

# HOT WATTS



**CHEC features  
Haskell County's  
first public EV  
charging station**



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**0016**



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Find us on  
  
[bit.ly/CHEConFB](https://bit.ly/CHEConFB)  
 (case-sensitive)

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.

# CHEC to send four high school juniors to Washington, D.C.

Each year, CHEC sends four high school juniors from its service area on an unforgettable, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Students travel with the Oklahoma delegation (70+ students) to our nation's capital where they tour historic sites and national landmarks, meet Oklahoma's Congressional delegation and more. Youth Tour has earned a reputation as "a trip of a lifetime" by former participants. The trip will be held June 19-25, 2020. [2251002]

To enter the Youth Tour contest, students must submit an essay answering the question "What day in American history would you relive and why?"

Essays are due by Feb. 14, 2020 at midnight and can be mailed to Cookson Hills, Attn: Felicia Wixom, P.O. Box 539, Stigler, OK, 74462 or emailed to [fwilliams@cooksonhills.com](mailto:fwilliams@cooksonhills.com).

Finalists will be selected and interviewed by a panel of judges prior to the final announcement of winners. Winners are then invited to a banquet where they will present their essay before CHEC staff, board and special guests.

If you have questions about Youth Tour, please contact Felicia Wixom at 800-328-2368 or visit [www.cooksonhills.com/youth-tour](http://www.cooksonhills.com/youth-tour).





## Could an EV be right for you? We'll help you decide

You might've heard the buzz around the energy and automotive industries about the next big thing hitting our roads: electric vehicles (EV). If you're like us, you might be wondering how they can be beneficial here in southeastern Oklahoma. We purchased our own so we can help you find out.

"While opting for an EV allows us to add environmentally-clean vehicles to our fleet, we ultimately want to help our members decide if an EV could be their next vehicle as well," said General Manager Juli Orme. "We encourage those interested to follow us on Facebook ([bit.ly/CHEConFB](https://bit.ly/CHEConFB)) to see how we're able to use our EV."

As the technology is still new and ever-evolving, more automakers are adding EVs to their fleets not only to meet compliance regulations but to satisfy a variety of drivers' needs and expectations. For example, Ford is set to add an all-electric version to its fleet of F150s that can perform as well as a gas-powered

F150. Ford also announced in November it is releasing an all-electric Mustang SUV in late 2020. [3200201]

In other words, the stereotypical EVs of the past might not be able to fit your needs, but one in the future might.

Either way, chances are you have a lot of questions, like how and where will you charge your EV?

### EV Charging

"We have partnered with Francis EV to install EV charging stations at each office," said Orme. "These are not operational yet, but they will be soon. The charging station in Stigler will be the first of its kind in Haskell County, and the closest to many neighboring counties."

We've got you covered on all fronts. Follow along as we explore with our EV and report our findings to you via our Facebook page ([bit.ly/CHEConFB](https://bit.ly/CHEConFB), case-sensitive, or scan the bar code to the right with your smartphone's camera).

Use your smartphone's camera to scan this code and connect with us on Facebook!





### Energy Efficiency

#### Tip of the Month

Let the sunshine in! For additional warmth, open drapes over windows that receive sunlight during the day. Close them at night, which can reduce heat loss from a warm room up to 10%.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

Scan this code with your smartphone's camera to begin making payments, reporting outages, viewing usage history and more on CHEC's mobile app!



SCAN ME



## Three DIY efficiency projects to tackle this year

By Abby Berry

A new year brings new opportunities to save energy—and money. You may think energy efficiency upgrades require a great deal of time and expense, but that's not always the case.

If you're interested in making your home more efficient but don't want to break the bank, there are several DIY projects you can tackle to increase energy savings. Let's take a look at three inexpensive efficiency upgrades that can help you save energy throughout the year.

### Seal Air Leaks

Sealing air leaks in your home can help you save 10% to 20% on heating and cooling bills. Apply caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing to seal in conditioned air. You should also weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs.

### Insulate Attic Stairs Opening

A properly insulated attic is one of the best ways to optimize energy

savings and comfort in your home, but many homeowners don't consider insulating the attic stairs, or the opening to your attic space. Even a well-insulated attic can leak air through the stair opening, but luckily, there's an easy fix.

It should also be noted, if your attic opening is located in a garage that you do not heat and cool, this upgrade will not be as effective.

### Trim Dryer Vent

If your dryer vent hose is too long, your dryer is working harder than it has to, using more energy than necessary. A shorter, unobstructed vent hose increases the efficiency of your dryer, dries clothing faster and reduces lint buildup, which can create potential fire hazards.

Saving energy doesn't have to be hard. With a little time and effort, you can maximize energy savings and increase the comfort of your home. To learn about additional ways to save, visit [www.cooksonhills.com](http://www.cooksonhills.com)

*Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.*