



HOT WATTS

COOKSON HILLS
EST. 1945
ELECTRIC CO-OP

Scholarships Available to Area Students

The employees and Board of Trustees of CHEC support the educational goals of area youth by awarding scholarships. Each year four college bound graduates in the CHEC service area receive a \$500.00 scholarship. Initiated by CHEC employees in 1997, the scholarships are solely funded by employee fundraisers and donations. Their goal is to provide eligible graduating seniors the opportunity to further their education.

To be considered for this scholarship, students must submit an application and two letters of recommendation. Students must plan to attend a state accredited school or technical school offering an associate or bachelor degree. The program is open to any graduating senior whose parents or guardians are members of CHEC. Students may complete the application on page four of this Hot Watts issue or obtain an application from the CHEC website www.cooksonhills.com.

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Headquarters Office
PO Box 539 • 1002 E. Main
Stigler, OK 74462
800-328-2368

Branch Office
PO Box 587 • 1800 KOA/Power Drive
Sallisaw, OK 74955
918-775-2211

Pay-by-Phone: 1-888-678-1937
www.cooksonhills.com

Alternate Emergency Only: 918-552-0016



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Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to editing. Cookson Hills reserves the right to publish or modify any article. Companies and individuals featured in the Hot Watts newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or view of Cookson Hills.

Felicia Wixom, *Editor*
E-Mail: fwilliams@cooksonhills.com

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



If you find your account number hidden in this issue of the *Hot Watts*, you'll receive a \$25 credit on your electric bill.

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Please return your application, along with two letters of recommendation by March 1, 2019, to the following address:

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Scholarship Committee
Attention: Felicia Wixom
PO Box 539
Stigler, OK 74462

For details on the scholarship program or if you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please visit www.cooksonhills.com or call Felicia Wixom at 800-328-2368.

Member Satisfaction Triennial Survey

Beginning in early December, CHEC will be participating in a survey that is conducted every three years to measure the quality of service provided to you, our member. This survey will ask several questions about your energy usage and your satisfaction with the cooperative.

In this random survey of members, a mixture of online and telephone interviews will be conducted. You may be sent an email invitation to participate in the survey or you may be sent a postcard in the mail inviting you to participate. Members may also be randomly selected to complete a telephone interview. It should take approximately 11 minutes to answer all questions on the telephone. The call center conducting the survey will identify themselves as calling on behalf of CHEC. They will be conducting calls Monday-Friday from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The purpose of the survey is to receive input from members to guide the board and management in their decision-making. Members will be asked questions on a wide variety of topics. The survey results will be presented to the board in the spring.

CHEC extends a big THANK YOU to all of our members who will take the time to participate in the survey. We truly appreciate your interest in helping us meet your service needs.



Your opinion counts!
Please share it with us.



Increase Efficiency as Temperatures Plummet

A really cold winter can bring an equally cold reality: higher heat bills. This winter, keep your costs and energy use as low as possible by following these winter weather efficiency tips from Safe Electricity.

Start with a heating system checkup. Keep your heating system clean and in tip-top working order. Molly Hall, executive director of the Energy Education Council, suggests that consumers include heating maintenance in their regular home care checklist. “During periods of heavy heating, make sure that you’ve checked and changed your filter every month or two. If a filter is dirty, it won’t work to its highest level of efficiency.”

To prevent heat loss, make sure there’s plenty of insulation in attics and crawl spaces. Seal air leaks with weather-stripping or caulk. When heat escapes through drafts and gaps, the furnace has to work harder. Check for gaps in places such as between your door and threshold. If there is space, it means air is escaping from under the door. Energy can also be lost through leaks in the external electrical box and around electrical outlets—seal these areas with caulk or sealant. Also, check the ductwork that’s in your basement or attic. Air leaks in ducts can account for about 20 to 30 percent of wasted heat. If there are leaks or holes in your ducts, use sealant or metal tape.

Invest in a programmable thermostat to set your temperature lower when you’re away to prevent energy waste when heating an empty house. Using a programmable thermostat can help you save about \$180 each year. [2270501]

Leave space around heating registers so warm air can easily enter the area. Consider replacing older heating equipment with newer, more efficient systems.

Let Mother Nature help heat and harness the power of the sun by keeping the curtains open to let direct sunlight into the home during daylight hours. Remember to close your curtains in the evening to reduce drafts.

You can also conserve energy by turning your water heater down to the “warm” setting, or to about 120 degrees, to cut back on the energy waste and reduce the likelihood of scalds. Water heating consumes a higher percentage of heating costs than you might think, nearly a fifth.

For additional information on energy efficiency, visit SafeElectricity.org or EfficiencyResource.org.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holidays? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet—even when they’re not in use.

Source: energy.gov

News & Notes

- CHEC offices will be closed on December 24-25 in observance of Christmas.
- CHEC’s Board of Trustees and employees want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a very blessed New Year!

Give me some space...

Space heaters account for a third of heating fires and 80 percent of heating fire deaths per year.



Learn more at:



Application for the Cookson Hills Electric Scholarship

Name _____

Social Security # _____ Telephone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Parents' (guardians') name(s) _____

Cookson Hills Electric Account Number _____

Number of children at home or in college _____

Family income last year (check one): Below \$50,000
 Above \$50,000

GPA Score _____ ACT Score _____

Currently attending school at _____

List your involvement in school, community and vocational groups. Also include any work experience:

In 75-100 words tell why you are applying for the scholarship and share your goals and ambitions:

List scholarships you have earned and their value: _____

Choice of Schools: _____

Note: Please attach two letters of recommendation.