

## Outage, payment phone number has changed



As of Nov. 1, the co-op is using a new phone number for members to make a bill payment or report an outage at their home or business. That new number: **1-855-939-3840**.

A reminder: The best way to communicate an outage or pay a bill is through the free **MyClayElectric** app or online at **ClayElectric.com**.

## Stop by for a 2025 calendar



Clay Electric's free 2025 calendars are available this month for members to pick up at the co-op's six district offices. Quantities are limited.

Test your knowledge of the cooperative world with this year's calendar, which features co-op trivia. You're bound to learn something you never knew!

The 2025 calendar includes important co-op dates and the Barnett Fish and Game Forecast.

## Please keep your meters accessible



Clay Electric's AMI electric meters include technology that allows them to be read without physical access to the meter. These meters improve meter reading efficiencies and accuracy, but even with remote reading capabilities, the member is responsible for keeping the meter clear of obstructions and providing Clay Electric with access to the meter.

When applying for electric service with Clay Electric, each member provided a signed easement granting the cooperative access to the electric meter. The meter is the property of Clay Electric and we require access. Providing access to the meters allows staff to conduct routine maintenance and to access the meters on an as-needed basis to obtain a manual reading. Easy accessibility to the meter at your service location is required for our employees to do their jobs safely and efficiently.

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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 Nov. 19, Dec. 17 and Jan. 23 in Keystone Heights.

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

# Power Line

November 2024

## PCA offsets increase in Access, Energy charges

As part of Clay Electric's ongoing commitment to reliable and affordable electricity, your cooperative is adjusting rates in November, and most members will not notice a change on their billing statement.

The co-op is providing members with a \$4 decrease in the Power Cost Adjustment (or PCA, which is based on wholesale generation cost) to offset a combined \$4 increase in the Energy Charge (which recovers costs related to service, utility operation and maintenance, debt service, and other expenses) and Access Charge (costs associated with delivering a member electricity). This means bills for members who use the industry residential average of 1,000 kWh per month won't be impacted by the change.

"It's important for our members to continue to have predictable energy costs, and while prices associated with providing members safe and reliable energy continue to fluctuate, we'll keep doing all we can to ensure affordable electricity — this is proof of that," said Chief Public Relations Officer Derick Thomas.

Reasons for the change include an increase in the costs of material and equipment due to inflation, but your cooperative is able to combat that with a PCA as our electricity supplier, Seminole Electric Cooperative, continues to purchase fuel at the lowest possible price.

Report from  
the manager

**Ricky Davis**

General Manager/CEO



## Save money and be safe during the holidays

November signals the time of year when Floridians finally start to feel some relief from the heat. While the festive time of year brings joy and warmth, the cooler weather means more time spent indoors, and with families and friends gathering to celebrate the holiday season comes an increase in energy use and a higher risk of electrical hazards and fires.

This month, I'd like to share with you some things to keep in mind to help you stay safe and efficient, especially while decorating the house.

### Hanging up lights

Before hanging up lights, make sure you check your electrical cords and light strands for damage. Avoid using strands that are frayed. When it comes to hanging lights on your home's exterior, make sure you're using lights and cords that are rated for outdoor use. If they're lights you've used before, it can't hurt to double-check.

### Scents of the holidays

Cinnamon, vanilla, pine — there's a cozy feeling that comes with lighting a holiday-scented candle. Just remember: Candles are a fire hazard and should never be left unattended. It's a good time to test those smoke

alarms. It just takes a few seconds and could save lives.

### Think twice about the space heater

It's something we've talked about frequently, and many people think portable space heaters are money-savers. Space heaters do good at heating small spaces, but many try to use them to heat the whole house and are hit with sticker shock come their next energy bill.

If your home is energy efficient, but perhaps you're cold-natured and want a room to be cozier than the rest, a space heater might meet your needs. Make sure it's properly sized for the space and has the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label.

It's worth noting the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates more than 25,000 residential fires are associated with the use of space heaters every year. Always keep children and pets away from them.

### A season of savings

Some small tweaks can actually lower your energy bills during the colder months. If you can, lower the thermostat a few degrees — especially when family or friends stop by. Extra people means extra warmth.

If you're still using decades-old lights, consider purchasing LED holiday lights. They're the most energy-efficient lights you can buy and they last much longer than the old bulbs.

In the kitchen, handy small countertop appliances like air fryers, slow cookers and toaster ovens consume a fraction of the energy used by the oven. Keep that in mind if you're hosting a dinner or Thanksgiving.

I hope you find some of these tips helpful. May your holiday season be merry and bright!

## Notify us if you use a solar energy system

The State of Florida requires the co-op to keep track of the amount of electricity received via customer-owned alternative energy sources.

At present, the co-op has more than 3,200 members who own solar systems. These systems generate electricity for home use and excess power is returned to our distribution system. Using a special meter, the co-op records the amount of electricity returned.

If you own or plan to have one of these systems installed, make sure you've signed an Interconnection Agreement with us. If you plan to increase the size of your existing system, you must also let the co-op know. It is a state requirement, and it is your responsibility to notify us if you are operating or plan to operate an alternative energy system.

Letting us know is important for safety reasons and for billing purposes, and to ensure you receive credit for putting power back into the co-op's distribution system.

Call our Energy Services Division at 1-800-224-4917 to let us know if you have solar or you are interested.

