

Let's Beat the Peak Together

As a member of Woodruff Electric Cooperative, you know that making smart energy choices to lower your energy consumption can help you save money. But did you know that *when* you use electricity can be just as important as how much you use?

Throughout the day, energy use fluctuates based on consumer demand. Typically, most households use larger amounts of electricity from 3 to 7 p.m., when people return from work, cook dinner, wash clothes and watch television.

These times, when members are using more electricity at the same time, are called "peak" hours. The cost to provide power is higher during these times because of the additional demand for electricity, especially during the hot summer months. When temperatures are 90 degrees or higher, your daily power consumption can rise significantly.

By shifting some of your energy use to hours when demand is lower, also known as "off-peak" hours, you can help your cooperative to avoid purchasing energy when costs are the highest and keep energy costs low.

Here are a few easy ways you can shift energy use to off-peak hours:

- **Adjust your thermostat.** During summer months, raise the thermostat a few degrees. The smaller the difference between the outdoor and desired indoor temperature, the less energy your air conditioning unit will use.

- **Limit the use of hot water.** Wash full loads of clothes in cold water. Take showers and baths in the morning or later at night.

- **Run the dishwasher right before you go to bed.**

Instead of using the heated dry cycle, open the dishwasher to air dry.

PEAK ALERT



**SAVE ENERGY FROM 3-7 P.M.
WHEN ELECTRICITY COSTS ARE
AT THEIR HIGHEST!**

- **Turn off lights and electronics when not in use.**

Try to make this a daily habit, whether during peak or off-peak hours.

- **Avoid using the oven and stove.**

Outdoor grills or small appliances, like microwaves, are more energy-efficient and will not heat up the home.

There are many ways to save energy and money by making a few minor adjustments to your daily routine.



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Cooperative Corporation**

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FOUR FACTORS THAT MAY IMPACT YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

Hot summer days impact the amount of electricity you use each month and can increase your bill. If your electric bill is higher than usual, here are four factors that may impact it:

1. Consumption. The primary factor that impacts your monthly bill is the amount of energy used. The more energy your home uses, the higher your electric bill will be. Heating and cooling systems typically account for more than 50% of your home's energy.

2. Weather. Changes in outdoor temperatures impact your bill. As temperatures rise in the summer, your home's energy usage increases. The greater the difference between the outdoor temperature and your desired indoor temperature means your cooling system is using more energy to reach the desired indoor temperature.

3. Energy Costs. Because energy costs can change

regularly, you may see a credit or charge each month depending on current energy prices and the amount of energy used. Energy cost adjustments are implemented to recover the varying cost of fuel used to generate electricity that is not recovered in the utility's base electric rates. The energy cost adjustment only recovers the actual cost of fuel and purchased energy. The electric cooperatives make no margins (profits) on the adjustment.

4. Billing Cycles. Billing cycles can vary depending on the dates billed. More days in a billing cycle may make your bill seem higher than normal.

We're here to help! Reach out to Woodruff Electric Cooperative at 870-633-2262. We can review your electric bill and your usage. We can also discuss energy audits, recommend energy-savings tips and suggest billing or payment methods that may help.



Woodruff Electric delegates attend Youth Tour

Griffin Witcher of Cherry Valley and Talia Burton of Forrest City represented Woodruff Electric Cooperative at Youth Tour, an all-expenses-paid educational trip to Washington, D.C., from June 17-23. Griffin is the son of Kent and Stacy Witcher. Talia is the daughter of Lia Burton.

Applications for the 2023 Youth Tour will be available in February. For more information on Youth Tour, please contact Anna Howton at 870-633-2262 or by email at ahorton@woodruffelectric.com.

At right: Woodruff Electric delegates Griffin Witcher and Talia Burton pose in front of George Washington's home, Mount Vernon. They were two of 35 delegates representing Arkansas on Youth Tour.



my co-op

CHANCE ALLMON

Behind the lines at Woodruff Electric

Employee Spotlight: Tammy Hankins

Title: Cashier

Department: District III - Moro

How would you explain your job to someone else? My daily job deals with handling the day-to-day office duties. I receive member payments, dispatch personnel to work on power outages and assist members with new service applications, disconnects and changes with their electric service.

What does a normal day at work look like for you? A normal day at work consists of answering numerous phone calls, working with local farmers handling their irrigation accounts, dispatching personnel and working with the membership.

How long have you been working at WECC? I have been working at Woodruff for seven years.

What is the best part of your job? The best part of my job is getting to work with people every day. I am such a people person and really enjoy working with co-workers and our members.

What is the biggest challenge you face in your job? The biggest challenge I face is explaining to members new technologies affecting the electric power industry.

Who is your family? My family includes my husband, Tommy, and two children, Katy and Cody. Oh, and of course all of my fur babies!

Do you have any community involvement or activities? I attend Ridgewood Baptist Church in Forrest City.

What are some of your favorite hobbies? I really enjoy fishing and camping with my husband and my new dog, Rosie.

What is your favorite food? I am such a foodie person and would have to say pretty much everything is my favorite, but Mexican food would be my all-time favorite.

What will you absolutely not eat? I will not eat chitterlings; I won't even try them.

What is your trademark cliché or expression? Be kind to everyone.

What would you like to learn how to do? I would like to learn how to be a better photographer.



What are a few items that you collect?

Oh gosh, I try not to collect anything anymore. I am trying to go by "less is more."

If I've learned one thing in life, it's: Every day I create my own happiness. I don't let others dictate my happiness. I choose happiness.

One thing on my bucket list is: To go parasailing.