

CURRENTS

JNEC's January Newsletter

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Why Is My Electric Bill Higher Than My Neighbors?

Your electric bill is a result of your habits and behaviors, as well as the choices you make to stay comfortable. It reflects the amount of electricity consumed by you and your family in the past month. Your neighbor's home may be different in terms of the number of people living there, lifestyle, size and age of the home, equipment/electronics, etc. These and other factors make a comparison with your neighbor less meaningful. Don't overlook hobbies or businesses that operate from home. They also affect the amount of electricity you use.

CHECK- If your electric bill seems higher than expected, sometimes you'll find equipment using electricity that you thought was turned off. It could be a well pump, electric heat unit, closet, or attic lights.

RECORD- Take action to better understand how energy is used in your home. To start, track your current consumption utilizing your cooperative's online bill pay program. Advances in technology allow you - the member - to utilize these tools to monitor trends or patterns over time. If you're not enrolled in an online bill pay program, set a time each day to jot down the reading on the electricity meter outside your home. Your analysis will be more accurate if you take your readings at the same time each day. Subtract the previous day's reading from the current reading to determine how many kilowatt-hours (kWh) were used. Contact Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative if you have questions regarding your energy use. Our trusted energy experts can walk you through what could be causing increased electricity consumption throughout the day. Sometimes increased usage issues may require having a qualified electrician to check wiring and appliances for faults or other malfunctions.

ACT- Do Something About Your Electric Bill

You can have more power over your electric bill by acting on the information presented here.

Use Less. Change your habits. Start with easy changes. Utilize a programmable or smart thermostat to adjust temperatures when no one is home. Adjust the AC a few degrees warmer in the evening. During the winter, lower the thermostat setting when you go to sleep. Select efficient lighting options like LEDs. "Smart" LEDs can be managed from your smartphone. Place them in areas where lights are on the most. Take care of your heating and cooling systems by replacing filters and cleaning coils. Advanced power strips can reduce the amount of standby electricity used. They can sense when certain devices are on, off, or in standby mode, and automatically cut power to certain outlets. Turn off the lights when you leave a room. Keep lighting fixtures clean. Use less water. Set the thermostat on your water heater to 120°F or less. Fix faucet leaks. Insulate hot water pipes. Use the oven light to check on food instead of opening the oven door. Visit www.jnec.com for more easy tips to help you save energy and save money.



WIN A \$50 BILL CREDIT

Would you like to win a \$50 bill credit?

JNEC Members who register for paperless billing will be entered in a contest to win an electric bill credit!

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JASPER-NEWTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

For your chance to win, go to my.jnec.com, if you have not registered your account, you will need to register. Once an account is registered, users can select paperless billing. Once the billing statement is available, members will receive an email notifying them the billing statement can be viewed. NO MORE PAPER STATEMENTS!

Going digital is one of the best decisions you can make to pay your electric bill. By going online and setting up your account, you can manage your account information, see previous bills, view usage, make one-time, or set up recurring payments, all from the comfort of your home or on the go.

All members who enroll in paperless billing will be entered into the drawing for the chance to win one \$50 electric bill credit. The bill credit drawing will be at the end of the month. We appreciate all those who participate!

Scholarship Program



Application Deadline: February 10, 2023

For more information, please visit our website

www.jnec.com/scholarships



Touchstone Energy[®]
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5 Ways to Save During Winter

Winter weather typically means increased energy use at home. Keep your bills in check with these tips to save energy—and money!

Mind the thermostat. If you have a traditional heating and cooling system, set the thermostat to 68 degrees or lower. Consider a smart or programmable thermostat for additional savings.

Get cozy. Add layers of clothing for additional warmth, and snuggle up under your favorite heavyweight blanket.

Don't block the heat. If your air vents or heating elements (like radiators) are blocked by furniture or rugs, your home isn't being adequately heated.

Take advantage of sunlight. Open window coverings during the day to let natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to block the chilly night air.

Block air leaks. Seal windows and exterior doors with caulk and weather stripping to improve indoor comfort and decrease the amount of energy used to heat your home.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.

