CURRENTS

JNEC's April 2024 Newsletter

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Conserve Hot Water To Save Money



EVERY DROP OF HOT WATER you don't use adds up to savings on your energy bill. Think about how often you run the hot water faucet or an appliance that uses hot water—and whether you could either turn it off or use cold water instead. Heating water is the second-largest energy expense in your home, second only to air conditioning, accounting for about 18% of a typical utility bill.

Here are seven ways to use less hot water:

- 1. Swap your old showerhead for a low-flow model that displays the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense label. Typical shower- heads deliver 2.5 gallons of water per minute; WaterSense models release no more than 2 gallons per minute.
- 2. Set a timer for five minutes, and turn the shower off when the alarm rings. Turn the water off while you lather up your hair and turn it back on to rinse off.
- 3. Plug the sink while shaving instead of running the water the whole time to rinse your razor under the spigot. You could save up to 300 gallons of water a month this way.
- 4. Soak pots and pans instead of scraping them under running water. They'll clean up quicker, and you'll save water and energy.
- 5. Fix that leaky hot water faucet. It's often a simple repair, but replacing it will cost less than you'll pay for years of wasted water and energy that escapes through a leaky tap.
- 6. Wait until you have a full load in the dishwasher before you run it.
- 7. Insulate any hot water lines that you can access to prevent the heat from escaping before it gets to its destination.





We love our trees, but when branches are too close to power lines, they can cause power outages, fire hazards and other safety concerns. Here are some rules to follow:

If a tree or a large branch is touching—or falls on—an electric line, call your electric cooperative immediately.

Never trim trees that grow close to power lines; that is a job for professionals. Call your electric cooperative for assistance and guidance.

Use extreme caution when doing any overhead trimming. Branches often fall in unexpected places. **Don't allow children** to climb trees or build treehouses close to power lines.

Plant appropriate distances from all power lines.

When planting a tree, consider how tall the tree will grow. At maturity, trees should be at least 10 feet away from power lines.

JASPER-NEWTON EC encourages you to always practice safety.

Sometimes people need a helping hand. For those members who qualify, special utility assistance programs are available. Thousands of dollars have been designated for distribution in our area.

Listed below are the Utility Assistance Providers in our area. Please contact these providers directly to determine if you need and qualify for assistance on your electric bill.

Areas serviced are listed below the organization

Catholic Charities of Southeast TX

(JNEC Service Area) (409)924-4400

Salvation Army

(Jasper-Newton Counties) (936) 414-8991

Attn: Julie

SETRPC

(409)899-8444

Tri-County Community Action

(Serves: Jasper, Newton, Sabine Counties)

(409)283-7867

(Orange County)

Jasper Share (Jasper County)

(409)384 - 9910

(JNEC Service Area)

(936)634-2247

DETCOG

Programs for Human Svc

(Orange County) (409)886 - 4338

JNECO Share

Greater East Texas Community Action

Serves: Orange County (936) 564-2491

> must be 62vrs+ (JNEC Service Area) (409)423-2241

The Helping Place

(Jasper County) (409)994-2247

Deep East Texas Foundation

(Jasper County) (409)383-0334

Kirbyville Christian Outreach

(Kirbyville Residents) (409)423-2569

Friends Helping Friends

(Orange County) (409)882 - 9717

Programs for Human Services

(Orange County) (409)886 - 0125



If your contact information has changed, please contact JNEC at (409) 423-2241 or 1-800-231-9340, to update your information.