

## MEMBER SERVICES

### ONLINE ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Visit [clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com) to access your account information:

- View your bill statement/ account history
- Sign up for Average Billing Plan
- Make a one-time payment online
- View current charges & account balance
- View account balance
- View estimated meter reading dates
- Request emailed bill statements (Clay eBill)
- Sign up for automatic monthly payment plan
- Report your power outage:  
<https://outagereport.clayelectric.com>

**OPERATION ROUND UP** - Operation Round Up is a program to generate and collect voluntary donations that are used to benefit organizations in Clay Electric's service area for the purpose of improving the quality of life of our members and their communities. Participating members' electric bills are rounded up to the next dollar amount. The funds are placed in a separate account to be allocated by the Clay Electric Foundation.

**PROJECT SHARE** - Help others by designating a tax-deductible amount to be added to your electric bill or make a one-time donation.

**REMOTE METER READING (RMR)** - Enables a co-op meter reader to obtain the meter reading without entering the homeowner's property. The monthly charge is just \$1.95.

**ENERGY SMART REBATE PROGRAM** - Offers rebates for members who install additional insulation in their homes, or who install a high efficiency heat pump or solar water heating system.

**SURGEBLASTER** - High quality surge protection equipment at a low monthly lease.

**CO-OP CONNECTIONS CARD** - A national discount card program. It offers 10-60 percent discounts on prescription drugs at participating pharmacies, as well as special discounts and deals from local and national businesses!

## Trustee meetings for Districts 2, 4 and 6 set

Members of the co-op will gather at three trustee district meetings in late January and early February for the purpose of selecting candidates for the co-op's board of trustees.

Districts 2, 4 and 6 are up for election.

Kelley Smith of Bostwick is the incumbent trustee for District 2, which includes parts of Clay and Putnam counties. The District 2 meeting will be held at the Sam Hogg Pavilion (near the Seminole Electric generating plant) north of Palatka on Jan. 31.

Carl Malphurs of Alachua is the incumbent trustee for District 4. District 4 covers portions of Alachua and Gilchrist counties. The District 4 meeting will be held at the New Oak Grove Baptist Church in Bland on Jan. 30.

Jimmy Wilson of Orange Park is the incumbent trustee for District 6. This district covers a large portion of Clay County. The District 6 meeting will be held on Feb. 2 at the Clay County Shrine Club, 2471 County Road 209, in Green Cove Springs.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Registration of members begins at 6 p.m.

Each year, three positions on the co-op's nine-member board of trustees are up for election. Members within the respective districts select one or two members to be candidates for the board of trustees. These candidates are voted upon by all members who attend and register to vote at the Annual Meeting on March 30.

At the district meetings, General Manager/CEO Ricky Davis will share information about co-op activities. Door prizes will also be handed out at the meetings.

You can locate your district number at the top of your electric bill statement. Members who are unsure about which trustee district they reside in should contact their Clay Electric district office.

3040-25107

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

# Power Line

January 2017

## Youth scholarships available; April 3 is deadline to apply

Clay Electric will offer at least 25 scholarships this year.

If you have a son or daughter who is a 12th-grade student and is planning to attend college this fall, he or she may want to apply for a Clay Electric Youth Scholarship, worth \$1,000.



The scholarship program is limited to any public, private or homeschooled high school senior whose home is served by Clay Electric and who will graduate at the end of the current school year (May/June 2017).

An application is available on Clay Electric's website ([clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com)), at each of the co-op's six district offices and at area high schools.

Deadline to have applications submitted is April 3.

Scholastic records, extra-curricular activities, employment, community service and recommendations are the primary considerations.

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

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

# Energy tips that can help you lower your electric bills in 2017

**W**ith a new year comes the many resolutions folks make that they hope will help them lose weight, exercise more and save some money. And usually, by the end of the month, quite a few of these resolutions get broken or forgotten.

If one of your resolutions is to save money, we offer the following 11 energy tips that can help you lower your monthly electricity bill, and that means more money in your pocket.

**1** One of the most effective ways to control the amount of electricity you use is to understand the impact thermostat settings have on your electric bills. How much electricity your cooling and heating system uses monthly is a direct result of your desired level of comfort. Of course, there are other factors, like how energy-efficient your home is, the age and efficiency of your cooling and heating equipment, and the outdoor temperature. But the thermostat setting you choose largely determines how much you'll spend on electricity. It's a matter of personal comfort, but here are some suggestions: During winter, set the thermostat at 68 degrees or lower. During the summer, set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher. Every degree below 68 (when heating) and every degree above 78 (when cooling) can save 5 percent on your heating and cooling cost. Energy savings can also be realized by lowering the thermostat several degrees during (winter) sleeping hours. In the summer, bump the thermostat setting up a couple of degrees if the home will be unoccupied for more than a few hours.

**2** Check your heating/air conditioning unit's air filter monthly and clean or replace if needed. Why not check it every time your electric bill arrives? Dirty filters reduce the efficiency of your heating/air conditioning system, and this costs you money.

**3** Had your home's heating/air conditioning unit serviced lately? If it's been over a year, it's time to have it done. Units that are properly maintained can provide more efficient service and are less likely to break down.

**4** When buying a new appliance, look at its energy guide label. This label shows the energy efficiency of the appliance in comparison to other appliances of the same size. Typically, the more energy-efficient an appliance is, the higher its purchase price but the lower its lifetime operating cost.

**5** If your clothes dryer is located inside a portion of your home that is cooled or heated, it will vent a considerable amount of conditioned air outside while operating. To reduce this effect, open a window near the clothes dryer so it can pull in outside air during operation. If the laundry room can be separated from the conditioned area of your home by closing a door, please do so.

**6** One way to reduce the operating time of your home's heating and cooling system is to ensure that its air distribution (duct) system is in good shape. If you notice accumulations of dust in your home when the heating/air conditioning system has operated for a while, it's probably due to leaks in the duct system. A leaky duct system can contribute to higher monthly electric bills by reducing the efficiency of your heating/air conditioning system. If you suspect that your duct system has leaks, it will probably pay to have it inspected.

**7** Check the thermostat setting of your water heater. There's no reason to heat water to a temperature higher than 120 degrees. Heating water to a higher temperature only boosts your electricity consumption.

**8** Home lighting isn't a major part of your electric bill, but over time, using the proper type of light can help save you money. Consider using fluorescent or LED lighting in areas where lighting is required for extended periods. Keep lamp globes clean to obtain maximum benefit from the bulb's output.

**9** Exhaust fans can have a role in helping lower your electric bills by removing high levels of moisture. Run kitchen exhaust fans during cooking and for 20 minutes afterward to remove cooking odors and excess moisture. Run bathroom exhaust fans during baths or showers and 20 minutes afterward to remove excess moisture.

**10** If you have a fireplace, make sure the damper is kept closed except when in use. Understand that while a crackling fire provides a pleasing ambiance, it's not very energy-efficient. As the fire burns in the fireplace, it pulls air that your home's heating system has heated right up the chimney.

**11** Got an older refrigerator in the garage? Eliminate it if possible, because it's probably costing you as much as \$30-\$40 per month, depending on the garage temperature. If you can't part with it, at least unplug it until it's actually needed for extra storage.

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 the Power Line publication, contact Editor Kathy Richardson at P. O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; email: KRichardson@clayelectric.com.

Visit [Clayelectric.com](http://Clayelectric.com) to make payments, and to learn more about the co-op's programs and services.

Clay Electric's Board of Trustees will meet on Jan. 26 and Feb. 16 beginning at 12:30 p.m. in Keystone Heights.