

THE LAMP

Supplement to Oklahoma Living



VOLUME 57
NUMBER 3
MARCH
2018



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

In spring and summer months, set your ceiling fans to turn in the counterclockwise direction. This will create a cool breeze. Remember: Ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: energystar.gov



WIND ENERGY

We're on board
See Q&A on page 3

SPACE HEATERS CAN EASILY ADD TO YOUR ELECTRIC BILL. SEE PAGE 2.

Fight the lingering chills of winter and see result in savings

As spring approaches, there's still the opportunity for winter's lingering cold weather.

Frigid temperatures can cause heating systems to work overtime, and since heating and cooling can make up nearly half of your electric bill, you may experience sticker shock when you open that bill. There are things you can do now to help ensure you are managing your energy use and spending less.

These simple steps can help you manage your use:

- Wrap exposed pipes and water heaters that are in unconditioned spaces.

- Make sure to change your air filter once a month. Keep drapes closed at night and keep those that don't get direct sunlight closed during the day.

- Keep the fireplace damper closed when it is not in use. Keeping it open can bring cold air into the room.

- Caulk around the fireplace hearth, and caulk or weather strip around doors and windows.

- Dress for the weather, even if you are inside. Wearing proper clothing like long sleeves and pants, or wrapping up in a cozy blanket will help combat the temptation of bumping up the thermostat.

MONITOR YOUR BILL

Log on to your IEC account at www.IECOK.com and click on Smart-Hub to keep up with your usage. You can monitor your usage down to the hour before your bill arrives.

So until spring weather arrives and you hear your weatherman talking about bringing in pets, take the steps mentioned here to help manage your use.

Using the tips above can certainly help you manage your energy use, but your bill may still be higher than normal in winter months.

Why?

The weather makes a big impact on electric bills, accounting for nearly half of your bill.

Even those with the most efficient HVAC systems will see more use in extreme weather.

When extreme cold temperatures hit, our heaters work overtime.

For example, even if you set your thermostat to our recommended 68 degrees in the winter, when it is 19 degrees outside, your system has to work hard to make up that 49-degree difference.

Your heater works harder and cycles on and off more often, making your use much higher. That means your bill will be much higher. Remember, there is value in comfort. For us to be comfortable in our homes, our heaters are going to work harder, but it may be worth the additional cost to you.

April Lollar contributed this article. She writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service organization for the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

SENIORS AT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



Ashley Clark and Piper Reese recently attended a Touchstone Energy Leadership Summit as Indian Electric Cooperative scholarship recipients. They are pictured here with Rhett Laubach, the main speaker at the leadership summit. Ashley is a senior at Mannford High School and Piper is a senior at Woodland High School in Fairfax. Ashley and Piper each received a \$250 scholarship, Saturday, January 27 during the all-day leadership summit in Oklahoma City. High School sophomores may consider participating in the Youth Tour Program offered by Indian Electric during their junior year for an opportunity to earn these scholarships.

SPACE HEATERS: DID YOU KNOW?

Space heaters have their place in warming a house, but they simply cannot replace energy-efficient central heating or weatherization improvements to the home.

For example, all electric space heaters produce 1 unit of heat for every 1 unit of electricity consumed; in other words, they are 100% energy efficient. Those that use natural gas are 80% efficient.

Consider this: A space heater used 12 hours a day (half a day) for 30 days will add \$45 to your electric bill.

In comparison, geothermal heat pumps can produce more than 3 units of heat for every unit of electricity consumed, making them 300% efficient.

--Cooperative Research Network

IEC Will Utilize Wind Power

Plans are underway for a wind generation farm, named Silver Spoke Wind Energy Center, to be located in Osage County.

Associated Electric Cooperative, the power generator owned by and supplying electricity to Indian Electric Cooperative and Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, signed an agreement to purchase the electricity that eventually will be generated at Silver Spoke.

Key questions about this project, with answers from Associated Electric are shared here:

Q:
Who is developing this wind generation farm?

A:
The project will be owned and operated by Invenegy, a company with more than 17 years of experience developing more than 17,353 megawatts of energy across 112 wind, solar, natural gas and energy storage projects. The electricity created by Silver Spoke is under contract with Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. through a 25-year power purchase agreement.

Q:
What are the benefits to cooperative members in northeast Oklahoma?



A:
Associated Electric plans for the future by identifying and securing competitively priced energy sources for members. The Silver Spoke power purchase agreement is competitive with the cost of coal and gas generation, traditionally low-cost generation sources. Consistent, long-term pricing in Associated's energy mix serves as a buffer against rising fuel prices.

Q:
Will the power from Silver Spoke go to local cooperative members?

A:
Yes. Silver Spoke will add to Associated Electric's portfolio of resources to serve 51 distribution cooperatives, including Indian Electric and Verdigris Valley Electric within Osage County. This project will further diversify Associated Electric's resource mix and help stabilize rates for cooperative members.

Q:
How will the project affect

the local communities?

A:
With a capital investment in upwards of \$220 Million, Silver Spoke will contribute \$18 million in ad valorem taxes to benefit the Shidler Public School and county services over the life of the project.

Q:
When will the wind farm generate electricity?

A:
The commercial operation target is late 2020.

Q:
Where is the location of the project? How big is it?

A:
Silver Spoke Wind Energy Center will be located on about 10,000 acres of private land north of the Town of Shidler and near the Kansas border in Osage County.

Q:
How many wind turbines

are involved and how much energy will be produced?

A:
The wind farm will contain up to 64 total turbines, all manufactured by General Electric. Wind turbine technology is in constant evolution; adjustments to power output ratings and software configurations between approval and completion of construction are not likely but are possible which could slightly impact total number of turbines. The total energy capacity of the project is almost 159 megawatts.

Q:
Does Associated use any other wind farms for electricity generation?

A:
Yes. Associated Electric has significant experience managing the energy output from 750 megawatts of wind energy at six existing wind farms located in northwest Missouri, northeast Oklahoma and Kansas. The first of these farms began operating in 2007.



Festive Fun for St. Patrick's Day

(Family Features) Turn your St. Patrick's Day celebration into a chance to enjoy Irish heritage with hearty foods and a lively atmosphere. When it's the one day each year it's acceptable to pinch non-conforming friends and family, it'd be a shame not to go all out.

These few simple tips can help you put together the perfect party to revel in all things green - and tasty.

- *Decorate with purpose.* Everyone knows that green is the color of the day, but go one step further by incorporating it into different items. Banners and streamers work fine, but setting out green candles or even adorning your light fixtures with green bulbs can help you take an extra step forward.

- *Create active fun.* Instead of limiting your guests to dining and conversation, plan some simple activities to help the fun flow. Games like a "treasure hunt" for gold coins, limerick-writing competitions or even just turning up Irish-themed music can help get the party started.

- *Eat festively.* Turn your party's food and drinks into true Irish dining with some delicious recipes like this American Irish Stew, which includes beef, onion, carrots and potatoes for a tasty cultural meal to fill all of your hungry guests.

For more hosting tips and the perfect themed recipes for any occasion, visit culinary.net.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images
#13139
Source: Culinary.net

AMERICAN IRISH STEW

Reprinted with permission from the American Institute for Cancer Research

Servings: 6

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 1/4 pounds beef, top round, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste
- 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped
- 3 medium carrots, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 2 medium parsnips, cut into large chunks (optional)
- 3 cups low-fat, reduced-sodium beef broth
- 4 medium russet potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 leek, coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

In large pot over medium-high heat, heat oil. Add beef and garlic. Cook, gently stirring until meat is evenly browned. Season with salt and pepper.

Add onion, carrots and parsnips. Cook 3-4 minutes. Stir in broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer about 75 minutes, or until meat is tender.

Stir in potatoes and simmer another 30 minutes. Add rosemary and leeks. Continue to simmer, uncovered, until potatoes are tender. To avoid potatoes falling apart, do not overcook.

Serve hot and garnish with parsley, if desired.

Nutritional information per serving: 370 calories, 8 g total fat (2 g saturated fat), 43 g carbohydrate, 32 g protein, 6 g dietary fiber, 427 mg sodium.

CLEVELAND OFFICE

P.O. Box 49
Cleveland, OK 74020
(918) 295-9500

or

(800) 482-2750

FAIRFAX OFFICE

P.O. Box 545
Fairfax, OK 74637
(918) 642-3314

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

(888) 472-1535

AUTOMATED OUTAGE REPORTING

(918) 295-9598

On the Web @

WWW.IECOK.COM

Office Hours

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(Monday - Friday)

President

Robert Burk District 5

Vice-President

Bill Boone District 7

Secretary-Treasurer

Jim Hadlock District 2

Assistant Secretary

Loris Peckenpaugh District 3

Berry Keeler District 1

Greg Fielding District 4

Mike Spradling District 6

Jack Clinkscale General Manager

The Lamp (USPS 942-940) is published monthly by Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 49, Highway 64 Southeast, Cleveland, Oklahoma 74020 for the interest of its membership. Subscription price was \$0.32 per month in 2010. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Lamp, P.O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020.