

Y-W ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2023



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box Y
Akron, CO 80720



STREET ADDRESS

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Akron, CO 80720



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Y-W Electric Association, Inc.

is dedicated to providing high-quality, reliable electric service and related products to our members at competitive prices. Our members deserve and shall receive quality service unexcelled in our industry. We are committed to maintaining an environment where the Board of Directors and employees can perform at maximum potential to benefit our Y-W community.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Monday – Thursday

Serving up Savings

BY ANDREW MOLT DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES



ANDREW MOLT

The holiday season is just around the corner and soon festive music will flood the airwaves, sparkling lights and decorations will adorn homes and businesses, and good tidings will abound. The holidays also bring a frenzy of decorating, cooking, and family gatherings. Amid the hectic hustle and bustle, you may receive higher-than-usual energy bills. Keeping this in mind, I thought this month would be a good time to remind Y-W Electric Association, Inc. members of a few programs and efficiency tips to help lower your monthly energy use.

Programs designed to help you save.

Winter months typically bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. Making minor, low-cost improvements such as weatherstripping exterior doors and caulking around old, drafty windows can make a positive impact on energy bills. If you're not sure where to start, contact us to schedule a home energy audit. Our team of member service representatives is available to help, so I encourage you to give us a call if you'd like to learn about specific programs and services that can lower your bills. *Mary Ann Allman 2045005024*

Be festive without breaking the bank.

My festive family enjoys decorating for the Christmas season. We bring the Christmas decorations down from the attic after we finish the Thanksgiving turkey. With holiday lights adorning our home for well over a month, we decided to make the switch to LEDs to save energy. LED holiday lights use 88% less energy than incandescent holiday lights. To put that into perspective, the Department of Energy estimates that with standard holiday decorations, LED lights typically increase energy bills by about \$5 to \$7. But with incandescent lights, energy bills will typically increase by \$33 or more. For homes that go above and beyond with incandescent holiday lighting (think Clark Griswold), energy bills could increase by as much as \$350. Beyond energy savings, LEDs provide additional benefits, such as being shock-resistant, shatterproof, and cool to the touch, making them safer for the home. *Roger Willeke 530402300*

You can also lower energy use by conveniently managing holiday lighting. Smart light timers can help you save energy by connecting to a smart phone app or voice assistant to program lights to turn on and off at set times. If you don't use smart home technology, you



**Y-W ELECTRIC OFFICES
CLOSED NOVEMBER 23 & 24**

**WE WISH YOU A HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

can still save energy by using traditional timers. Additional easy ways to save during the holiday season include turning off overhead lights and using your Christmas tree to illuminate your home. If you have a fireplace, remember to close the flue when you're not burning a fire to ensure that heat doesn't escape through the chimney.

Cook up energy savings in the kitchen.

If you plan to have family and friends over this holiday season, you can cook up energy savings by using small countertop appliances such as microwave ovens, air fryers, and slow cookers when possible as they use much less energy than the stovetop or oven.

When using the oven, bake multiple dishes at once for maximum efficiency. After all, it takes as much energy to cook one dish as it does to cook several. Turn the oven off a few minutes before the recipe's end time and allow the residual heat to finish baking the dish. Once the food is done, leave the stove door ajar to allow the residual heat to warm the room. When using the stove top, match the pan size to the burner to maximize the stove top's efficiency.

I hope a few of these tips will be helpful as we approach the holiday season. Remember, we're here to answer any questions you have about managing energy use or your monthly bills. With a little planning upfront, you can find efficient ways to save on everything from holiday décor to your favorite soup recipes. From your friends at Y-W Electric Association, we hope you have a wonderful holiday season.



Win a Bill Credit

Each month, Y-W Electric Association offers its members a chance to earn a \$20 credit on their next electric bill. If you find your name and account number in this magazine, call 800-660-2291 and ask for your credit. It couldn't be easier.

Get acquainted with your account number, read your *Colorado Country Life* magazine, and pick up the phone. You must claim your credit during the month in which your name appears in the magazine. (Check the date on the front cover.)



Congratulations to the winners claiming \$20 from the July issue:

Sandy Hodges
Monte E. & Gail L. Mansfield
Brian Baar
John L. Obourn

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The holiday season is upon us, and that means we'll be using more energy in the kitchen. When possible, cook with smaller countertop appliances instead of the stovetop or oven. Smaller appliances such as slow cookers, air fryers, and Instant Pots consume less energy than larger appliances.

When using the oven or stovetop, match the size of the pot to the heating element and place a lid over the pot while cooking. The food will cook faster, and you'll use less energy.

Source: Dept. of Energy



BILLING CORNER CONSUMER INFORMATION

Having accurate information for each of our consumers is vital. Y-W Electric, on occasion, will have planned outages to repair equipment that will affect our consumers in a specific area. When we know this will happen, we will use Facebook or phone calls to notify the consumers in the area affected.

Unfortunately, we are finding that many of the phone numbers we have on file for our members are not correct. The main account phone number is printed on the billing invoice. If this is not the number you want to be contacted at or is incorrect, please contact the Y-W electric office to update your information. *Mike Gillett*
4203004028

DON'T MISS OUT ON FREE MONEY FROM Y-W ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE TO COMPETE FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS:

Y-W Electric* \$1,000/year scholarships (renewable up to \$4,000)

Y-W Electric* \$1,000 scholarships

Basin Electric \$1,000 scholarships

Y-W Electric* \$500 scholarships

Y-W Electric* \$500 continuing education scholarship

Tri-State G&T \$500 scholarships

Y-W Electric* \$1,000 line technician training scholarship

* *Y-W Electric scholarships are funded by unclaimed capital credits.*

For more information, please see your high school guidance counselor or call Andy Molt at Y-W Electric 970-345-2291. He will be happy to answer any questions.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE THROUGH Y-W ELECTRIC



APPLY TODAY!

TO QUALIFY FOR THESE SCHOLARSHIPS:

- ✓ Your parents or guardians must receive electric service from Y-W Electric.
- ✓ You must be a graduating student from a local high school or approved home-schooling program or be a continuing college student.
- ✓ You must maintain full-time resident student status.
- ✓ Semesters must be continuous excluding summer.
- ✓ You must provide copy of grade transcript to Y-W Electric at the end of each semester to receive renewable funding for specific scholarships.
- ✓ You must maintain minimum GPA requirements.
- ✓ Applications are available online at ywelectric.coop beginning October 2023.
- ✓ Applications must be emailed or delivered to Y-W prior to 5 p.m. January 31, 2024.
- ✓ Applications received after January 31, 2024 WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED, regardless of postmark.



(Brenda Williams, 4114003001)

VETERANS DAY
— HONORING ALL WHO SERVED —

Y-W Electric offices are closed November 10.

Did you know you can **Reduce** up to **1/5** of your **heating bill** by repairing drafts and sealing **leaks** around your home

ATTENTION STUDENTS

**APPLY NOW FOR
YOUTH
LEADERSHIP
CAMP
2024**

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO



On July 13-18, 2024, about 100 students are sponsored by rural electric cooperatives from Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, and Oklahoma to attend the Youth Leadership Camp. The camp is designed to provide a better understanding of cooperatives, legislative processes, energy prices, power generation, and the rural electric cooperative program. It also focuses on developing leadership skills to handle the challenges of the future. The camp, run by the students, is a lot of fun, and also provides an excellent learning experience. Field trips are planned to tour a large open-pit coal mine and an electric generation power plant. There is also time for fun and sightseeing. Free time is taken up with volleyball, swimming, whitewater rafting, dancing, a banquet, and meeting many new friends.

- All expenses for the camp are covered by Y-W Electric Association. The parent or guardian of an applicant must be a member of Y-W Electric and/or directly receive electric power from Y-W Electric. The selection process is conducted similar to a job interview so you will gain experience in that area. *Gina Currier 3023009006*
- Applications are available on our website at ywelectric.coop.
- For more information, please see your guidance counselor or call Andy Molt at Y-W Electric, 970-345-2291.

**CONTACT YW ELECTRIC at 970-345-2291
APPLY ON OUR WEBSITE AT YWELECTRIC.COOP**

REBATES



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Did you know Y-W Electric offers rebates for outdoor power equipment?

Low noise and low maintenance — it's a great time of year to make the switch to electric! *W. Marlin & Collenia Ann Heater 2032007005*

For more information about Y-W Electric's rebate program and eligible products, visit ywelectric.coop/rebate-program-information.