



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

“Taking Care of Our Member-Owners”

Member Information Bulletin

September 2022



In your September *Texas Co-op Power*

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Back: Election ballot

It's time for the 2022 Election and Annual Meeting

As a member-owner, we hope you make plans to join us for the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members on Tuesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m. For the health and safety of our members and employees, the business meeting will be virtual.

2022 Election

Members who vote in the election will receive a **\$25 bill credit** and will be entered in the door prize drawing!

Vote online, via email or by mail. Full voting details are in the September *Texas Co-op Power* magazine.

All members are eligible to vote in the election regardless of their director district.

Election

- ▶ Every member can vote in the election, regardless of where you reside.
- ▶ Director districts 5, 7 and 9 will be on the ballot. 31339002
- ▶ Members who vote by the deadline will receive a \$25 bill credit and will be entered into the door prize drawing at Annual Meeting.
- ▶ Members may vote online, through email or by mail.
- ▶ Your official election ballot will come on the back of the September *Texas Co-op Power* magazine – don't throw away your chance to win!
- ▶ Members with a valid email address will receive an email with your specific voting credentials.
- ▶ Voting opens September 1 and closes at 5 p.m. on September 28.
- ▶ Survey and Ballot Systems is our third-party election service and securely conducts the election on our behalf. 8005403701

Annual Meeting

- ▶ Annual Meeting is Tuesday, October 4.
- ▶ Members can stream online (tcectexas.com/annual-meeting) or listen by phone.
- ▶ Members can register online at tcectexas.com/annual-meeting to receive a call prior to the meeting connecting you by phone.
- ▶ Your official meeting notice and the Annual Report are in the September *Texas Co-op Power* magazine.
- ▶ The agenda includes the business meeting, election results, review of the financials, a co-op update and door prizes.

Why is my bill higher than last summer?

There are four main reasons members are experiencing higher electric bills.

- ▶ **Increase in natural gas prices.** Natural gas is the predominant fuel source for electric generation in Texas, and the cost per MMBtu has nearly tripled from this time last year. Higher natural gas prices equate to higher costs for electricity.
- ▶ **Record Heat.** Texas summers are hot. But the summer of 2022 will go down in history as one of the hottest, and driest, summers in history. The north Texas region experienced more than 40 days of triple-digit heat. 3102001
- ▶ **Increased Electric Use.** When it is as hot as it was this summer, your air conditioner, the largest electric user in your home, must work overtime. Members consumed 22% more electricity this summer (May-July) than the same period in 2021, with the average residential member consuming 1,670 kWh per month. Higher consumption creates a higher electric bill.
- ▶ **ERCOT Reform.** ERCOT has switched to a "reliability model," creating more power reserves available than in the past. These market modifications were implemented to avoid tragedies, like Winter Storm Uri, in the future. These changes are not free and unfortunately come at a cost which is eventually borne by Texas consumers. 8000998501

Monitoring electric use is a key component to managing electric costs. Energy-saving tips are available at tcectexas.com/energy-efficiency. Members can track daily electric consumption on TCEC Connect, the online member portal, or enroll in daily electric use notifications.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative continues to be competitive. Our all-in rate for 2,000 kWh is 14.575 cents/kWh compared to the average retail electric provider's cost of 17.2 cents/kWh, according to Power to Choose.

Your co-op is here to help you through these times. Please contact our member service team if you need bill assistance. We are in this together.

Strawberry Surprise Muffins

Donna Putman of Paradise

- 1 egg
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons melted butter
- ½ cup sour cream
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cup fresh strawberries, diced
- 6-8 large, fresh sage leaves, minced



D. | PIXABAY

In a large bowl, whisk the egg and sugar until creamy. Add melted butter. Whisk in sour cream and milk until batter texture is uniform. Don't over mix.

In another bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and salt. Add strawberries and sage leaves, stirring gently. Add strawberry mixture into the wet mixture. Gently fold until just combined. Batter will be thick.

Line a muffin tin with paper cups. Spoon mixture into each cup and fill to the top.

Bake at 350°F for 25-30 minutes until the tops are golden brown and a toothpick comes out clean when inserted into the middle of the muffin.

Enjoy!

Share your Favorite Recipe!

Submit your favorite recipe and the information below to the Communications Department.

Email: communications@tcectexas.com

Online: tcectexas.com/recipe-submission

Mail: Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Attn: Recipe Submission, 200 Bailey Ranch Road, Aledo, Texas 76008

Name: _____

Town: _____

Recipe Name: _____

Please visit tcectexas.com/recipe-submission for submission rules, terms and conditions.

It Pays to Stay Informed!

Find your account number in our Member Information Bulletin or the *Texas Co-op Power* and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill! **Simply contact our Member Services team at 817-444-3201 to claim your credit.**



TRI-COUNTY

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Taking Care of our Member-Owners"

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Azle ★ Keller ★ Granbury ★ Aledo ★ Seymour ★ Munday