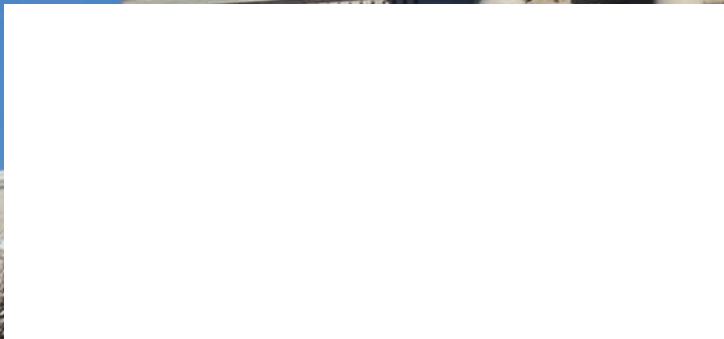


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TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner





You're invited to Taylor Electric Cooperative's 82nd annual meeting

Taylor Electric Cooperative's 82nd annual meeting will be held at the Medford Area Senior High School in Medford on Saturday, April 7, 2018, starting at 9:30 a.m. Come join your friends and neighbors to learn about your cooperative.

One of the most important duties of the members at this meeting will be to elect members to fill two seats on the board of directors. These seats include those currently held by Dean Tesch and Brian Hallgren, both of whom are eligible for re-election. Tesch has completed four three-year terms and is eligible for re-election. Hallgren has completed one three-year terms and is also eligible for re-election.

The nominating committee met on February 5, 2018, and approved the two incumbents. There were no other nominations. Please remember that any other member who wishes to be on the 2018 ballot needs to be nominated by petition, which involves getting signatures of not less than 25 members and delivering that nomination petition to the co-op not less than seven days prior to the annual meeting (by March 31, 2018, for the upcoming annual meeting).





Environmentally beneficial ELECTRIFICATION

How using electricity can benefit the environment

By Anne Prince

If you are like many Americans, when given the choice, you would prefer your energy come from renewable sources such as solar or wind power rather than fossil fuels. As electric utilities shift to more options that include renewable energy sources and make existing generation technologies cleaner, electricity uses less fossil fuel per kilowatt-hour of energy produced. This idea of “environmentally beneficial electrification” means that innovations in energy technology are creating new ways to use electricity instead of on-site fossil fuels such as propane, natural gas, and fuel oil.

In addition to the utility industry, environmental groups such as the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) recognize the value of this concept. Sheryl Carter, co-director, NRDC Energy Program, commented that, “Beneficial electrification will continue to play a big role in accelerating this transition in an effective and economic way, to the benefit of consumers, energy resilience and the environment.”

Electric appliances can become greener over time.

As a practical matter, beneficial electrification means that electric appliances, like your water heater, clothes dryer, and oven, have the potential to become greener over time. When

your electric co-op takes advantage of advances in technology and the market at the generation point, it means those efficiencies are inherently passed along to you, the co-op member.

Because large appliances have a typical lifespan of 15 to 20 years, it means that you are able to benefit from the flexibility of the grid in addition to the increased efficiency of the particular appliance. In other words, the high-efficiency electric oven you have today could be powered by renewable sources three years from now. This would not be the case with gas appliances where you are essentially locked into the technology of that gas appliance for the 15 to 20 year lifespan. As your co-op is able to tap into more renewable options in the future, the only way you would be able to benefit from this trend is through an electric appliance.

Small steps to reducing carbon footprint

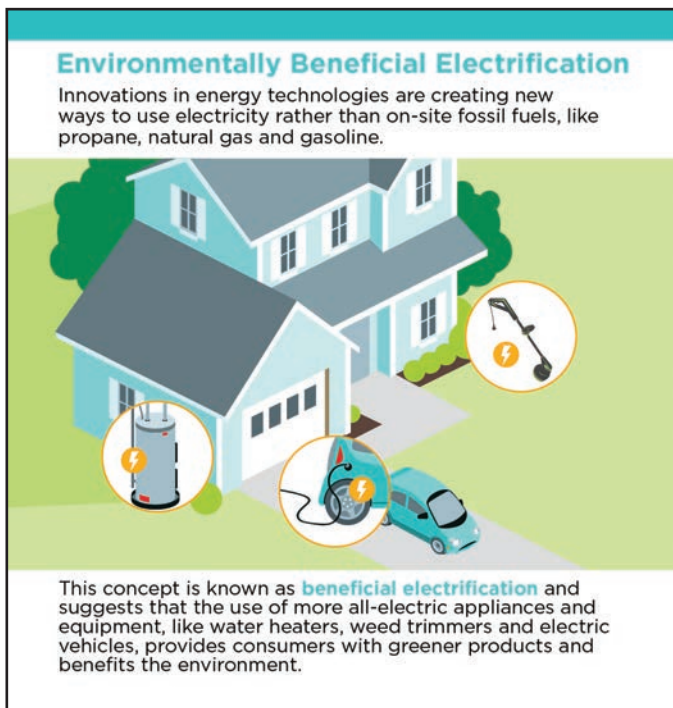
For consumers and homeowners looking for more environmentally friendly energy options, choosing electric appliances over those powered by fossil fuels is an easy solution. Whether through electric lawn mowers, blowers, and weed whackers (plug-in or rechargeable) or through electric water heaters and other appliances, beneficial electrification is a means to reducing greenhouse gases and helping the environment.

At the national level, electric co-ops across the country are purchasing and generating more renewable resources, bringing wind, solar and geothermal energy into the electric power system, which means electricity is becoming greener. As the overall energy sector continues to evolve, Taylor Electric is striving to take advantage of the advances in technology and the opportunities of the market as they become available. This means we can leverage the flexibility of the grid to offer a wider range of renewable power choices as we continue to deliver safe, reliable and affordable power to our community.

Look for ways to choose beneficial electrification in the future. As NRDC’s Carter further observed, “The successful transition to a clean energy future will require substantial reliance on efficient electric technologies like electric vehicles and advanced electric water heating, including heat pump or grid-interactive resistance water heaters, powered by an increasingly cleaner and more flexible electric system.”

Contact the energy experts at Taylor Electric Cooperative to discuss available renewable energy options and to learn about the latest ways to save energy.

Anne Prince writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation’s 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.



KEEP SAFE DURING CONSTRUCTION SEASON

In 2015, 60 percent of all fatal electrical injuries occurred in the construction industry. The construction industry remained the leading source of fatal electrical injuries with 81, more than four

times the contribution of the second-highest source, professional and business services. Learn how to work safely near power lines with these simple steps:

- Locate all overhead power lines
- Keep self and equipment 10 feet away from all overhead power lines
- Do not touch anything that is in contact with the power line
- Beware of fencing near power lines
- Lower equipment apparatus before driving
- Never spray water near power lines
- Stay at least 35 feet away from fallen power lines

OVERHEAD POWER LINE SAFETY

DANGER
POWER LINES
ABOVE

- 1

Locate all overhead power lines.


- 2

Keep self and equipment 10 feet away from all overhead power lines.


- 3

Do not touch anything that is in contact with the power line.


- 4

Beware of fencing near power lines.


- 5

Carry ladders and other equipment horizontally.


- 6

Lower equipment apparatus before driving.


- 7

Never spray water near power lines.


- 8

Stay at least 35 feet away from fallen power lines.



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By Derrill Holly

How many of us remember dropping into the Taylor Electric Cooperative office with our parents and grandparents to pay the light bill? Whether you do that in person, by mail or online today, paying your monthly bill does a lot more than just keep the lights on.

Electricity keeps us connected to our modern world. Consider all the necessities and conveniences we enjoy in part because of the power lines running to the electric meter outside your home.

Count up your televisions, desktop, laptop and tablet computers, printers, your gaming consoles, music and video players, and personal assistant devices. Whether they get used every day or just occasionally, the electricity that keeps them working comes from Taylor Electric.

Have you looked around your kitchen lately? Between the coffee maker and toaster and the microwave and electric skillet, a lot of us have added several other modern small appliances.

If you've got a craft nook or workshop, the power tools and machines you use to cut and shape your projects are either plugged in or recharged from the outlets connecting your household wiring to the cooperative.

You use electricity to run all these devices, and we still keep the lights on, use the stove, heating and air conditioning,

and get hot water from tap. The good news is, even as we rely more on electricity, it's still a bargain, especially compared to other things we pay for regularly.

Since 2011, medical care, residential rental rates, and education have increased at rates of 3 percent or more per year. Butter, meat, and egg costs have been up by more than one to 2 percent annually, and even bread costs have risen better than a half point on average.

Electricity costs rise about 1 percent a year, but co-ops across the country have reported a decline in average residential use per household since 2010. That means we're doing more things with less energy.

Kilowatt hour use per household dropped by 8 percent between 2010 and 2016, slightly less than the 9 percent decline reported by all electric utilities, nationwide.

When it comes to value, electricity is a clear winner, and we're always looking for ways to work with you to make it even better. That's why Taylor Electric urges energy efficiency, encourages you to look for ENERGY STAR® appliances, and promotes technology, designed to give members more control over their electricity use.

Energy performance dashboards, smart thermostats and power strips, and appliance settings that shift most water heating, laundry, and dishwashing outside of peak rate periods help reduce the co-op's overall power demand. They also give you opportunities to control or even trim your monthly utility bills.

That's good for families, couples, and individuals trying to live within their budgets. And it's going to become even more important as digital devices and internet-connected technologies become even more important in our lives.

The average home now has 10 Wi-Fi connected devices. That number is expected to explode to 50 by 2020. Technology and the gateways that keep it working use electricity, so you'll depend upon Taylor Electric for more than the power that keeps the lights on.

That's why we're always working to provide service that's reliable, keep it affordable, and make it even more valuable to our member—you, your family, and your neighbors.

Derrill Holly writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

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