

CEO CORNER



Ryan Bartlett,
President / CEO

Keep Your Cool

HERE IN TEXAS, we all know that summer temperatures often last well into fall, which means people spend more time indoors to avoid the heat. There's one appliance that rides to the rescue during this time: your air conditioner. I can't imagine life without it.

But cooling in the summer—and heating in the winter—accounts for a major portion of residential energy use. In fact, about 40% of all U.S. energy use is devoted to maintaining indoor temperature levels.

In Texas in September, I imagine that this percentage is considerably higher.

In light of that, I'd like to share with you some ways you can reduce air conditioning's effect on your power bill.

1. CHANGE OR CLEAN THE AIR FILTER.

This is probably the most important step you can take to increase efficiency and reduce the wear and tear on your central AC system, which has to work harder to force air through a clogged filter.

This advice also applies to those who rely on window AC units. Ensure that those units are also properly weatherstripped to prevent air leakage around the unit.

2. USE A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT.

These devices will turn your temperature up automatically during times of the day you specify, such as when nobody's home. In fact, if properly set, it can take a significant chunk out of your cooling bill.

But if you purchase one, it's important to properly program it—a step many people skip. Luckily, programmable thermostats have become easier to use in the past few years. Newer ones can learn your usage patterns and automatically adjust temperatures without needing your intervention. Some can even be adjusted remotely with a smartphone.



3. USE FANS WISELY.

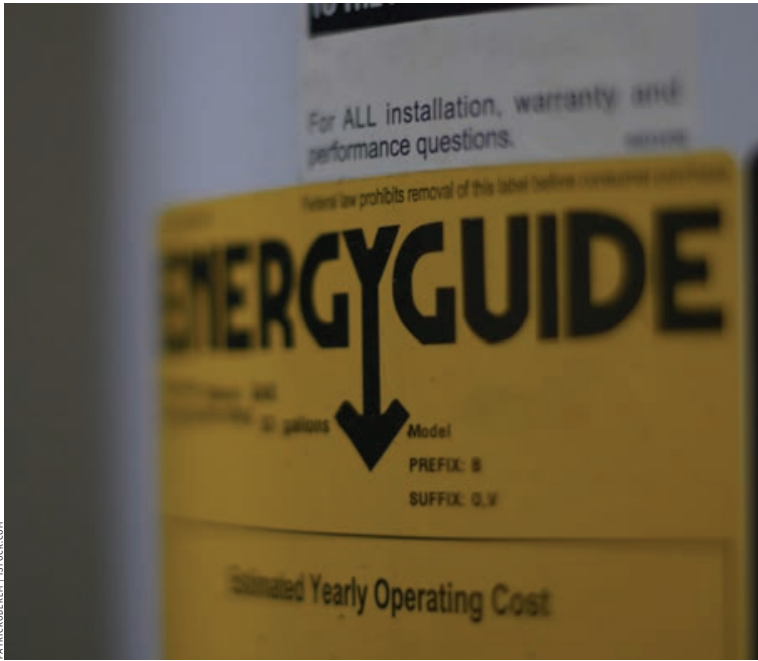
An easy way to feel comfortable while setting the temperature up a couple of degrees is to use a fan. The air moving against your skin evaporates moisture, which makes you feel cooler. But be sure to turn fans off when nobody is around. They're only effective when blowing directly on someone.

Draw blinds or shades during the day. Keeping the sun's heat out of a room will help it stay cooler. Open shades after sunset to allow heat to escape.



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Look for the Label

IT'S HARD TO MISS those big, yellow EnergyGuide labels stuck on the sides of new refrigerators, heating and cooling systems, water heaters, and many other major home appliances. That's good if you're shopping with energy efficiency in mind.

The yellow label is one of the greatest aids if you're concerned about energy costs. It tells you approximately how much energy one product will use compared to the product next to it, so you can narrow your search to the two or three models with the lowest numbers, then choose based on the features you want.

Keep in mind, label numbers are estimates. Actual costs will be determined by how your household uses the appliance and your local utility rates.

Be sure to compare apples to apples. The upper left of each label indicates the type of product (e.g., refrigerator) and some of its key features. If you're looking at models with significantly different features, you won't get a true comparison from the energy-use estimates on their labels. Likewise, the estimated yearly operating cost shows a range of how a particular model compares only to similar products.

And don't forget to look for the Energy Star logo. You may see it on an appliance's EnergyGuide label, on the product itself or on product packaging.

The Energy Star logo is on many appliances because manufacturers have seen that people appreciate it—it's become one of the most trusted logos in the U.S.

Energy Star-certified products meet specific Environmental Protection Agency product standards for energy efficiency. Products that carry Energy Star's "Most Efficient" label are the best of the best, often incorporating innovative features to maximize energy savings.

You can learn more about the EnergyGuide and Energy Star labels at energystar.gov.

Taylor Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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HANDY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

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taylorelectric.com

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Available on your Apple or Android device.

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(325) 793-8500. Payments credited immediately.

IN PERSON

Hours Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Merkel 226 CR 287, Merkel 79536

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Payments credited immediately.

DROP BOX

Merkel office. Located near the entrance of the building.

Abilene office. Located at the southeast portion of the parking lot. Payments credited next business day.

PAY STATIONS

- Cash Saver, 155 Sayles Blvd., Abilene
- United Supermarket, 2160 Pine St., Abilene
- Check Express, 906 E. Broadway Ave., Sweetwater

Payments credited next business day.

NOTICE

Effective June 1, 2023, all credit/debit card transactions will be assessed a 2.45% convenience fee.

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taylorelectric.com



Check us out at
TexasCoopPower.com/taylor

LOOKING BACK ON 40 YEARS MILESTONES - MEMORIES - MEANING

A CO-OP CAREER WORTHY OF CELEBRATION



Linda Hunt, TEC Employee of 40 years;
Sr. Financial Planning & Analysis Manager



40 YEARS OF CAREER STATISTICS

| |
|--|
| 2023 |
| Senior Financial Planning & Analysis Manager |
| 2019 |
| Financial Planning & Analysis Manager |
| 2016 |
| Senior Financial Analyst |
| 2007 |
| Assistant Controller/Payroll Specialist |
| 2000 |
| System Operator |
| 1999 |
| System Coordinator |
| 1996 |
| Data Processing Supervisor |
| 1995 |
| Data Processing |
| 1984 |
| Cashier |

IN A WORLD WHERE CAREER LONGEVITY IS INCREASINGLY RARE,

Linda Hunt stands as a testament to dedication and unwavering commitment. For four decades, Linda has been an integral part of Taylor Electric Cooperative, her journey intertwined with the organization's growth and evolution. Her story is not just about tenure but about dedication, passion, and a deep-seated belief in the co-op's core values.

Linda's journey began in 1984 when she joined Taylor Electric at 24 years old, a young wife to Freddy Hunt and a mother to son, Brian, looking to play a part in the community she grew up in and continued to raise her family in. Back then, the cooperative was a smaller entity, rooted in the community, but with ambitions to grow. Linda started as Dispatcher-Cashier, in a role that has since developed, but began with her manually kept records and no assistance of modern-day technology. Her warmth and work ethic quickly earned her the trust of colleagues and members alike.

Over the years, Linda's career path took her through various departments within Taylor Electric. She embraced new challenges with enthusiasm, from roles in day-to-day front desk operations to upper-level management. Each step allowed Linda to not only expand her skills but also contribute to the cooperative's mission of serving its members ethically and responsibly.

Reflecting on her journey, Linda recalls the milestones that shaped both her career and Taylor Electric into what it is today.

"Over the span of four decades at Taylor Electric Cooperative, I have witnessed an extraordinary evolution. From the early days marked by manual processes to the technologically advanced era of today, the journey has been nothing short of remarkable," she says with a smile.

Through the years Linda has been a part of milestones within the cooperative that have played a significant role in the growth of Taylor Electric. She recalls the many annual meetings she has been a part of, but one in particular stands out in her memory. Several years ago the women of the present-day cooperative paid homage to the women who pioneered the beginning of the co-op's initiative and that struck a chord that has remained with her. Linda shared that the co-op is more than an electric provider, but really a legacy that has empowered generations to progress forward in rural communities dating back to her very own grandmother who was a member in the initial phase of Taylor Electric Cooperative.



Linda Hunt dispatches trouble calls to the maintenance crews. Image Source: (1984, September) Taylor Electric Co-Op Newsletter



Bill stubs are manually sorted in alphabetical order by Linda Hunt. Image Source: (1988, December) Taylor Electric Co-Op Newsletter Vol. 7 No. 12

Linda’s impact extends beyond her professional roles. She has been a mentor to countless young professionals within the organization, guiding them with wisdom gleaned from her own experiences. Her ability to balance empathy with a strong passion for her field has made her not just a respected colleague, but also a cherished friend to many.

As Linda celebrates her 40th anniversary with Taylor Electric, her colleagues and the community want to honor her contributions.

“I am continually impressed by Linda’s broad range of talents and work ethic. The effort and consideration she puts into everything she does benefits the cooperative’s membership and its employees.”, remarks Nancy Brisco, CFO of Taylor Electric Cooperative. “She leads by example with an unwavering determination to do the job right while never hesitating to help others grow in their careers.”

Looking ahead, Linda remains optimistic about the co-op’s future.

“As I reflect on my 40 years with Taylor Electric Cooperative, I am filled with a profound sense of pride and gratitude. It has been a journey marked by challenges and triumphs, growth, and transformation. Through it all, one thing remains constant—the cooperative spirit that binds us together.” she notes, “I am honored to have been a part of this remarkable organization and look forward to the continued success and prosperity in the years to come.”

Linda Hunt’s story is a reminder of the power of perseverance and the impact of staying true to one’s values. In an era marked by rapid change, her steadfast dedication to Taylor Electric serves as an inspiration to all who value community, integrity,

and the enduring strength of cooperative principles.

Here is to Linda, her remarkable journey, and the bright future she continues to help shape.



“Through it all, one thing remains constant—the cooperative spirit that binds us together.”

-Linda Hunt