



# Live Wire



Roosevelt County Electric

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
The power of human connections®

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121 North Main • PO Box 389  
Portales, New Mexico 88130  
Operating in portions of Chaves,  
Curry, De Baca and all of  
Roosevelt counties

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &  
GENERAL MANAGER •**

Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Pos 2-Wesley Brown, Pres.
- Pos 5-Kenneth Cox, VP
- Pos 6-Chris Duncan, Sec. At-Large
- Pos 4-Charles Bennett, Jr.
- Pos 1-Janet Collins
- Pos 3-Gene Creighton
- Pos 7-Darrell Caviness At-Large

- E-billing
- Co-op Connections card discounts
- Energy Efficiency Loans
- New Construction Rebates
- Free Conversion Water Heaters

*“Roosevelt County Electric  
Cooperative, Inc. is an equal  
opportunity provider  
and employer”*

**CONTACT US:**

**rcec.coop**

575-356-4491

After Hours 575-356-4492

Fax 575-359-1651

**Co-op Connections® Card**



**Job Anniversaries**

- Debbie Goff.....29 yrs
- Matt Neece.....22 yrs
- Janice Castillo.....16 yrs
- Jeremy Neal.....15 yrs
- Paul Spence.....3 yrs

## RCEC Welcomes New Electric Vehicle (EV) To Our Fleet



With the evolution of the electric vehicle (EV), their technological advancements and more affordable pricing, the decision to purchase a new Tesla was made in late 2019. The thought behind this purchase was to become more educated in the effects they would pose on our system for charging, energy consumption and potential load growth as members of the cooperative and commercial entities on our system deployed level 2 and level 3 (DC fast charger) charging stations. Soon we will be adding a page to our new website dedicated to discussions, facts and figures regarding EVs and our personal experiences with our Tesla.

### Five Reasons Why Buying an Electric Vehicle is a Good Idea

1. **The biggest benefit of buying an electric car is the fuel cost savings.** Your fuel expenses are drastically reduced with the replacement of gas costs with a minimal electric cost. The average fuel savings for an EV owner is approximately \$1,500 per year!
2. **It's the best way to reduce your carbon footprint and cut back on greenhouse gas emissions.** The average EV in the US today produces the emissions equivalent of a gasoline car that gets 100 miles per gallon or above, and the emissions are only decreasing with the increase of renewable generation on the electric grid.
3. **Lower Maintenance Costs.** Electric cars don't have an engine that requires oil to lubricate, thus, no more \$50-\$75 oil and filter changes. Over time, the reduced costs can result in large savings!
4. **Electric Vehicles are Increasingly Affordable.** As consumer demand has increased, automakers have begun to offer more models and options. As a result, the costs of electric vehicles have decreased.
5. **Electric Vehicles Offer a Great Driving Experience.** EVs generally have a lower center of gravity which offers better handling, comfort, and responsiveness. The electric engine provides smooth acceleration and deceleration, and a quiet ride, all of these components make electric vehicles pleasant to drive.

## 2020 Annual Meeting Update

April 13, 2020 was designated as our 82nd Annual Meeting of the Members of RCEC. Annual reports were created, the nominating committee met during their designated times and trustee candidates for positions 3 and 6 were obtained. The venue was reserved, meals were ordered and entertainment was scheduled. Unfortunately, this date came and went. The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has not only affected our ability to provide this meeting of the members but it has affected various activities throughout the world. Fortunately, RCEC Bylaws, as currently written, contain provisions for failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time and place and allow for a special meeting of the members to be called by the Board of Trustees. RCEC will notify its members of any plans for a special meeting as instructed within our Bylaws. Our priority at this time is the safety and health of our employees, our members and our community. Even during this pandemic, RCEC remains committed to provide safe, reliable and affordable electrical service to the members we serve.

### Energy Conservation: 5 ways to save energy

#### 1. Adjust your day-to-day behaviors

To reduce energy consumption in your home, you do not necessarily need to go out and purchase energy efficient products. Energy conservation can be as simple as turning off lights or appliances when you do not need them. You can also use energy-intensive appliances less by performing household tasks manually, such as hang-drying your clothes instead of putting them in the dryer, or washing dishes by hand. The behavior adjustments that have the highest potential for utility savings are turning down the heat on your thermostat in the winter and using your air conditioner less in the summer. Heating and cooling costs constitute nearly half of an average home's utility bills, so these reductions in the intensity and frequency of heating and cooling offer the greatest savings.

#### 2. Replace your light bulbs

Traditional incandescent light bulbs consume an excessive amount of electricity and must be replaced more often than their energy efficient alternatives. Halogen incandescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lights (CFLs), and light-emitting diode bulbs (LEDs) use anywhere from 25-80% less electricity and last three to 25 times longer than traditional bulbs. Although energy efficient bulbs are more expensive off the shelf, their efficient energy use and longer service lives mean that they cost less in the long run. Energy efficient bulbs are the clear winners in terms of their environmental and financial benefits.

#### 3. Use smart power strips

"Phantom loads," or the electricity used by electronics when they are turned off or in standby mode, are a major source of energy waste. In fact, it is estimated that 75% of the energy used to power household electronics is consumed when they are switched off, which can cost you up to \$200 per year. Smart power strips, also known as advanced power strips, eliminate the problem of phantom loads by shutting off the power to electronics when they are not in use. Smart power strips can be set to turn off at an assigned time, during a period of inactivity, through remote switches, or based on the status of a "master" device.

#### 4. Install a programmable or smart thermostat

A programmable or smart thermostat can be set to automatically turn off or reduce heating and cooling during the times when you are asleep or away. When you install a programmable thermostat, you eliminate wasteful energy use from heating and cooling without upgrading your HVAC system or sacrificing any comfort. On average, a programmable thermostat can save you \$180 per year. Programmable thermostats come in different models that can be set to fit your weekly schedule. Additional features of programmable thermostats can include indicators for when to replace air filters or HVAC system problems, which also improve the efficiency of your heating and cooling system.

#### 5. Purchase energy efficient appliances

On average, appliances are responsible for roughly 13% of your total household energy use. When purchasing an appliance, you should pay attention to two numbers: the initial purchase price and the annual operating cost. Although energy efficient appliances usually have higher purchase prices, their operating costs are 9-25% lower than conventional models. When purchasing an energy efficient appliance, you should look for appliances with the *ENERGY STAR* label, which is a federal guarantee that the appliance will consume less energy during use and when on standby than standard non-energy efficient models. Energy savings differ based on the specific appliance. For example, *ENERGY STAR* certified clothes washers consume 25% less energy and 45% less water than conventional ones, whereas *ENERGY STAR* refrigerators use only 9% less energy.

## Products & Services

- Free 40 gallon conventional water heaters with conversion from gas
- Surge protection programs
- Water Purification systems
- New Construction Rebates
- 3% Interest Energy Efficiency loans
- 0% Ground Loop Loans
- Thermal Energy Service for Ground Loops
- Low Interest Irrigation System loans
- Energy Star appliance loans
- Scholarships
- Youth Tour contest
- Electrical safety demonstrations
- Electric heating/water heater rates

## Non-Residential Deposits

Delinquent nonresidential accounts without a continuing letter of guaranty from financial institution are required to pay a deposit equal to 25% of the delinquent bill. On 3rd consecutive delinquency, a deposit equal to 1/6th of the estimated annual billing will be assessed.

## Residential Deposits

For residential consumers a deposit equal to 1/6th of the estimated annual billing is required if the account becomes delinquent three or more times in one year. After that year, the deposit may be refunded and applied to the next month's bill provided the account has not been delinquent in that year. If a service is disconnected, the deposit is applied to the final bill if all requirements have been met.

## Calendar of Events

May 7.....National Day of Prayer  
May 10.....Mother's Day  
May 16.....Armed Forces Day  
May 26.....Board Meeting  
May 25.....Memorial Day  
Office will be closed on Memorial Day

*Our Office will be closed May 25th in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. In case of an outage, Call our after hours number at 575-356-4492*