

We're thankful for your membership

“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.”

In the spirit of this quote by writer William Arthur Ward, C & L Electric Cooperative would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your membership in our electric cooperative.

As part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is “Concern for Community.” While our priority is always to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy, we view our role in the community as a catalyst for good.

We work closely with our local schools to provide safety demonstrations, support our local youth and participate in Youth Tour, where we take our community’s brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week to experience democracy in action. Ultimately, the community benefits from these programs because of you! You empower the co-op through your membership and through your support of these programs.

Because we are locally governed by members of our community, we can get a firsthand perspective on community priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments.

We are thankful that our co-op board members carve out time to attend important training sessions, participate in planning meetings and keep abreast of industry trends. This investment in time results in better informed advisers



that serve the co-op’s interests in a way that our members expect and deserve.

On a more personal note, we appreciate the countless acts of kindness our lineworkers and other employees receive when they are working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. Our employees are thankful for your patience and consideration when we are trying to restore power during challenging situations.

The cooperative is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. Together, let’s continue making our corner of the world a better place. We can’t do it without you, and for that, we’re thankful for your membership.

YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE PAYS PROPERTY TAXES TOO!

Just as everyone who owns property pays property taxes in the month of October, C & L Electric is no exception. The Cooperative pays taxes on its various properties, such as office buildings, overhead power lines and substations.

These tax payments are used to support such things as schools, roads, law enforcement and local governments. This year, C & L paid a total of \$1,085,662.47 to the nine Arkansas counties in which we have members. Here’s what your cooperative paid to each county:

Arkansas	\$ 1,579.58
Bradley	\$ 142,636.11
Cleveland	\$ 136,551.32
Dallas	\$ 4,404.12
Desha	\$ 150,408.99
Drew	\$ 186,316.89
Grant	\$ 79,987.00
Jefferson	\$ 59,998.86
Lincoln	\$ 323,779.60

C&L paid over \$1 million in property taxes in 2022.

Easy ways to conserve energy on Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is about making delicious food and spending quality time with loved ones, but it can also be a time of high energy usage, leading to a high electric bill. With a few minor adjustments, you can save energy and help to lower your electric bill with these tips:

- Maximize your oven's heat by keeping the door closed. Use the oven light rather than opening the door, which can lower the temperature by several degrees in just a few seconds.
- Turn the oven off a few minutes before the timer goes off. The oven will stay hot enough to finish cooking your dish.
- Use glass and ceramic dishes, which retain heat better than metal dishes and allow you to reduce your oven temperature as much as 25 degrees.

- Keep pots and pans covered on the stove to prevent heat loss.
- Microwaves, slow cookers, air fryers and other small appliances use less energy than ovens and stoves.
- Make sure leftovers completely cool before putting them in the refrigerator. Hot items can affect the refrigerator's temperature, causing it to work harder to keep cool.
- Using a dishwasher is more energy-efficient than hand-washing dishes.
- Lower your water heater use by scraping off plates into the garbage rather than sink.
- Change out incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs.
- Keep lights off in unused rooms.

For more ways to save energy, visit energy.gov.



my co-op

Keeping pets and energy bills comfortable

Many consider four-legged companions as part of the family and can't imagine life without them. During the winter months, make sure your whole family, including your four-legged members, is cozy — without taking a big “bite” out of your budget.

At the onset of the cold weather season, replace the HVAC filter for better air quality and to help the unit operate more efficiently. Keep your home cozier by caulking and weatherstripping windows and doors.

Winter can be “ruff,” so set your thermostat at 68 degrees, a “purr-fect” temperature for people and pets. This is especially important for smaller, short-haired and senior dogs — not just for warmth, but for their general health. Puppies, kittens and older pets with arthritis or other ailments may have a harder time controlling their body heat and need the additional warmth when it's chilly out.

Pets that sleep close to the floor can be subject to cold drafts that enter your home through windows and exterior doors. If your pet's bed is near a window or door that feels drafty, tightly roll up a towel, and place it near the bottom of the door or window to eliminate drafts. Cutting down on cold drafts helps everyone feel more comfortable during colder months.

If possible, elevate your pet's bed so it's not placed directly on a cold floor. An old chair cushion works well. If you don't use a dog bed, take some old blankets, and create a donut shape on the cushion so the dog can snuggle and “nest” within the blanket. You can do the same for cats but on a smaller scale. Blankets provide a comfortable place for dogs and cats to curl up.

During the day, open your blinds and curtains to allow sunlight to warm your home. Close window coverings at night for an added layer of insulation.

The winter weather can't be controlled. But you can keep your family and furry friends more comfortable during the winter season while saving energy and saving on your electric bill.

During the winter months, make sure the whole family, including your four-legged members, is cozy — without taking a big “bite” out of our budget.



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ADRIAN GROVER, PIXABAY



GABRIELE REINHARDT, PIXABAY

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