

News Release



**Woodruff Electric
Cooperative Corporation**

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WOODRUFF ELECTRIC OFFERS TIPS FOR MANAGING ENERGY USE DURING COVID

As American families and businesses continue to remote-work, they may see a surge in home energy use – and in upcoming electric bills. Simple money-saving steps can help lower monthly electric bills without jeopardizing safety or comfort.

“America’s electric cooperatives understand the increased financial hardships facing families and businesses due to the economic impact of COVID-19,” said Michael Swan, Woodruff Electric President/CEO. “It’s important for families to be mindful of their energy use and consider adjusting certain habits to avoid higher costs later on.”

Recommended energy-saving tips include:

- **Program your thermostat to maximize energy savings.** Setting your thermostat one degree lower when heating or one degree higher when cooling can reduce energy use by up to 5 percent.
- **Do full loads of laundry and wash with cold water.** Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load’s energy use in half, and using cold water will save even more.
- **Air dry dishes.** This step can cut your dishwasher’s energy use by up to 50 percent.
- **Substitute LEDs for conventional light bulbs.** Lighting can amount to up to 12% of monthly energy use. LED bulbs can cut lighting costs by 75%.
- **Unplug appliances and electronics when not in use.** Small appliances and electronics use energy even when not in use. When powered on, game consoles, televisions and similar electronics are responsible for up to 12 percent of energy use.

Woodruff Electric Cooperative, headquartered in Forrest City, is a member-owned electric utility. Woodruff Electric serves electric power to more than 19,000 homes, farms, and businesses in parts of Woodruff, Prairie, Monroe, Cross, St. Francis, Lee, and Phillips counties in eastern Arkansas. The District offices are located in Augusta, Moro and Barton.

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