

Current Conversations

April 2026



The People Behind the Power

April is National Lineman Appreciation Month, and I want to start this note by recognizing line workers across Tri-County Electric. Their work is highly visible when storms roll through, when outages happen, and when reliability work is taking place in your community. But the preparation, training, and discipline behind it happen every day.

Whether it's early mornings, severe weather, storm restoration, or the physical demands of everyday system work, they show up prepared to serve members safely and reliably. They help keep homes comfortable, businesses operating, and families connected, often in conditions most people would never choose for themselves.

This appreciation is not just seasonal. It is reflected in Tri-County's investment in training, safety equipment, and the infrastructure that supports reliable service. This year, that investment includes more pole inspections and changeouts across the service area than last year, essential to the electric service you depend on.

The same approach is reflected in the 2026 Fiscal Year Report coming out soon, and I encourage you to read it. The Cooperative has reduced debt in each of the past two fiscal years, including \$80.4 million this fiscal year alone, through disciplined budgeting, ending subsidies that shifted costs onto existing members, and long-term planning.

That progress is helping strengthen reliability while protecting members from rate increases. This is what progress looks like when focus remains on the mission: safe and reliable power at the lowest possible cost, and enhancing service to members.



Scott Spence
President & CEO

All of this is achieved in partnership with you. Thank you for your membership.

INSIDE

- ✓ Linemen Appreciation
- ✓ Annual Pole Inspections
- ✓ The RESAP program
- ✓ Committee Opportunity
- ✓ Special Election Update
- ✓ Member Discounts
- ✓ Rebate Program

IMPORTANT DATES

4/8 - 4/24

Credentials & Elections Committee
Applications Accepted

JOIN ROUND UP



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ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

Face-to-Face With the Work Most People Never See

Not many people would willingly choose to climb poles and go face-to-face with live electrical equipment, at a moment's notice, in any conditions, at any hour, with safety as the non-negotiable priority above everything else.

That is part of what it takes to be a lineman.

This month, we recognize that choice. April is National Lineman Appreciation Month, with Lineman Appreciation Day on April 18. The more you know about what linemen actually bring to the job, the more that recognition means.

Hard work, physical and mental challenges, working in harsh conditions at times. All of this will pay off when you get to the end of the program and look back and see what you have accomplished.

- Jody Pence, Line Superintendent, Granbury and Aledo Bearcat

You might be surprised by everything a lineman brings to the job. Jeremy Johnson, line superintendent in Seymour, listed the credentials his team holds: CDL, First Aid, CPR, forklift certification, and many others the Cooperative provides. The training runs deep, and it starts long before anyone climbs a pole.

Before a lineman ever works on his own, a superintendent is watching for the full picture. Not just technical skill, but the confidence and safety awareness that only comes with real experience. Those three things together are what signal that someone is ready.

That readiness is tested and reinforced every single day on the job.

Matthew Martinez, line superintendent in Azle, explained how crews keep safety at the forefront of their minds: *"Safety is something we all need to keep fresh in our minds. We have weekly safety meetings and before every job, we have a safety meeting."* It is built into the rhythm of the work, not an afterthought.

And even with the long hours, unpredictable conditions, and physical demands, Granbury crew foreman and journeyman lineman Justin Swann brought it back to what matters most. *"Helping people when they need it most — that's what makes it worth it."*

Follow TCEC on social media and visit tcectexas.com all month long as we recognize the dedicated linemen who show up every day to do exactly that.



ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

Pole Inspection and Compliance Initiative

As part of our commitment to providing safe, and reliable power at the lowest possible cost, TCEC will begin its annual Pole Inspection and Compliance Initiative in April 2026.

This work is also required by state law. Texas electric utilities must inspect, maintain, and replace poles on a set schedule, follow established inspection timelines, and submit formal plans that document inspection results and actions taken each year.

How it works

TCEC employees and contractors will conduct physical inspections of power poles throughout our service area, checking for defects, damage, and decay to assess each pole's condition, estimate its remaining lifespan, and determine whether replacement is needed.

What you need to know

If your home or business is in an area scheduled for pole inspections or replacements, you will receive advance notice by email, if possible.



Enhancing Member Service

This year, we will continue investing time and resources in our Pole Inspection Program. This ongoing maintenance work reflects our commitment to provide safe and reliable power at the lowest possible cost.

Two Years of Hard Decisions. Here is What They Produced.

Over the past two years, Tri-County Electric has reduced its total debt by \$80.4 million, and the work is not finished.

That did not happen by accident. It happened because team members across this organization made hundreds of smaller decisions, month after month, to spend less, find savings, and apply every dollar recovered directly to debt reduction on behalf of the membership.

The 2026 Fiscal Year Report tells that story in plain language. It is worth reading and available online later this week.



ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

Why TCEC Is Inviting Outside Eyes on Our Safety Program

This year, TCEC is joining the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program (RESAP), a national peer review program that brings safety professionals from other cooperatives together to observe operations, share best practices, and help cooperatives keep improving.

President & CEO Scott Spence shares what this means for TCEC and why safety culture is always worth investing in.



[CLICK HERE to hear from him directly.](#)

New Path for Members to Serve on Credentials & Elections Committee

One of the things that makes a cooperative different from any other utility is its members. Cooperative members don't just receive a service. They have a voice in how the organization is governed. Starting this spring, there is a new way to put that voice to work.

The TCEC Board of Directors has restructured the Credentials & Elections Committee, the group responsible for overseeing the integrity of the annual directors' election process. As part of that restructuring, committee seats will now be filled through an application process open to any qualified member, no matter which district they live in.

Previously, directors filled committee seats through appointments. Now, the board will accept applications from members across all districts, review those submissions, and vote to determine the committee's composition. Terms will be staggered to ensure continuity. Candidates selected must be available for an in-person interview with the Board of Directors on May 7, 2026.

Applications will be open April 8 - 24, 2026.. [CLICK HERE for details about eligibility, the application process, and timeline.](#)

Special Election Update – Districts 6 & 8

At the virtual Member Meeting on April 6, Frank Roszell was announced as the incoming board member for District 8. Mr. Roszell was the sole applicant for the District 8 seat and was found qualified by the Credentials and Elections Committee in accordance with TCEC's Bylaws. As an unchallenged candidate, he was elected by acclamation. No voting or ballots were required.

The District 6 seat remains vacant. No applications were received by the January 23 deadline.

ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

TCEC Membership Saves You Money at These Local Businesses

The [TCEC Member Discount Program](#) connects members with local businesses offering exclusive deals. While we don't endorse any specific business, we're glad to pass on savings opportunities as a benefit of your membership. A quick mention of your TCEC account is all it takes at most participating locations. This month, we're featuring four more businesses from our directory.

10%
OFF

Waldrop's Furniture in Azle has been outfitting North Texas homes for decades. Whether you're furnishing a new space or finally replacing that one piece you've been putting off, TCEC members receive 10% off. Stop in and mention your account or visit waldropsfurniture.com.

10%
OFF

The Back Nine in Granbury is an indoor golf simulator facility open 24/7 with high-tech virtual courses for all skill levels. Flexible tee-times and membership options make it easy to fit in a round of golf on your schedule, and TCEC members save 10%. Learn more at thebackninegolf.com/granburytx/.

15%
OFF

Palio's Pizza Café in Aledo serves scratch-made Italian food in a casual setting that works for family dinners and weeknight takeout alike. TCEC members receive 15% off. If you haven't been yet, now's a good reason to go. Find them at paliosaledo.com.

BOGO

Jeremiah's Italian Ice in Keller offers a rotating menu of Italian ice, soft ice cream, and jelati. As temperatures start climbing, this is a good one to know about. TCEC members buy one, get one free. Check them out at jeremiahsice.com/locations/keller-tx/.

The full discount directory is available on the [MyTriCountyTX App](#) and is updated as new partners join. Inclusion in the Member Discount Program does not constitute an endorsement by Tri-County Electric Cooperative. These listings are provided as a member benefit and resource only.



Local business owners interested in offering discounts to TCEC members can reach out at communications@tcectexas.com

ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

New Appliance, Real Savings

Shopping for a new refrigerator this spring? Buy an ENERGY STAR-certified model and TCEC will put up to \$50 back on your account through the [Energy Efficiency Rebates program](#).

Purchase a qualifying appliance, submit your receipt and a short application online and TCEC applies the credit to your bill. Members can apply up to twice in 2026, so if another qualifying purchase comes up later in the year, you can use it again.

The program is paid for by unclaimed funds, not members, and it's first come, first served.

[Complete your application HERE.](#)



Limited funds available. First come, first served.

