

A time of reflection

December is a time of reflection. Looking back at 2021, it's easy to remember significant events like the continuing pandemic and the historic February winter storms. But, we also recall times when we helped our communities, restored power after storms, supported our youth and assisted our members with ways to save energy and lower their bills. We're grateful how our co-op improves the quality of life for our members and community.

We're also grateful for my own family, as well as my cooperative family. We're driven by a sense of mission and purpose. Our employees feel a strong connection to our communities and our members because we live here too.

While many of our community-focused programs and activities ramp up this time of year, we have several programs and services in place to serve our members year-round. We'd like to remind you about some of these offerings in hopes you'll find them beneficial.

We can show you how to monitor, manage and pay your energy bill conveniently through several methods. Contact our office and let us help you discover which method works best for you.

Safety is our top priority. While we train our employees to work safely around electricity, we want our members and community to be safe as well. We present our safety programs at schools, businesses and community events to demonstrate how to work and play

safely around electricity.

We also offer energy-efficiency programs and no-cost or low-cost energy savings tips to help you reduce your energy usage and lower your electric bill.

In addition to helping members save today, we're focused on the future.

Recent innovations and advances have led to significant cost decreases in solar and wind generation, making it more feasible and accessible for some consumers. In recent years, our wholesale power provider has adjusted its generation fuel mix by incorporating additional biomass, solar, wind and hydroelectric power.

Electric vehicles are also becoming more prevalent around the state. Given the focus on electrification in the transportation sector, you'll likely see more information and promotion on the use and benefits of electric vehicles. Electric vehicles and EV chargers will have a bigger presence in the future.

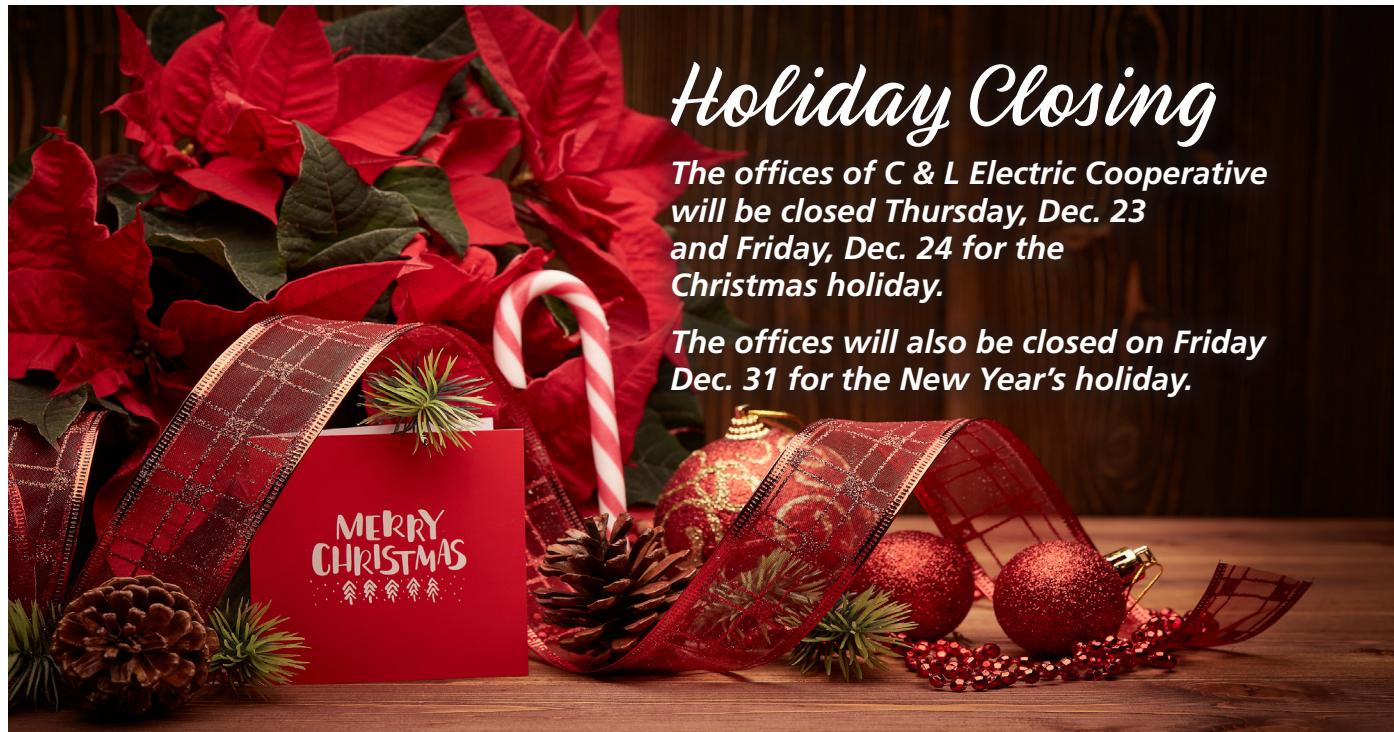
At the heart of everything we do is you — the members we proudly serve. Looking back, we're grateful for so many wonderful members and community partners, and for the positive impact we continue to make.

This holiday season, we wish you and your loved ones health, peace, joy and prosperity. Speaking on behalf of the employees and board of directors at C & L Electric, we know the future will be bright, because of you.

Holiday Closing

The offices of C & L Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday, Dec. 23 and Friday, Dec. 24 for the Christmas holiday.

The offices will also be closed on Friday Dec. 31 for the New Year's holiday.



C & L employees and directors recognized

This year, 13 C & L employees received awards for their service to the cooperative. Those recognized were:

5 Years of Service

Kyle Blasengame
Cody Burnett
Jake Carr
Brady Harvey
Chris Haynes
Landon Hunter
Sandra Robinson
Brittany West

20 Years of Service

Scott McGee
Jennifer Walker

30 Years of Service

Darian McGee
Flo Rambert

35 Years of Service

Greg Smith



Energy-efficient holiday gift guide

Energy-efficient gifts are the gifts that keep on giving! Here are our top picks this holiday season:

Smart lighting

Connected lighting with energy-efficient LED bulbs allow a homeowner to control lighting via smart speaker, apps or Bluetooth.



PHILIPS

Smart power strips and smart plugs

These are great stocking stuffers. Electronic devices continue to use electricity even when not in use. A smart power strip or plug senses when the device is not in use and will automatically switch it off to save energy.

Low-flow shower heads and faucet aerators

Save money and water by decreasing your water consumption and the energy needed to heat it.

Electronic streaming devices

Television streaming devices like Roku, Apple TV or Amazon Fire stream live TV using 30 to 75% less energy than traditional top-box sets, according to SmarterHouse.org.

Smart speakers

Smart speakers like Amazon Echo and Google Home are not only energy-efficient but help your home to save on energy by monitoring smart devices for optimal energy use.

Energy-efficient kitchen countertop appliances

Air fryers, electric griddles, slow cookers, waffle makers and pizza ovens are great energy-efficient gifts that also provide faster cooking times and less hassle with cleanup.

Smart programmable thermostats

Almost half of the home's annual energy bill goes toward heating and cooling costs, and programmable thermostats will keep your home comfortable while saving on energy use.



*Find out more about
energy-efficient products at
EnergyStar.gov or SmarterHouse.org.*

Notice to those who pay tenant's electric bills

C & L Electric provides electric service to some families, called tenants, who live in houses provided for them by landlords. The tenant's electric bill may be paid for by the landlord with the account in the landlord's name. When this is the case, the tenant receives no correspondence from the Cooperative and may have his/her service disconnected without notice if the landlord fails to pay. To avoid this, C & L strongly advises that tenants receive electric service in their own names regardless of who pays the bill. However, if this is not possible, C & L Electric offers the following protection to registered tenants:

1. Electric service will not be discontinued until the tenant has been notified.
2. The tenant will be allowed up to 30 days after the due date to pay the bill.
3. When feasible, the tenant will be allowed to apply for service in his/her own name.

C & L Electric requests that landlords, who are paying the electric bills for a tenant who has no account with the Cooperative, please register the tenant by completing the following form: (Your tenant does not receive this magazine as it is sent to members only.)

LANDLORD

I pay for electric service for a tenant and the account is in my name:

Landlord Name _____

Address _____

Account # _____ Telephone # _____

My TENANT who receives electric service in my name is:

Tenant Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

MAIL FORM TO: C & L Electric Cooperative, P. O. Box 9, Star City, AR 71667



Electrical safety tips for the holidays

- Turn off holiday lights before going to bed or leaving home. Timers are useful convenient devices to help turn off lights when not in use.
- Don't overload extension cords or outlets to avoid shocks or fires.
- Make sure all electrical cords are out of high-traffic pathways and areas. Don't hide cords under rugs or carpets.
- Never let children or pets play with electric cords, light strands or electrical decorations.
- If you have a fresh-cut Christmas tree, water the tree frequently. Make sure all trees (real or artificial) are placed away from heat sources like fireplaces.
- In the kitchen, stay focused and attentive when baking, frying and simmering foods.
- Don't leave towels or pot holders near the stove top when it's in use. Always have a working fire extinguisher nearby, and know how to use it.
- If you're driving this holiday, drive safely. If you come across a downed line, always assume that it's energized, and stay clear of it. Call 911 immediately to report it.

Learn more electrical safety tips at safeelectricity.org.