

Insulate your home to lower electric bill

Properly insulating your home reduces heating and cooling costs, and improves comfort.

R-values measure a material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value rating, the greater the effectiveness of the insulation. Below are recommended R-values for areas of the home that should be insulated.

Attic

The attic is the easiest place to add insulation to improve your comfort and the energy efficiency of your home. One quick way to determine if you need more is to look across the span of your attic. If your insulation is just level with or below your joists (i.e., you can easily see your joists), you should add more. The recommended R-value for most attics is R-19 to R-30, or about 10 to 14 inches, depending on insulation type.

Exterior walls

There are multiple options for insulating exterior walls. Rock wool or fiberglass batts of R-13 to R-20 value are preferred behind drywall, but each inch of blown-in polyurethane foam insulation provides an R-value of 3.9.

Beneath living space

Whether your home has a full basement, a crawl space or an attached garage, having an insulation value of R-19 under the living space floor will help increase comfort year-round.

Slab foundation

Properly installed foam boards around the exterior edge of the slab of an existing home can reduce heating bills by 10 percent or more.

CONTACT INFO

Continued from front

service address in our outage management system. This means when you call to report an outage, or check to see if you are in a known outage on our online outage map, our system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage management system predict the location and possible cause of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correct the problem.

While we always do our best to maintain service, we occasionally plan outages to update, repair or replace equipment. In these instances, we provide advance notification to affected members by a mailed letter and email message, IF we have your updated contact information.

Keeping the co-op updated with your information also helps us when there's a question about energy use or billing. Discrepancies on your account can be taken care of promptly if we have an accurate phone number on file.

Many of you have been members of the co-op for years, and it's likely that your account information hasn't been updated for some time. We recognize that many members now use a cell phone as their primary phone service, and we might not have that number in our system.

Please take a moment to confirm or update your contact information by logging into your account at ClayElectric.com or calling us at 1-800-224-4917. By doing so, you will be helping us improve service and efficiency so we can better serve you and all members of the co-op.

We will never share your address or phone number with third parties.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' billing statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Justin Caudell at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: Jcaudell@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric's Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday, April 22 and Thursday, May 28 at noon in Keystone Heights.

3040-26723

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

April 2020

Up-to-date contact info helps us make your service better

At Clay Electric, we are constantly striving to improve our operational efficiency so we can provide the most reliable electric service possible for members.

We rely on data for nearly every aspect of our operations, which is why we need your help. By making sure we have your most accurate and complete

contact information, we can continue to provide the high level of service you expect and deserve. Accurate information enables us to improve customer service and enhance communications

for reporting and repairing outages. It also allows co-op members to receive information about other important programs, events and activities.

Up-to-date contact information can potentially speed up the power restoration process during an outage. For example, the phone number you provide is linked to your



Continued on back panel

Report from
the manager

Ricky Davis

General Manager/CEO



Consider a co-op career

Evolving technology is changing how energy is generated and distributed through the electric grid to homes and businesses. These changes have brought new challenges and opportunities to electric co-ops working to keep pace with the evolving landscape.

Within the electric cooperative workforce, new skills and experience are needed to help co-ops meet shifting market and consumer demands. This is why Clay Electric is recruiting fresh talent to help us provide even greater value to our members.

We have a broad range of highly-trained professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op.

Linemen are the most visible and identifiable employees of Clay Electric, but their responsibilities go far beyond climbing poles and repairing lines. They are also information experts who can pinpoint an outage from miles away and help restore power remotely.

Experts in information and communication technology are increasingly important to safeguard the grid and protect data and other sensitive cyber assets. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the utility, particularly as system upgrades and more renewable energy choices become available.

Professionals in business administration, communication and digital media help the co-op deliver messages through multiple platforms and keep members informed of critical information in today's 24/7 media environment.

But electric co-ops are looking for professionals with more than excellent technical skills. We are seeking individuals who understand the co-op difference and appreciate our mission-oriented operating principles. A career with an electric co-op is different than a job with a for-profit electric utility. Clay Electric is a not-for-profit organization that offers competitive wages and benefits.

We have a strong commitment to the communities we serve. Important decisions are made locally with input from a democratically elected board of trustees whose interest is the greater good of the community. We are proud to give back to our community through employee volunteer efforts and with donations to local charities such as Communities in Schools, Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball leagues, the Clay County Dental Clinic and many churches, clubs and food banks. We have also made a significant impact throughout North Florida with our Operation Round Up program. The member-driven program has awarded nearly \$3 million in grants since 2017.

In addition, we are making a difference in the lives of people around the world. Through our network of 900 electric co-ops across the country, we have helped bring electricity to more than 160 million people in 45 developing countries across the globe. Through international electrification projects, America's electric cooperatives are helping millions of people in developing countries improve their living standards.

Simply put, we believe cooperatives build a better world, and we are looking for talented people to join us.

To learn more about careers currently available at our co-op, visit Jobs.ClayElectric.com. If you see a position you are interested in, you can complete an application online and conveniently upload your resume, educational certificates and more. You will also have the option to register for a Jobvite account, which will allow you to track where you are in the application process.



Protect your equipment before a storm strikes

Lightning and short-circuits can strike at any moment and destroy or cause extensive damage to your equipment and appliances. Being prepared for these unexpected surges and spikes can go a long way towards protecting your home.

Affordable surge protection equipment is available for purchase through the co-op's surge protection program. This equipment will help protect sensitive electronic equipment from power surges caused by events triggered from both outside and inside the home.

The SurgeBlaster program provides the highest quality surge protection equipment, is UL-listed and meets the IEEE 587 standard for surge suppression equipment.

The basic SurgeBlaster package includes one meter base suppressor and one all-in-one (satellite/TV/DVD/computer) suppression module.

Call 1-800-224-4917 or visit your local district office for more information.

Storm evacuation help for those with special needs

With storm season approaching, it's vital for members to be prepared.

If you or anyone you know has special needs and requires assistance in case of evacuation, your local government can help. Contact your county emergency management office to learn about shelters in your area.

For members with special needs, visit floridadisaster.org/shelters or call 800-342-3557 to register with the county emergency operations center.