


# CURRENTS

## JNEC's December Newsletter

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### Your Home's 5 Biggest Energy Hogs

**A HOME'S HUNGRIEST** energy consumers are the appliances left running all day or for days at a time. Here's a look at the top five electricity eaters and some tips on how to stave off their appetites:



Join 150+ fellow students in D.C.



Government-in-Action Youth Tour 2026 in Washington D.C. focuses on educating youth on rural electrification to better their understanding of electric cooperatives and provides the students with an opportunity to visit the Capitol, historical sites and museum. They also will have an opportunity to meet with their Congressman to better understand how their federal government works.

The Youth Tour 2026 is planned for June 14 through June 21, 2026.

To learn more, visit [www.jnec.com](http://www.jnec.com)

**The No. 1** home energy hog is the heating system. Ways to control your heater's energy consumption include using a programmable thermostat, upgrading to a more efficient unit, sealing ducts and replacing filters.

**Next up** is the cooling system. You can improve the efficiency of your air conditioner by having a technician service it every year, using a programmable thermostat and ensuring adequate attic insulation.

**Third** is the water heater, which can account for up to 12% of a home's energy bill. Actual energy demand for water heating depends on the model of water heater you have. Yet no matter the type of unit, these habits can help you conserve: taking quick showers, washing clothes in cold water, setting the water temperature to 120 degrees, insulating the storage tank and regularly draining sediment.

**Next on the list** are dehumidifiers, which typically run constantly to discourage mold growth and preserve stored items. To make sure your dehumidifier isn't wasting energy, close off the room where the machine is operating, set it at a reasonable level and consider upgrading to an Energy Star-certified model.

**Fifth on the list**—but still major power users—are refrigerators and freezers. Fridges generally are the top-consuming kitchen appliance, especially those that are a few decades old. Regardless of model, you can save energy by setting the temperature to 36–38 degrees for the refrigerator and zero to 5 degrees for the freezer, discarding freezer ice thicker than a quarter inch, checking seals, and cooling hot food before putting it inside.

### EAST TEXAS RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH SEMINAR

East Texas Rural Youth Seminar (ETREYS) Program was developed to enhance leadership and problem-solving skills in a positive learning environment on the campus of East Texas Baptist University in Marshall, Texas. The program also promotes the Cooperative philosophy, ideals and values among young people and builds loyalty for the program. ETREYS is scheduled for June 8-12, 2026

To learn more, visit [www.jnec.com](http://www.jnec.com)



# 2026 JNEC Scholarship Opportunities

At JNEC, one of our core values is an unwavering commitment to community. Our employees live and work in the areas we serve, and we share a collective dedication to supporting the next generation. We firmly believe that the strength and future of our region rest with our children.

## Graduating High School Seniors

Scholarship applications are available on JNEC's website at [jnec.com](http://jnec.com). Applications will also be in area high schools in December and January. The deadline for returning scholarship applications is February 6, 2026.

To help foster educational opportunities, JNEC currently awards up to fourteen scholarships each year to graduating seniors from member households who plan to continue their education at a college, university, or accredited trade school.



## Current College Students

*New For  
2026!*

NEW FOR 2026:

JNEC Board of Directors elected to make scholarships available to current college students through the Jasper-Newton Electric Education Fund.

Detailed eligibility criteria and application guidelines are available at [jnec.com](http://jnec.com).

All applications must be received no later than February 6, 2026. Don't miss your chance to apply! Get your application submitted before the deadline and secure your scholarship today.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

JNEC OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25  
& FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26  
AND  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1  
FOR THE HOLIDAYS