



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

“Taking Care of Our Member-Owners”

Member Information Bulletin

December 2022



GO GREEN!

ENROLL IN PAPERLESS BILLING

tcectexas.com/paperless-billing



In your December *Texas Co-op Power*

- ▶ Brazos bankruptcy timeline and update, page 18
- ▶ Local couple's tree farm, page 20
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Look for your account number on pages 18-25 for a chance to claim a \$20 bill credit!

Cool Off Your Winter Energy Bill

You've budgeted for holiday gifts, meals, maybe a vacation—and with money tight, that doesn't leave much room for home energy efficiency upgrades. Does that mean you're powerless to lower your electric bill? Not at all. Keep your energy bill cool this winter with these tips and tricks. 800815332

- ▶ **Drape delivery.** Open drapes and shades to catch free solar heat during the day. Close them at night to keep the heat inside.
- ▶ **Be a fan of fans.** Run ceiling fans on low and reverse the rotation to pull air up in winter. This keeps warm air circulating without cooling you. 800873267
- ▶ **Free your vents.** Your heater will have to work twice as hard if your air vents are blocked by rugs, furniture or drapes. Keep them clear to allow air to flow freely.
- ▶ **Garage drain.** Leave your garage door down. A warmer garage in winter will save energy.



▶ **Rug relief.** Have a spare rug? Use it to cover bare floors for added insulation.

▶ **Smart food.** When cooking, keep lids on pots, and let hot food cool off before placing it in the refrigerator.

There are other ways to conserve energy. Remember, you don't pay for what you don't use. When you're not watching TV or using lights, computers and other electronics, turn them off.

Find more energy-saving tips at tcectexas.com/energy-efficiency.

Give Space Heaters Their Space

Space heaters can work wonders on the coldest winter days to warm rooms. But while manufacturers have worked to build more safety features into this heating source, users still should take precautions to ensure these cozy heaters don't become fire hazards.

Space heaters are designed as supplemental heat sources, not as the main source. Check your space heaters for a UL seal, and follow these guidelines for safely using it. 800615479

- ▶ Keep space heaters at least three feet away from drapes and furniture that could catch fire.
- ▶ Don't use extension cords with space heaters.
- ▶ Inspect the heater's cord periodically for frayed wiring or damaged insulation.
- ▶ Check periodically for a secure plug-outlet fit. If the plug gets hot, the outlet may need to be replaced by a qualified electrician. 8002856601
- ▶ Unless the heater is designed for use outdoors or in bathrooms, don't use it in wet areas.



Cake Pops

Kara Hoffman of Benbrook

- Cake mix, 1 box
- Ingredients on the box
- Can of frosting
- Almond bark
- Sprinkles, optional

Mix the cake according to the directions on the box. Pour batter in a 9 x 13 pan. Bake according to the box. Let the cake cool completely.

Once cool, crumble the cake in a large bowl. Add 2/3 of the frosting and mix with your hands.

Roll mixture in balls and place them on a cookie pan. Place in freezer for an hour.

Melt the almond bark in the microwave in 30-second intervals until smooth. One at a time, coat cake balls in almond bark using two forks. Place on wax paper and add sprinkles. Once the cake balls have hardened, carefully insert a lollipop stick.

Enjoy!



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Virtual Town Hall Recording

Miss the virtual Town Hall on November 21? Watch the recording online at tcectexas.com/brazos



It Pays to Stay Informed!

Find your account number in our Member Information Bulletin or the *Texas Co-op Power* and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill! **Simply contact our Member Services team at 817-444-3201 to claim your credit.**

Share your Favorite Recipe!

Submit your favorite recipe and the information below to the Communications Department.

Email: communications@tcectexas.com

Online: tcectexas.com/recipe-submission

Mail: Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Attn: Recipe Submission, 200 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, Texas 76008

Name: _____

Town: _____

Recipe Name: _____

Please visit tcectexas.com/recipe-submission for submission rules, terms and conditions.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

AVAILABLE FOR COLLEGE AND TRADE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

\$4,000

\$2,000



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