



POWER FACTS

An informational publication for members of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative concerning electricity and related subjects.

NOVEMBER 2014

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Preventing Post-Holiday Shock

Cooking efficiently

- Be kind to your oven. Opening the oven door to check on a dish can reduce the heat by as much as 25 degrees. Take advantage of residual heat for the last five to 10 minutes of baking time – this is another way to save energy use. If you're using a ceramic or glass dish, you can typically set your oven 25 degrees lower than stated, since these items hold more heat than metal pans.
- Give your burners some relief. The metal reflectors under your stovetop burners should always be clean. If not, this will prevent your stove from working as effectively as it should.
- Use your slow cooker, microwave, toaster oven or warming plate when possible.

Home efficiency

- Take advantage of heat from the sun. Open your curtains during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home, and close them at night to reduce the chill from cold windows.
- Find and seal all air leaks. Check areas near pipes, gaps around chimneys, cracks near doors and windows and any unfinished places.
- Maintain your heating system. Before it gets too cold, schedule servicing for your heating system to find out what maintenance you may need to keep your system operating efficiently.
- Eliminate “vampire energy” waste. When you are not using an appliance or an electronic device, unplug it to save energy. Power strips are definitely a good investment for your home.

Efficient shopping

- Purchase LED holiday lights. A string of traditional lights uses 36 watts of power and a string of LED lights only uses 5 watts. They can even last up to 10 times longer!
- Ask for Energy Star-rated TVs and appliances. This will save you a lot of power use because the standby mode is lower and the device will use less energy overall.
- Combine errands to reduce the number of small trips. To-do lists seem to pile up around this time of the year. Believe it or not, several short trips in the winter can use twice as much fuel as one longer trip covering the same distance as all of the shorter ones.

Being energy efficient is usually not top priority when celebrating the holidays, and most of us don't realize the lack of efficiency until the next electric bill comes. Prevent your post-holiday shock this year by thinking creatively and remembering all of these tips!



VETERAN'S
DAY -
NOVEMBER
11, 2014



Mecklenburg
Electric
Cooperative
Thanks
YOU!

This Veteran's Day, Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative would like to remember the American men and women of every generation; past and present, who GAVE ALL of themselves to defend the freedoms that make the United States the greatest nation on earth.



To the fallen men and women, and to those who work every day to preserve and defend this great Nation, we say
THANK YOU!

During this Thanksgiving season, we express our thanks to all the people who together make our rural electric cooperative a special kind of place -

- the member-owners to whom the cooperative belongs
- the board of directors who provide leadership and guidance
- the employees whose daily presence and skills keep everything running smoothly
- the many friends, neighbors and business associates who offer support and concern

THANK YOU!

Homemade Crockpot Applesauce

(An energy efficient recipe that is O-So-Good!)

Homemade applesauce is so easy to make and is an ingredient in lots of different meals.

Ingredients

10 large apples (any sweet apple or combination of), peeled, cored and cut into chunks
1/2 cup of apple juice or apple cider
Juice of 1/2 lemon
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
1 tsp. cinnamon, more or less to taste



Put all ingredients into crockpot. It should be about 3/4 full. Cover and cook on low 8 to 10 hours or on high 3 to 4 hours. Mix with a potato masher or puree in a food processor. Store in the refrigerator or freeze.