

## USAGE ALERTS

Continued from cover

Setting a number slightly higher than your average usage would mean you will only get an alert if your usage is higher than that number.

To set up Usage Alerts in the app, click on “more,” then “settings,” then “manage notifications” to get started. You can delete the alerts and add new ones at any time.

Another way to get on top of spikes in your energy consumption is to purchase a smart thermostat, which can really pay off in the winter and summer months — and many use sensors to detect when you’re home or away and in turn adjusts the temperature. Oftentimes, the thermostats pay for themselves in energy savings.

## Look at statement for Capital Credits

The co-op’s Board of Trustees has declared a \$12 million Capital Credits refund for members who received service from 1993 through 2021.

Before the Board decides whether a refund can be made, it carefully considers a variety of data and economic conditions. Following this review, trustees decided it was prudent to refund \$12 million. This will be the co-op’s 50th consecutive refund of Capital Credits.

Current co-op members who are entitled to a refund will receive a credit on their March bills. For those entitled to a refund but who no longer receive service from Clay, a check will be mailed in late March.

Capital Credits reflect each member’s pro-rata share of any margins left over at the end of the year after all expenses are paid. They are one of the important benefits as a member-consumer of receiving service from a not-for-profit electric cooperative.

More details about Capital Credits can be found at [ClayElectric.com](http://ClayElectric.com).

## Last chance to apply for youth scholarship

Time is running out for students to apply for aid from Clay Electric’s Youth Scholarship Program.

It’s limited to public, private or home school high school seniors whose primary residence is served by Clay Electric and who will graduate high school at the end of the applicable school year.

\$2,000 scholarships are awarded each year to at least 25 high school seniors. Applications must be received by April 1, 2024, to be considered.

For more information and to download an application, head to [ClayElectric.com/scholarships](http://ClayElectric.com/scholarships).

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Lengthen the life of your clothes dryer with regular cleaning. Clean the lint filter after every load, which improves air circulation and safety.

Check the lint trap opening to ensure it’s clean. Use a vacuum to remove any lint that’s fallen inside the opening.

If you use dryer sheets, check the lint filter for residue buildup. Remove any residue with hot water and a nylon brush or toothbrush.

Over time, dryer sheets can leave a film on the filter, which can affect the performance of the motor.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members’ statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Nick Jones at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: [NJones@clayelectric.com](mailto:NJones@clayelectric.com). Clay Electric Cooperative’s Board of Trustees will meet at noon March 28, April 30 and May 23 in Keystone Heights.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_

# Power Line

March 2024

## Bill spike? Fight back with new Usage Alerts

Hit with sticker shock on your last bill? Chances are pretty good that your consumption rate is the main culprit.

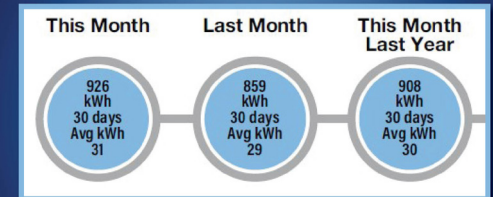
Now, members can fight back by activating Clay Electric’s Usage Alerts.

Remember, if you’ve left the house, there’s no reason to leave the lights on — and that thermostat can get turned down in the colder months and up during warmer weather. Setting up Usage Alerts can get you in the habit of doing so.

You can set alerts for daily or hourly high usage, which will be sent via email or text (you decide) and they’ll arrive around 3 p.m. the following day.

Before setting up the alerts, you should look at your bill statement to determine what you should enter for your daily high kWh.

Continued inside



You can determine where to set your usage thresholds by looking at the average daily usage in these circles on your electric bill.

**Read inside for important Annual Meeting information**

# Join us March 23 for Annual Meeting



Clay Electric's 86th Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, March 23 in the cafeteria at Keystone Heights Junior/Senior High School. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m., the meeting will be called to order at 9:30 a.m., and the event will last around 2.5 hours.

A light breakfast will be provided to members who attend, and all adults will receive a welcome bag and prize ticket. An announcement of the results from the Board of Trustees election will be made, and remarks will be made by General Manager and CEO Ricky Davis as well as Board of Trustees President Karen Hastings. The drawing of door prizes will conclude the gathering.

Members must be registered by the time the meeting is called to order to be eligible for a door prize.

The trustee election ends March 11 and now takes place online or by absentee ballot. There is no in-person voting.

Incumbent trustees Susan Reeves, Dewitt Hersey and John Henry Whitehead were each nominated without opposition in districts 3, 5 and 7, respectively.

## EVs eligible for rebate plummet, but no more waiting for tax season



Electric vehicles like Clay Electric's Chevy Bolt and Ford F-150 Lightning still meet the criteria for a tax rebate, which now occurs at the point of sale.

New rules were introduced this year for electric vehicle (EV) tax credits, and while fewer models now qualify, the ones that do are now discounted at the point of sale rather than the buyer's income tax refund as was previously the case.

The guidelines released by the U.S. Treasury detail sourcing requirements aimed at moving the U.S. EV supply chain away from China. The amount of EVs that now qualify were sharply reduced — falling from 43 to just 19.

Some notable changes to the list of EV credits (either \$3,750 or \$7,500) include:

- Tesla Model 3 Rear Wheel Drive and Long Range were removed from the list (Performance model remains).

- Volkswagen's ID4 was removed.
- Nissan's Leaf was removed.
- Ford's Mustang Mach-E was removed, but its F-150 Lightning remains.
- Apart from the Chevy Bolt, all of GM's remaining EVs were removed, but GM expects that to change after a "sourcing change."

The final amount of the tax credit, whether it be \$3,750 or \$7,500, depends on where the EV is made, but also where the battery components and minerals come from. It also depends on the buyer's annual income.

The tax credits are nonrefundable. Dealers must be registered on the new platform known as IRS Energy Credits Online to perform the point-of-sale EV credit.