



MESSAGE
FROM
PRESIDENT/
CEO

**RYAN
BARTLETT**

Ownership Matters for Community

WHEN WE OWN something, we tend to treat it with greater care. Whether it's your home, car or other valuable belonging, knowing that you worked hard for something makes it all the more valuable. It's not just the physical good; it's a sense of pride.

Chances are you probably don't think too often about your ownership role with your electric co-op. But every member of Taylor Electric Cooperative can take pride in being an owner of the utility.

While it may seem easy to take the supply of electricity for granted, we work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to make sure you, our member-owners, are well taken care of when it comes to your electricity needs.

Locally based cooperatives believe this special bond and obligation play an integral role in creating community. Taylor EC understands that you can't sell electricity to a business that has closed its doors or to people who have left the area because there aren't enough local opportunities.

Electricity is a critical need, but it takes more than just poles, wires and kilowatt-hours to make a community.



That sense of ownership brings care and attention into our community, creating local solutions that help keep money—and people—right here.

We all have a role to play. As your local electric cooperative, we're committed to do our part for the community. You own the co-op, and we welcome your active participation.

SAVE THE DATE

Taylor Electric Cooperative's
87th Annual
Meeting



**THURSDAY
APRIL 16, 2026**

Notice of Deadline for a Place on the Election Ballot

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that applications for a place on the Board of Directors for Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., regular election ballot may be filed during the following time:

FILING DATES AND TIMES

START DATE:

JANUARY 2, 2026

END DATE:

FEBRUARY 2, 2026,

AT 5:30 P.M.



Notice of Rate Change

Official Notice of rate change was posted to the Taylor Electric website at WWW.TAYLORELECTRIC.COM on October 31, 2025.

Dear Members,

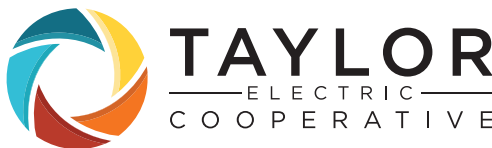
At Taylor Electric Cooperative, we remain committed to delivering reliable, high-quality electric service at rates that are both competitive and affordable. The Cooperative continues to work diligently to manage rising costs while upholding the service standards our members expect and deserve.

To support our ongoing strategy of limiting rate increases, the Cooperative will implement a modest adjustment to help offset rising service costs. For residential members, this will result in a monthly bill increase of \$2.50, effective January 1, 2026.

We understand that any rate adjustment affects our members, and this change has been carefully evaluated to keep the impact as minimal as possible. It reflects a measured approach to addressing rising costs while continuing to operate responsibly on behalf of our membership.

Thank you for your understanding and continued trust. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this rate adjustment, please do not hesitate to call your Cooperative's Member Service team at 325-793-8500 or text 325-399-3250.

Sincerely,
Taylor Electric Cooperative



Taylor Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CONTACT US

226 County Road 287, Merkel, TX 79536

P.O. Box 250, Merkel, TX 79536

Phone (325) 793-8500

Web taylorelectric.com

President/CEO

Ryan Bartlett

Board of Directors

Cecil Davis, Board Chairman, Zone 1

Kathryn Rainey, Board Vice Chairman, Zone 3

David McFall, Secretary-Treasurer, Zone 2

Craig Bessent, Zone 1

Garland Carter, Zone 2

Richard Petree, At-Large

Gay Simmons, Zone 3

24/7

Outage Hotline

For information and to report outages, please call us.

LOCAL

(325) 793-8500

HANDY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

ONLINE

taylorelectric.com

TAYLOR ELECTRIC APP

Available on your Apple or Android device.

BY PHONE

(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

Abilene 7966 Highway 83, Abilene 79602

Payments credited immediately.

DROP BOX

Merkel office near the entrance of the building.

Abilene office next to the first door on the left.

Payments credited next business day.

NOTICE

Effective June 1, 2024, all credit/debit card transactions will be assessed a 2.45% convenience fee.

VISIT US ONLINE

taylorelectric.com



Check us out at
TexasCoopPower.com/taylor

24 Days of Holiday Advice

Try these tidbits to promote safety, efficiency and overall well-being during the hectic holiday season.

1

Set realistic expectations. Don't try to do everything.

2

Test all smoke alarms before holiday visitors arrive.

3

Keep halls and stairs free of clutter and well illuminated.

4

Have mobility-impaired guests sleep on the ground floor.

5

Water live Christmas trees daily.

6

Rethink giving: Experiences make better gifts than stuff.

7

Keep all decorations at least 3 feet from heat sources.

8

Place hazardous items out of pets' and young visitors' reach.

9

Don't overload electrical outlets.

10

Unplug decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

11

Look for a holiday event that you can volunteer for or donate to.

12

Don't leave a space heater running unattended.

13

Never leave an open flame, including a fireplace, unattended.

14

Consider using flameless, battery-operated candles.

15

Indulge in holiday goodies in moderation.

16

Stay in the kitchen when grilling, frying or broiling.

17

Keep towels and pot holders away from hot surfaces.

18

Turn off overhead lights when the Christmas tree is lit to reduce energy use.

19

Lower the thermostat. Guests generate extra warmth.

20

Take a walk or drive to look at Christmas lights for a break from hosting.

21

Use a slow cooker to make apple cider or mulled wine.

22

Bake multiple dishes at the same time to conserve energy.

23

Wrap gifts in reusables, such as a scarf, tea towel or canvas bag.

24

Breathe, look around and enjoy. You're at the holiday finish line!



TAYLOR
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE

Restock Your Winter Emergency Kit

WINTER STORMS CAN cut power quickly despite the best efforts of your crews at Taylor Electric Cooperative. An emergency kit can reduce stress and keep your household safe until power is restored. It's a good idea to have one at the ready, and if you already keep one on hand, check it to replenish or update supplies.

Include these essentials in a weather-resistant bin:

- ▶ Flashlights or headlamps for each person, plus extra batteries
- ▶ Portable phone chargers, a car charger and at least one fully charged power bank
- ▶ Extra blankets, warm clothing, hats and gloves stored together for quick access
- ▶ Three days of nonperishable food and bottled water, a manual can opener, and some ready-to-eat meals
- ▶ A first aid kit, essential prescription medicines and copies of critical medical information
- ▶ A battery-powered radio, whistle and a small fire extinguisher

Also, if the power goes out in your home, keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed to protect your food. Turn off or unplug electronics to avoid damage from surges when power returns. If you run a generator, keep it outdoors and well away from windows, vents and the garage.

Next, think about heat and pipes. Open cabinet doors under sinks to allow warm air to circulate around exposed plumbing. If a pipe freezes, use a hair dryer or warm towels—never an open flame—to thaw it.

Finally, plan for your family's medical needs. If someone relies on a powered medical device, call your electric utility in advance to learn about backup power options and restoration priority. Share your plan with a neighbor or family member who can check in during a storm.

Review and refresh your kit twice a year. Replace expired food and medicine, recharge power banks and check batteries. Label containers and store them where everyone can reach them in the dark. ■



IDEABUG | ISTOCK.COM



KAORINNE | ISTOCK.COM

Spiced Banana Muffins

- 2 cups all-purpose flour**
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour**
- 2 teaspoons baking soda**
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon**
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg**
- ½ teaspoon ground cardamom**
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves**
- ½ teaspoon salt**
- ½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened**
- ½ cup brown sugar**
- 1 ½ cups sugar**
- 4 eggs**
- 5–6 ripe bananas, mashed**
- ½ cup vegetable oil**
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract**

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Apply cooking spray to 2 muffin tins or line with paper baking cups.
2. Whisk together flours, baking soda, spices and salt in a medium bowl.
3. In another bowl, cream butter and sugars. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Add bananas, oil and vanilla; mix well. Add dry ingredients and mix until moistened, being careful not to overmix.
4. Spoon batter into muffin tins. Bake 15–17 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.
5. Remove from oven and cool muffins in tins 5 minutes. Invert and finish cooling right side up on a wire rack.

MAKES 2 DOZEN MUFFINS

TCP Find this and more delicious recipes online at [TexasCoopPower.com](https://www.texascoopower.com).