

## Outage? MyClayElectric.

If the power goes out at your home or business, step No. 1 is to check your **MyClayElectric** app. As soon as you're logged in, it will tell you if we've detected the outage, and if so, no need to report a thing!



If the app says no outages are detected in your area, that's your cue to report it via the app. It's the fastest way for us to get a crew working on restoration.

Are smartphones not really your thing? You can still call in the outage by dialing **1-855-939-3840**. It's the same number to make a bill payment.

### Grab '26 calendar while you can



If you swing by your district office, there's still time to get your hands on a free calendar for 2026.

This year, the calendar celebrates the 60th anniversary of Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C., a crash course in civic engagement, teamwork and leadership, showing students how their voices can shape the future of rural America.

Drop by for a calendar while supplies last.

## TRUSTEE MEETINGS

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It's a great opportunity to stay informed, connect with your trustee, and meet fellow members from your area.

Here's the lineup of meetings, in order of occurrence:

### • District 2 – Kelley

**Smith (Palatka):** Jan. 5 at Sam Hogg Pavilion, 160 S Electric Ave., Palatka, FL 32177

#### District 2



Smith

### • District 6 – Jimmy Wilson (Middleburg):

Jan. 6 at Middleburg Civic Center, 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg, FL 32068

#### District 6



Wilson

### • District 4 – Carl Malphurs (Alachua):

Jan. 8 at New Oak Grove Baptist Church, 18100 NW 262nd Ave., Alachua, FL 32615

#### District 4



Malphurs

Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. and meetings begin at 6 p.m. Each meeting will include a door prize drawing for registered attendees.

To see trustee district boundaries or learn more about the election process, visit [ClayElectric.com/board-trustees](http://ClayElectric.com/board-trustees)

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Nick Jones at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: [NJones@clayelectric.com](mailto:NJones@clayelectric.com). Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at the headquarters building in Keystone Heights at 11 a.m. (or shortly thereafter) on Dec. 17 and Jan. 29.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_

# Power Line

December 2025

## Be heard: Trustee meetings in January

Clay Electric's annual trustee meetings are just around the corner, and January is your chance to get involved where it counts — right in your own community.



Three Clay Electric trustees will hold local meetings in their districts ahead of the upcoming online election, scheduled to begin Jan. 26. These annual gatherings aren't just routine updates — they're where members can learn about co-op operations and hear from current trustees.

Each district meeting serves a key role in Clay Electric's democratic structure as members can be nominated from the floor. It's one of the ways your co-op keeps member control at the heart of everything it does.

For a meeting to be officially recognized, at least 15 district members must be present — so every person who attends helps ensure the process moves forward.

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# Are space heaters efficient? It depends.

December in Florida is a month that one day, you're able to get away with the windows open, while another day, you're bundling up due to a cold snap.

If it's the latter, you might think about clicking on the heater, and some might think that one of those smaller, portable space heaters will do the trick just fine. But before you do that, we want to remind you: Space heaters can be **energy hogs** and older ones can be **dangerous**.

Small space heaters are meant to heat a small area, and some people are trying to use these to heat their entire home, which can cause an energy bill spike. Whether you should use a space heater depends more on your home's efficiency and energy needs, and really, there's only one time they're worth using.

## Are you compensating for efficiency issues?

Those issues might include inadequate insulation, drafty windows and exterior doors or an inefficient heating system. If you answered yes, space heaters aren't practical in this scenario.

You're better off improving the overall efficiency of your home. Here are some tips for that:

- Add caulking and weather stripping around windows and exterior doors (low-cost option).
- Adding insulation is another step, depending on the size of your home.

We know it might be unclear what your home really needs — maybe it just seems to never warm up and you can't figure out



why — and that's what Clay Electric is here for. Schedule a free energy survey with our Energy Services department. Just open your **MyClayElectric** app, tap "more" at the bottom and submit a miscellaneous inquiry for "free energy survey." You can also go to [ClayElectric.com/Energy-Surveys](https://www.ClayElectric.com/Energy-Surveys) or give us a call at 1-800-224-4917.

## Are you heating a small space?

Did you answer yes? If your home is energy efficient, but you're cold-natured and want a specific room to be cozier than others, a space heater might suit your needs.

Just like a ceiling fan, only use a space heater in small spaces you're occupying, and if you leave the room, turn it off. Make sure it's properly sized for the room you're heating — most include a general sizing table.

An estimated 25,000 residential fires are associated with space heaters yearly, so make sure you're using a new model that includes the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label. Always keep children and pets away from space heaters.



## Cut heating costs without freezing

Even in Florida, a few chilly nights can nudge your power bill higher. Before turning up the thermostat, try these easy, low-cost ways to stay warm and save energy.

1. **Flip your fan.** Reverse ceiling fans to spin clockwise at a low speed. It pushes warm air back down where you can feel it.
2. **Seal the sneaky leaks.** Check doors and windows for drafts and seal gaps with weatherstripping or caulk.
3. **Use the sun.** Open curtains on sunny days to let in natural warmth, then close them after dark to keep it inside.
4. **Adjust the thermostat.** Lower it a few degrees while you're asleep or away. Each degree can cut heating costs by about 3%.
5. **Keep filters fresh.** Clean or replace air filters regularly. A clogged filter makes your system work harder and use more energy.

