

## Now's time to schedule HVAC maintenance



The fall months are a good time to schedule annual maintenance for your home's heating system.

During fall months, HVAC technicians are typically less busy, making this an excellent time for maintenance and any necessary repairs before the winter months.

A qualified technician can clean filters, check for leaks and ensure all system components are working efficiently to keep your home warm when the temperatures drop.

## Here's your sign: Have a plan

September is National Preparedness Month – a reminder to take a few simple steps to keep you and your loved ones safe in an emergency.

1) **Make a plan.** Talk with your family about where you will go and how you will stay in touch during an emergency.

2) **Build a supply kit.** Gather supplies like water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, medications and first-aid.

3) **Stay informed.** Activate local weather and emergency alerts.

## VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

Continued from front

Your co-op works hard to keep power affordable while maintaining reliability. When you pay your electric bill, you're not padding corporate profits. You're investing directly in local infrastructure and crews who restore outages quickly and safely.

Most of your payment stays right here:

- Maintaining hundreds of miles of lines
- Upgrading aging equipment
- Fueling rapid outage response

Even as prices rise in nearly every other area, electricity has remained one of the most cost-stable essentials. That's not by accident. As a member-owned cooperative, Clay Electric works hard to keep rates fair and predictable — because we answer to you, our members, not outside investors.

Electricity prices are influenced by many things: fuel supply, infrastructure investments, extreme weather and regulations. But every rate decision we make starts with a simple question: What's in the best interest of our members?

You rely on electricity for nearly everything — at home, at work and throughout the community. We're committed to keeping it reliable, affordable and one of the best values in your budget.

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

# Power Line

September 2025

## Is electricity still good value? Short answer: Yes.

Grocery costs keep climbing, no one fills their tank and says, "That was cheap," and yes — for some members, electricity bills have gone up too. So, we think it's fair for you to ask: Am I still getting good value for what I pay?



Yes, very much so. But let's take a step back.

A single latte can cost \$6. A lunch outing? Around \$10 for fast food. A streaming subscription? A recent survey found the average family spends \$69 a month on streaming services. Add it up, and many households spend hundreds of dollars a month on short-term conveniences.

Now compare that to electricity, where the average Clay Electric member pays about **\$5.87** a day. That single daily cost powers your entire home — lights, hot water, cooking, cooling, charging devices, and keeping food fresh. For less than the price of a coffee, electricity delivers comfort and convenience — all day, every day.

Continued on back panel

## 28 students awarded scholarships

Clay Electric has awarded \$2,000 scholarships to 28 high school seniors (class of 2025) whose primary residences are served by the co-op.

The recipients of the scholarships were determined by an outside panel of judges based on academic achievements, an essay, community and school activities, and letters of recommendation.

The scholarship recipients (pictured if photo was provided) are:

**Holly Buss** (Eastside High School); **Erabelle Conant** (Keystone Heights High School); **Kendall Cook** (Bradford High School); **Lorelai Crehore** (Newberry High School); **Lauren Cugno** (Oakleaf High School); **Prisha Dabhi** (Ridgeview High School); **Logan Enyedi** (Douglas Anderson School of the Arts); **Madison Fields** (Orange Park High School); **Emma Foreman** (Columbia High School); **Tilden Gill** (Q. I. Roberts Junior/Senior High School);

**Braden Glavin** (Clay High School); **Ayden Glover** (Riverside High School); **Joseph Jones** (Forest High School); **Katelyn Lathem** (Buchholz High School); **Anahi Lugo** (Crescent City High School); **Lauren McInnis** (Bishop John J. Snyder High School); **Kathryn McNeill** (Fleming Island High School); **Aubrie Muse** (Union County High School); **Zachary Narveson** (Gainesville High School); **Emma Nelson** (P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School); **Cassidy Nesselt** (Fort White High School); **Lauren Novak** (Palatka High School); **Cayden Parker** (Santa Fe High School); **Krish Patel** (Stanton College Preparatory School); **Zaccheus Paulk** (Belmont Academy); **Isa Pillari** (homeschooled); **Madison Underwood** (Middleburg High School); **Warren Whitehurst** (Williston Middle High School).



Buss



Conant



Crehore



Cugno



Dabhi



Fields



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