

NE CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

THE YOUTH EDITION

COLORING CONTEST & YOUTH PROGRAMS



OPERATION ROUND UP

ASSISTS CRAIG COUNTY FAIR BOARD

FEBRUARY 2021



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

NE CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Northeast Connection is published monthly to communicate with the members of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative.

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27039 South 4440 Road, Vinita, OK 74301

GROVE OFFICE

212 South Main, Grove, OK 74344

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Offices are closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

DISPATCHING AVAILABLE 24 HOURS AT

1.800.256.6405

If you experience an outage:

1. Check your switch or circuit breaker in the house and on the meter pole to be sure the trouble is not on your side of the service.
2. When contacting the cooperative to report an outage, use the name as it appears on your bill, and have both your pole number and account number ready.

Please direct all editorial inquiries to Public Relations at 800.256.6405 or email publicrelations@noec.coop

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAILY

Lindsey Leforce

Manager of Member Services

As I sit down to reflect on my career at Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, there are a few things I would like to share.

First and foremost, I want to thank

NOEC for giving me an opportunity to prove myself 40 years ago.

Prior to coming to work here, I was living on Grand Lake and making the daily drive to Tulsa to work for PSO. I left early each morning and came home late each night. If the weather was bad, I would simply stay all night.

In January of 1980, NOEC had an opening in dispatch. I thought I would apply and try to find a job closer to home. I was hired and on February 4 I began my cooperative career. Larry Love was my supervisor and after two weeks of training I started working the night shift. Wouldn't you know we lost power to a section of underground my very first night.

Larry and I had not discussed anything to do with underground so I called and woke him up so he could assist me. I always wanted to figure things out on my own, but with no prior knowledge, I felt it was important to use one of my lifelines to phone the boss.

The great thing about starting in dispatch was that Larry and another dispatcher named Bill Jarvis had both been linemen. I asked them a lot of questions.

On the night shift you had the unenviable task of waking linemen up in the middle of the night to go work. For years, wives of these linemen would tell me: 'Hey, you're the one who keeps waking me up at night.'

In 1993, I had an opportunity to move to the front offices. Our general manager at the time, Bob Thornton, approached me about floating with different departments. He wanted me to fill in when we were short-handed. I worked as a cashier, assisted Member Services with new sign-ups and delinquents, helped in Engineering, and still worked as a dispatcher when needed.

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FEATURED RECIPE



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CRAIG CO. FENCE PROJECT



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2021 YOUTH PROGRAMS

Events are published as space allows and must be submitted at least 60 days in advance. Send information, including phone number for publication, to Northeast Connection Events Calendar, PO Box 948, Vinita 74301 or email to publicrelations@noec.coop

\$100 IS HIDING!

Search the pages of NE Connection for a 6-digit account number with an asterisk on each side. For example: *XXXXXX*. Compare it to your account number, which appears on your monthly electric bill. If they match, contact the cooperative at 918.256.9337, by March 1, 2021, to claim a \$100 credit on your electric account.

FEBRUARY 2021 EVENTS

Northeast District Livestock Show

Feb 4-6 | Pryor

Mayes County Fairgrounds
918.825.3241

Bingo for Everyone

Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 | Grove

American Legion Post 178
918.786.9860

Grief Support Group

Feb 9, 23 | Grove

Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services
918.786.6761

14th Annual Chocolate Affair

Feb 10 | Vinita

Home of Hope
918.256.7825

Grove Home & Garden Show

Feb 12 | Grove

Grove Civic Center
918.786.9079

Raise the Bar

Feb 13 | Online Event

CrossFit Pryor Creek
918.645.2065

Cold Weather Activity Ideas

1. Try a new indoor workout routine or bundle up and take a walk or run outside. The most effective routine is the one you will do consistently.
2. Pick out a puzzle that's been hiding in your closet for several years and challenge yourself or you and your family to complete it within a certain time frame.
3. When is the last time you cleaned out your fridge? Give it a look over and clean up any old spills or sticky spots.
4. Try out a new cooking recipe or dust off an old family favorite.
5. Tackle that home DIY you've been meaning to finish.
6. Do a closet clean-out; make a pile of any items you haven't worn in several years and donate them locally.

February events are subject to date change or cancellation. Please contact the host for most current event information.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAILY

Continued from inside cover.

The cooperative has experienced some pretty monumental changes over the years. We started offering satellite television in 1988 with clumsy C-Band satellite dishes that were installed in yards. It wasn't long before those big dishes were replaced by 18-inch dishes that were mounted on rooftops. Soon after we began offering Internet service over phone lines, leasing pagers, and installing two-way radios for emergency responders throughout the region.

Since Delaware county had about 55 percent of our membership, in 1998 we opened a branch office in Grove. Four of us manned that office originally. The faces have changed over the years, but those Grove employees are still great at what they do.

In 2009, I had the privilege of becoming supervisor of Member Services. I took over for Susanne Frost when she moved to management. Susanne selected me to fill her shoes. I remained in that role until she retired in December 2018 and I applied for her position as Manager of Member Services. Our current general manager, Daniel Webster, had just been hired and one of his first tasks was to choose a successor to Susanne. I was grateful to be selected and in January 2019 I took over as Manager of Member Services.

People ask me what I would do differently. The truth is I wouldn't change much. I trusted our employees to understand and serve the membership. There was an occasional mistake, but we learned from our mistakes. So, yes, I put a lot of trust in our employees. I also felt it was important for them to have an opportunity to learn different things. Two things I learned along the way: each person learns things differently, and one more day can make a difference.

In closing, I will tell you the cooperative world has changed through the years. Technology is obviously much better today than it was 40 years ago. Serving members, however, remains exactly the same. You listen to their needs and try to bring resolution.

I will miss the day-to-day interaction with both our employees and membership. I have met many great people during my time with NOEC. I consider them family. We have laughed together, cried together, and served our membership together. I love each and every person I've worked with over the years. They will always hold a special place in my heart. I will leave the employees of NOEC with this: *Continue to make a difference daily.*

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Editor's Note: We would like to take a moment to congratulate Lindey Leforce on 40 years of loyal cooperative service. Lindey is officially calling it a career February 4, 2021. We want him to enjoy a much-deserved retirement knowing that he will be sorely missed by employees and members alike.





OPERATION ROUND UP

ASSISTS CRAIG COUNTY FAIR BOARD WITH FENCE PROJECT

Even a pandemic can't slow down Operation Round-Up. The benevolent arm of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative and its membership continues to reach into surrounding communities with much-needed grant funding.

While a virus was leaving a path of destruction in 2020, Operation Round-Up continued building bridges of progress. A total of \$105,115.74 in grant funding was provided to organizations in need while COVID-19 was busy wreaking its havoc in 2020.

A total of \$21,389.69 in grants was awarded to eight different organizations during the latest meeting of the Operation Round-Up Trust Foundation Directors. The Trust Foundation board meets every other month to disburse accumulated funds. The largest grant awarded during the November 2020 disbursal was \$4,039.92 that will be used by the Craig County Fair Board to help construct approximately 6,000 feet of pipe and cable fence around the perimeter of the county fairgrounds. Some of the materials and labor for the project are being donated. The project will enhance security and provide better access control.

"This fence project has been on our fair board agenda for a couple of years," explained Dianna Just, who serves as secretary for the Craig County Fair Board. "We have been working to coordinate a welder and materials such as the pipe and cable at the least expense possible. The funds from this grant will allow us to purchase the final items needed so the fence can be completed in the near future with nearly all needs filled through donation. As a fair board we are so grateful to have the money to purchase the needed supplies."

Bob Willy, who has served on the Craig County Fair Board for 40 years, including the last 30 as chairman, also voiced his appreciation for the generosity of NOEC members.

"We are extremely grateful to members of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative and for the grant from Operation Round-Up," Willy said. "It has enabled us to make a much-needed improvement to our grounds."

Charlotte Corlett represents District 4 on the Operation Round-Up Trust Foundation Board. She said the Foundation was pleased to be able to assist with the project.

"On behalf of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative and the Operation Round-Up Board of Directors, we are happy to be able to meet this need for our community," remarked Corlett. "The Craig County Fairgrounds play a vital role in the Vinita community by hosting numerous events and activities that are attended by many. We know this enhancement will be beneficial."

Operation Round-Up is an amazing demonstration of the care and concern members of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative have for their friends and neighbors. The cooperative adopted Operation Round-Up in 1998. More than 300 electric co-ops across the U.S. now operates the program as a way to positively impact the communities where they serve.

NOEC is humbled by all that has been accomplished over the past 22 years. During that time, \$3,168,217.04 has been allocated to causes throughout its service territory of Craig, Mayes, Delaware, Ottawa and Rogers counties.

What is remarkable is how little Operation Round-Up asks of each contributor in proportion to the amount of good it does. Our cooperative rolled out the program with the slogan Small Change that Changes Lives. That description is no less fitting today.

Operation Round-Up does just what its name implies. Each month, our cooperative simply "rounds up" the electric bills of participating members to the next highest dollar.

As a voluntary program, Operation Round-Up relies on member participation to ensure its success. When a member does participate, the average contribution is about 50 cents per month, totaling around \$6 on an annual basis. A bill of \$52.73 would be rounded up to \$53 with the additional 27 cents going to the Operation Round-Up fund. This may seem like small change, but if every NOEC member took part in the program, nearly \$200,000 a year could be raised to help worthy community projects within our service area.

All Operation Round-Up donations are placed in trust and administered by an independent board of directors called the Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative Trust Foundation. The Trust Foundation board consists of one designee from each of the cooperative's nine districts and is made up of community leaders who serve on a voluntary basis. The Trust Foundation board receives and evaluates all requests, determines who receives funding and how all Operation Round-Up monies will be distributed. Typically, the funding is used to address crucial community needs such as emergency equipment, medical care and education—but is not limited to these categories.

Corlett has served on the Operation Round-Up Trust Foundation Board of Directors since the inception of the organization.

"Operation Round-Up has helped many organizations like the Craig County Fair Board accomplish important goals over the years," said Corlett. "I encourage all Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative members to review their monthly statements and make sure they are participating in Operation Round-Up. The maximum contribution is 99 cents per month. Collectively, that can add up in a big way for community organizations searching for ways to fund important projects."

If you would like to sign up to participate in Operation Round-Up, or if you need additional information, contact a Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative member services representative toll-free at 800.256.6405.



NOEC SUPPORTS AREA SCHOOLS

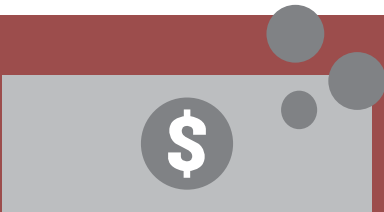
THROUGH TAX DISTRIBUTIONS

Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative paid gross receipts tax totaling \$1,430,392.95 in 2020. This total was divided among the 32 schools in the cooperative service area.

Not-for-profit electric cooperatives are exempt from paying federal income tax. However, they do pay fuel, state and federal unemployment tax, Social Security, Medicare and gross receipts tax, in lieu of the ad-valorem tax paid by for-profit utility companies.

Gross receipts tax collected for a given year represents two percent of each member's electric bill. Ninety-five percent of this tax is paid directly to schools within our service area, based on the miles of line the cooperative maintains within each school district. The remaining five percent of the collected gross receipts tax is withheld by the state for collection and handling fees.

By paying a percentage of the cooperative's gross income to support area school districts, Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative members are sharing in the responsibility of educating today's youth. The table provided below lists the school systems and the amounts they received.



AMOUNT RECEIVED: BY SCHOOL

Adair	\$71,182.94	Inola	\$3,213.34	Pryor	\$41,753.83
Afton	\$36,954.33	Jay	\$139,845.52	Quapaw	\$35,239.43
Bluejacket	\$86,039.67	Kansas	\$67,308.32	Salina	\$48,192.56
Chelsea	\$57,906.97	Kenwood	\$9,798.95	Sequoyah	\$926.77
Chouteau Mazie	\$41,111.32	Ketchum	\$36,200.15	Turkey Ford	\$17,594.65
Cleora	\$28,063.57	Leach	\$20,697.79	Vinita	\$44,121.85
Colcord	\$60,828.19	Locust Grove	\$30,960.24	Welch	\$86,467.34
Commerce	\$18,732.66	Miami	\$35,563.44	White Oak	\$35,453.27
Fairland	\$52,474.86	Moseley	\$25,506.21	Wickliffe	\$14,752.48
Foyil	\$247.68	Oaks	\$12,670.34	Wyandotte	\$74,272.47
Grove	\$185,125.01	Osage	\$11,186.80		



COLORING CONTEST FOR KIDS

**YOU COULD WIN A CASH PRIZE &
YOUR ARTWORK ON BILLBOARDS THROUGHOUT OUR SERVICE TERRITORY!**

NOEC wants to know how you stay safe around electricity! Show us how on the page at right by drawing and coloring in your own picture!

Official Rules: Winning entries will be chosen based on conceptual merit as it pertains to the prompt: "How I stay safe around electricity." All artwork must be original and not a copy of someone else's copyrighted material. Artwork must be hand drawn by entrant.

Entries will be accepted from kids age 13 and under until March 1, 2021. A winner from each of our four service territory counties (Craig/Rogers, Delaware, Mayes, and Ottawa) will win a \$50 cash prize and have their artwork featured on a billboard.

Please direct any questions to the NOEC Public Relations team at 800.256.6405 or email publicrelations@noec.coop and good luck!



Needing more than one page? Scan this code with your smartphone camera to access a printable version on our website.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2021

Drop off at one of our offices:

27039 S 4440 Rd, Vinita, OK, 74301
212 S Main St, Grove, OK, 74344

Or mail to:

PO Box 948, Vinita, OK 74301

ELIGIBLE ENTRANTS MUST:

- **Be age 13 or under**
- **Reside in NOEC service territory**

Four winners will have their coloring page featured on a billboard in their respective service territory.

Billboard locations include:

Grove
Miami
Pryor
Vinita

cut along dotted line

Electric Safety

How I stay safe around electricity:

Please do not draw below this line.

Name _____

Age _____

County _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone _____

Return to:
27039 S 4440 Rd, Vinita, OK 74301
212 S Main St, Grove, OK 74344

Mail to:
PO Box 948, Vinita, OK 74301



cut along dotted line

NOEC REWARDING

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative is inviting area students to participate in its 2020-2021 school year youth programs and in return receive some much-deserved recognition.

The cooperative is sponsoring two essay contests, as well as a college scholarship opportunity. Information can be found online at www.noec.coop under the Community Services tab. Interested individuals can request information by emailing clint.branham@noec.coop or by phone at 1.800.256.9340. Please use the forms on the following pages to participate.



Wanting a digital application or needing more than one? Scan this code with your smartphone camera to access the applications on our website.



COLLEGE/TRADE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

High school seniors whose parents or guardians are Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative members and who live in a household served by NOEC electric are encouraged to apply for a \$1,000 college/trade school scholarship. Application deadline is March 19, 2021. Four winners will be selected. An application is included in this issue of Northeast Connection. Additional copies are available upon request.

YOUTH TOUR

NOEC will be sending four high school juniors from its service area on a week-long, all-expense-paid tour of our nation's capital in 2021 as part of its annual Youth Tour essay contest. If you are in the eleventh grade and attend school within the cooperative service area of Mayes, Delaware, Craig and Ottawa Counties (or Chelsea High School in Rogers County) you are eligible to enter this contest. Youth Tour hopefuls can submit a written essay of 500 words or more on the topic: *"Of The Seven Cooperative Principles, My Favorite Is..."*. Submissions must be received on or before March 5, 2021. Youth Tour winners will visit Washington, D. C., June 18-24, 2021. (Note: Should COVID-19 force cancellation of the 2021 Youth Tour, NOEC will award \$1,000 scholarships to the four essay contest finalists. These scholarships can be applied to a college or trade school of the student's choice.)

ENERGY CAMP

Four eighth-graders from the cooperative service area will enjoy a week-long adventure at Canyon Camp near beautiful Red Rock Canyon in Hinton, Oklahoma, during the 2021 Energy Camp. A winning essay will earn these eighth-graders an opportunity to take part in a fun and educational trip that comes around only once. A written essay of 500 words or fewer on the topic: *"Three Ways I Can Help My Family Save Energy..."* may be submitted between now and April 9, 2021. Energy Camp runs June 1-4, 2021. (Note: A virtual Energy Camp is scheduled should the traditional camp experience be cancelled due to COVID-19.)

TEACHER INCENTIVE

NOEC is encouraging area teachers to get involved and incorporate the essay contests into classroom curriculum. If an instructor whose administration of an essay as part of classroom curriculum produces a contest finalist, he or she could be rewarded with as much as \$200 toward the purchase of classroom materials or equipment.



Application for \$1,000 Scholarship
For Area High School Seniors | Deadline: March 19, 2021

I. Personal Information

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Home Address _____
Parents or Guardians: *Name and address if not the same.* _____
Household Account # with Northeast Electric _____
Home Phone Number _____ Email Address _____
Name of High School _____ Year Graduating _____
What college/trade school do you plan to attend? _____
What will be your major field of study? _____

II. Financial Information

Household Income ☐ ≤\$20,000/yr ☐ \$20,001 - \$37,999/yr ☐ \$38,000 - \$69,999/yr ☐ \$70,000/yr+
Number in Family _____
Factors or circumstances that affect your financial need _____

Other scholarships, grants, or financial awards you have received _____

III. Academic Performance & Potential: *Please Attach High School Transcript*

High School Grade Point Average _____
Most Recent ACT and/or SAT Score, Plus Others ACT _____ SAT _____ Other _____
Honors & Recognition Received _____

Other Academic Achievements: *i.e. advanced placement course work, Vo-Tech education, etc.* _____

IV. Other Activities: *List Includes During High School Only*

Participation In Extra-Curricular Activities _____

Membership In Organizations _____

Offices Held In Organizations _____

Work Experience _____ Are You Currently Employed? _____
What Type of Work? _____ Other Types of Work? _____

All applicants must reside in a household served by NOEC, be in the top one-third of his/her graduating class, submit two letters of recommendation (one school source & one character reference), and submit an official copy of their high school transcript. Return this application with the supporting documentation listed above to: Scholarship Coordinator, Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, PO Box 948, Vinita, Oklahoma 74301. For more information about NOEC's college/ trade school scholarship please contact Clint Branham at 918.256.9340 or clint.branham@noec.coop All information submitted is confidential.



Youth Tour Essay Contest

For Area High School Juniors

Tour Date: June 18-24, 2021 | Contest Deadline: March 5, 2021

Win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. Submit a 500-word (or more) essay on the topic: **"Of The Seven Cooperative Principles, My Favorite Is..."**

Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Names of Both Parents/Guardians _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

College/Trade School I Plan to Attend _____ Email _____

If Youth Tour is canceled we will use this information for scholarship eligibility.

Current School _____ Name of Instructor _____

If essay is administered as part of a classroom assignment.

If selected, I will attend Youth Tour Yes ☐ No ☐

I agree to abide by the rules of the contest and decision of the judges* Yes ☐ No ☐

Signature of Student _____ Tee Shirt Size _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

**Essay winners are required to provide a Social Security # and birth date for purchase of airline ticket.
Photo ID will be required at airport.*

Mail or Deliver:

Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, c/o Youth Tour, PO Box 948, Vinita, OK 74301

For More Information Contact:

Clint Branham, Youth Programs Coordinator, at 918.256.9340 or clint.branham@noec.coop

Should COVID-19 force cancellation of the 2021 Youth Tour, NOEC will award \$1,000 scholarships to the four essay contest finalists. These scholarships can be applied to a college or trade school of the student's choice.



Energy Camp Essay Contest

For Area 8th-Grade Students

Camp Date: June 1-4, 2021 | Contest Deadline: April 9, 2021

Win an all-expense paid trip to Energy Camp in Hinton, Oklahoma, by submitting a 500-word or fewer written essay on the topic: **"Three Ways I Can Help My Family Save Energy..."**

Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Names of Both Parents/Guardians _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

School _____ Name of Instructor _____

If essay is administered as part of a classroom assignment.

If selected, I will attend Energy Camp Yes ☐ No ☐

I agree to abide by the rules of the contest and
decision of the judges Yes ☐ No ☐

Signature of Student _____ Tee Shirt Size _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Mail or Deliver:

Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, c/o Energy Camp, PO Box 948, Vinita, OK 74301

For More Information Contact:

Clint Branham, Youth Programs Coordinator, at 918.256.9340 or clint.branham@noec.coop

A virtual Energy Camp is scheduled should the traditional camp experience be canceled due to COVID-19.

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FEATURE RECIPE

MILKY WAY CAKE

SUBMITTED BY: DONNA FRISBY

OF CRAIG COUNTY

INGREDIENTS

- 8 Milky Way bars
- 3 sticks margarine
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2-1 cup of nuts
- 2 cups powdered sugar

1. Melt 6 Milky Way bars and 1 stick of margarine in a double boiler until smooth. Set aside.
2. Cream sugar and 1 stick of margarine together in bowl.
3. Add eggs, one at a time, to bowl with sugar and margarine and beat until smooth.
4. Add flour, buttermilk, and baking soda to mixture and combine well.

5. Add Milky Way mixture from step 1, vanilla extract, and nuts to bowl with other ingredients to combine.
6. Bake in a greased and floured tube pan at 325° F for 75-80 minutes. Cool cake before removing from pan and frost. Garnish as desired.

Frosting:

7. Melt 2 Milky Way bars and 1 stick of margarine in a double boiler. Then add 1 tsp of vanilla extract and 2 cups powdered sugar.
8. Beat by hand until smooth, adding milk to thin if necessary.



Cut up a Milky Way bar and use the chunks as a garnish for the top of the cake.

924311

FOOD SAFETY

DURING A POWER OUTAGE

Refrigerated or frozen foods may not be safe to eat after the loss of power. Find out what you can do to keep food safe during a power outage, and when you need to throw away food that could make you sick.

Before an outage:

- Keep appliance thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer. The refrigerator should be at 40°F or below. The freezer should be at 0°F or below.
- Have a cooler and frozen gel packs handy in case you have to remove your food from the refrigerator to keep it cold.

During an outage:

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed.
- If the doors stay closed, food will stay safe for up to 4 hours in a refrigerator, 24 hours in a half-full freezer, and 48 hours in a full freezer.
- If the power has been out for 4 hours, and a cooler and ice are available, put refrigerated perishable foods in the cooler. To keep them at 40°F or below, add ice or a cold source like frozen gel packs.

After an outage:

- Never taste food to determine if it is safe to eat. When in doubt, throw it out.
- Throw out perishable food in your refrigerator (meat, fish, cut fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, and leftovers) after 4 hours without power or a cold source like dry ice. Throw out any food with an unusual odor, color, or texture.
- Check temperatures of food kept in coolers or your refrigerator with an added cold source. Throw out food above 40°.



WASHER/DRYER ENERGY EFFICIENCY

According to Energy Star, the average American family does about 300 loads of laundry a year. Is there room for energy efficient improvements in your laundry routine?

Here are some simple switches:

- Wash clothes in cold water.
- Choose the moisture sensor option if your dryer has this setting.
- Consider skipping the dryer completely by air drying your clothes.
- Run a full load of laundry every time. Washers use about the same amount of energy for a small load as they do for a large load.
- Don't forget to clean your dryer's lint filter.
- If possible, upgrade to Energy Star appliances to reduce water and energy use.