive winds, hail and flash flooding

Of the estimated 100,000 thunderstorms each year in the U.S., about 10% are classified as severe, meaning it produces hail, at least ¾" in diameter, has winds of 58 mph or higher, or produces a tornado.

Before the Thunderstorm

- Know the terms used by weather forecasters
- Severe Thunderstorm Watch – Tells where and when severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to the Media.
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning – Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated on radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.
- Before a thunderstorm strikes, keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, flashes of light, or increasing wind.
- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be affected by lightning, and should go inside to safe shelter immediately.
- Thunderstorms can occur singularly, in clusters or in lines. The typical thunderstorm is 15 miles in diameter, producing heavy rain for a brief period from 30 to 60 minutes.
- When a thunderstorm approaches, secure outdoor objects that could be blown away or cause damage. Shutter windows, if possible, and secure outside doors.
- Remember that lightning can strike up to 10 miles ahead of or after the arrival of the storm. Listen to weather forecasts on NOAA Weather Radio, or to local radio and television stations for the latest information. In general, lightning will travel the easiest route



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from the clouds to the ground, which means it often strikes the tallest object.

- During this season people are taking part in activities that place them in locations most vulnerable to being struck by lightning, such as on golf courses, ball fields, beaches and large bodies of water. In the U.S., an average of 300 people are injured and 80 killed each year by lightning, which is more than tornadoes or hurricanes.

During the Thunderstorm

- If you are caught outside during a thunderstorm, you should protect yourself from lightning by going to a low-lying, open place away from trees, poles or metal object, which can serve as a natural lightning rod. (Make sure the place you pick is not subject to flooding).
 - Make yourself the smallest target possible by squatting low to the ground and by placing your hands on your knees with your head between them. Be as low to the ground as possible, with as little of your body touching the ground as possible. (Don't lie flat; this will make you a larger target!).
 - Do not stand on a hilltop, in an open field, on a beach or in a boat on the water.
 - If boating, or swimming, get to land immediately.
 - Avoid isolated sheds or small structures in open areas.
 - Get away from anything metal such as tractors, farm equipment, motorcycles, golf carts, golf clubs, bicycles, wire fences, clotheslines, metal pipes, rails, and other metallic paths that could carry lightning to you from a distance.
 - In a forest, seek shelter in a low area under a growth of smaller trees.
 - If indoors, avoid metallic objects and fixtures.
 - Avoid showering or bathing. Plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.
 - Avoid using a corded telephone, except for emergencies. Cordless or cellular telephones are safe to use.
 - Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers. Turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can cause serious damage.
 - Use your battery operated NOAA Weather Radio for updates from local officials.
- Note that rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal. Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.

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Remember to always respect Mother Nature and find a safe haven in a thunderstorm!

4th Annual Country Spirit Jamboree Saturday April 25

Event benefits Cancer Care Services of Hood County

Community volunteers are organizing the 4th Annual Country Spirit Jamboree for Saturday, April 25, at 6:00 PM. The event will be held at the Reunion Grounds located at 641 Reunion Court in Granbury.

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Teresa McCoy, Chair of the Cancer Care Services of Hood County Steering Committee said, "This event is reminiscent of an old-fashioned shindig when family and friends would come together for a hearty meal, followed by live music with time for stories and jokes with family and friends."



The Cross Country Band has been playing together for several years and consists of four guys and a gal who enjoy playing traditional country as well as country/gospel music. Listen to their music and learn more about them at

www.thecrosscountryband.com.

Dinner will be a chuck wagon barbecue with drinks followed by the famous Hood County Jamboree Cake. Attendees can kick up their heels on the dance floor and bid on live and silent auction items. Tickets are \$25.00 and available at the Lake Granbury Area Chamber of Commerce or by calling 817-408-5623 or 817-921-0653 extension 244.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative members and their friends are encouraged to mark the date on your calendar. You can plan on having a good time while helping people who could really use a hand fighting a deadly disease.

Giving Help and Hope to cancer patients and their families.

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Central Headquarters Office (817) 444-3201 or (817) 523-7231
 Southwest District Office (817) 279-7010 or (817) 279-7011
 Northeast District Office (817) 431-1541
 B-K District Office (940) 888-3441
 Internet: www.TCECTEXAS.COM

From The Cooperative Kitchen



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



ORANGE SLICE CAKE

*** INGREDIENTS ***

- 2 - Cups of White Sugar
- 1 - Cup Shortening or Margarine
- 4 - Eggs
- 1 - Teaspoon Baking Soda Dissolved in 1/2 Cup Buttermilk
- 3 - Cups of Flour
- 1 - Pound Package of Candy Orange Slices
- 2 - Cups of Chopped Pecans
- 1/2 - Pound of Coconut (About 3 Cups)
- 1 - Heaping Tablespoon of Grated Orange Rind

*** DIRECTIONS ***

- Cream sugar and shortening or margarine well with mixer.
- Add eggs one at a time and beat well after each one is added.
- Add buttermilk that contains the baking soda.
- Sift flour twice after measuring and save 3 tablespoons for dredging the orange slices.
- Cut orange slices into small pieces with scissors and dredge with flour so they are coated and gently fold into mixture.
- Add remaining flour and all other ingredients and work in with a heavy metal or wooden spoon.
- Preheat oven to 325 degrees and place mixture into a slightly greased 10 inch tube pan.
- Bake for 1 hour and 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes and turn out onto an oven proof plate. Turn the oven off at this time.

*** ORANGE SLICE CAKE ICING ***

- 1 - Cup Orange Juice (Fresh)
- 2 - Cups Powdered Sugar
- 1 - Teaspoon of Vanilla

Combine above three ingredients until sugar is dissolved. Pour mixture over hot cake, place cake in oven and allow to cool overnight.

It Pays To Stay Informed!

Find your account number in our Member Information Bulletin and you will receive a \$20.00 credit on your electric bill. Simply contact one of the offices listed to the left and make them aware of your discovery.

It pays to stay informed!

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