

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

electronews



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FROM THE MANAGER

Saving Money is No Joke

We've all heard this joke: How many monkeys does it take to change a lightbulb? While the comedic value of the answer sometimes leaves a bit to be desired, the underlying principle—simple changes can needlessly get complicated—stays the same.

The average home contains 40 light fixtures, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Thanks to a series of staggered federal standards and more lighting choices than ever before, the average homeowner could save \$50 every year by using more energy efficient lightbulbs.

This year, the first of several federal lightbulb efficiency standards kicked in, requiring manufacturers to stop making 100-watt (W) incandescent bulbs in favor of ones using less electricity to produce the same amount of light (lumens). This doesn't mean the outmoded bulbs went away—you can still find old stock at stores around town. But keep in mind that those traditional incandescent bulbs waste 90 percent of your lighting costs as heat.

If you don't want to stray too far from the bulbs you're used to, consider halogen incandescent lightbulbs. Color options and dimming abilities mirror their time-tested forebearers, but they cut energy consumption by 25 percent and last three times longer.

Another style we've championed for years is the compact fluorescent lamp (CFL). These swirly bulbs slash energy use by 75 percent compared to traditional incandescent bulbs and last up to 10 times longer.

But for folks who don't like the pigtail CFL shape or who worry about the very small amount of mercury in these bulbs, another brighter option looms on the horizon: light-emitting diodes (LEDs). These solid-state products have been used in electronics since the 1960s, and manufacturers are ramping up efforts to transform them into the perfect replacement bulb. LEDs require 75 percent to 80 percent less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs and can last

Continued on page 16-B ▶



Terry Janson

“These swirly bulbs slash energy use by 75 percent...”

Victory Offices Closing for Holiday

Victory Electric's offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Saving Money, Continued

► Continued from page 16-A

25 times longer—by far the longest lifespan yet.

DOE estimates it'll take more than six years for a \$40, 800-lumen (60-W-equivalent) LED to pay for itself. But investments in manufacturing and increased demand should help drive down costs. By 2021, LED prices are expected to drop by a factor of 10, and that's good news for anyone who enjoys the thought of only changing a lightbulb once every 20 years or so.

In January 2013, a new set of lightbulb efficiency standards will fall into place, this time halting production of inefficient 75-W incandescent bulbs. A year later, household lightbulbs using between 40-W to 100-W must consume at least 28 percent less energy than classic bulbs, saving Americans an estimated \$6 billion to \$10 billion in lighting costs annually.

So what's the punchline? Every time you change a lightbulb, buy a more efficient replacement. No matter which kind you opt for, you'll save money every time you flip a light switch—and that's nothing to chuckle about.

'Til Next Time, TJ

Visit our Website & Join Victory Electric on Facebook

Visit www.victoryelectric.net and you will find a calendar of events, frequently asked questions, bill pay and energy calculators—just to name a few tools!

You can also become a fan of Victory Electric on Facebook at facebook.com/VictoryElectric or by searching for The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. Check our page for updates, outage information and energy efficiency tips. Facebook is a great way to stay in touch and stay apprised of co-op events and news.



Victory Electric Supports Community Foundation

A \$1,200 donation was presented to the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas' "Women of Inspiration" endowment fund in the name of the women of Victory Electric. "Women of Inspiration" is a new fund of the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas aimed at raising and distributing funds to enhance the lives of women through improving the educational, social, cultural, health and civic resources of the community.

"Victory Electric is known for their mission to enrich the lives of people," said Margaret Hamilton, development director of the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas. "As such, they are ideal to be a Founder Member of the Women of Inspiration Fund of the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas, and for this, the Foundation is extremely grateful."

The Women of Inspiration fund will focus on the most prevalent concerns for enrichment of women in our area to include the following: parenting skills, career guidance, education advancement, employment enhancement, emotional enrichment, financial strategies, healthy relationships and physical health.

"It is important for the community to plan ahead



The ladies of Victory Electric presents a check to Margaret Hamilton of the Community Foundation. Front row (l-r): Helen Cecil, Alexa Erives, Melissa Ruiz, Rae Jean Amy, Margaret Hamilton, Dania Blatnick, Micaela Morales, Alma Robison, Jamie Stecklein, and Martha Ruiz. Back row (l-r): Jerri Ingarten, Jennifer Gaut, Karla Durrant, Metissa Hampton, Monica Lampe, Rubi Carbajal, Sandy Long, and Jessica Mashak.

for women and be better prepared to assist them in the business world and much more," said Terry Janson, CEO of Victory Electric. "Victory Electric is proud to be a partner and supporter of the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas."

Sacred Heart students get into the “Spirit of Energy”

Students from Sacred Heart Cathedral School’s summer academic camp visited Victory Electric on Wednesday, July 18, as part of their two-week “Spirit of Energy” themed summer camp.

“Summer academic camp is a program at Sacred Heart aimed at giving kids educational activities for the summer,” said Daniel Dawson, teacher. “We pick a theme each summer, and we try to coordinate classroom lessons with field trips for the students.”

In the “Spirit of Energy,” students learned how electricity works at Victory Electric. They received a lesson on how electricity is generated and the numerous places it travels before arriving at their home to turn on their lights, computers and TV’s. Following the lesson on the flow of electricity,

Lineman, Mikey Goddard visited with students on how he does his job, the safety equipment he wears, and even got to check out the inside of a line truck.

“We enjoyed having the students out to Victory Electric,” said Jerry King, director of marketing and communications. “Number five of the seven cooperative principles states that cooperatives provide education, training and



Sacred Heart students get a taste of being a lineman by trying on hard hats and other safety gear.

information to the public and this is just one way Victory provides education. We also make school visits and attend public events upon request.”

CFL Charlie Says, "Come Get Your Free CFL Bulb!"

And this month’s winners are... Edward Spencer, Stephen Schartz, Rick Odle, Maria Cabrera, Emilio Blanco, and Mary Cruz.

Come by Victory Electric, talk to Josh or Jerry and get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL).

Every month Victory Electric will be giving free CFL light bulbs.



Why By Local?

The advantages of keeping dollars local

Why buy local? There are numerous benefits to buying local. First, when those coveted big, job-creating businesses look to locate in a city or town, they look at the statistics of how many people buy local. Ford County has total retail sales of \$484.7 million, and compared to other towns and counties approximately the same size, Ford County doesn’t do as well.

In Finney County (Garden City), they have total retail sales of \$680.7 million, almost \$200 million more in sales than in Dodge City. Great Bend and Liberal do approximately the same in total retail sales, but they have approximately 2,000 less households than Dodge City.

Therefore, towns like Garden City, which is approximately the same size as Dodge City, will attract more businesses because they draw in more local buyers.

Another important fact that many forget when they travel is the cost to travel to those places. Using Wichita and Garden City as examples, using the calculation (IRS

mileage rate x the miles) + (average Ford County hourly wage x time to drive), the average Ford County citizen is spending almost \$17 going to Garden City and \$57 going to Wichita, without even opening your wallet at a store.

Victory Electric recognized a need for a “buy local” campaign. Along with United Wireless, Cox Communications, Dodge City Community College and Weece Furniture Outlet, “Buy Close By” was formed.

The idea behind the marketing campaign is to encourage consumers to stay in Dodge City and Ford County for their shopping. Local businesses are offering discounts, coupons, giveaways and much more.

For more information on the discounts being offered, please visit the website at www.buycloseby.com or facebook.com/buycloseby.

If you are a business and are interested in participating, contact Josh Schmidt at 620-227-2139.

Local Students Travel to Washington D.C.

Bilberry and Delzeit attend "Government In Action" Youth Tour Program

LINDY BILBERRY, Garden City, and **JENNIFER DELZEIT**, Dodge City, toured the nation's capitol with 34 other students from across Kansas for the 52nd Annual "Government in Action" Youth Tour, June 14-21.

Kansas is one of the 42 states to send youth delegates to the annual electric cooperative youth tour. Bilberry and Delzeit were selected through a competition by The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

"Going on this trip made me more proud to be an American," Bilberry said. "Seeing the Pentagon memorial was overwhelming and very emotional because it actually happened in my life. Also, seeing all the names on the war memorials really puts the sacrifices others made into perspective."

Since 1960, the nation's electric cooperatives have sponsored the trips of more than 40,000 high school juniors to visit U.S. congressional members, energy and grassroots government education sessions, and sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

The students began their trip by visiting Kaw Valley Electric Cooperative in Topeka before flying to Washington, D.C. The group learned about the U.S. government through visits with Senators Moran and Roberts, as well as Representatives Huelskamp, Jenkins and Pompeo. They also met with youth from other states and took tours of museums, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery and the National Archives.

"I was most impacted by all the war memorials. It was incredible to see all of the names of the people who died for our freedom," Delzeit said. "I am truly lucky to have been born in the country I was born in. I will take



Lindy Bilberry, Garden City (left), and Jennifer Delzeit, Dodge City, toured the nation's capital.

back pride and knowledge of freedom."

Bilberry and Delzeit were selected from a group of high school applicants by Victory Electric. To win this trip, students were asked to submit a résumé, take a 35 question multiple choice/true false exam on cooperatives, and interview with a panel of judges. Victory Electric sponsors the trip of 2 or 3 students each year, in

addition to 3 students to Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp. For more information on youth tour programs, contact Jerri Imgarten at Victory Electric at 620-371-7730.

"Victory Electric is proud to support the Youth Tour program and send our youth to experience government in action," said Terry Janson, Victory Electric general manager. "Our hope is that local students will gain some awareness of how our political system works and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our community."

On the following page, both Bilberry and Delzeit share some of their memories of Washington, D.C.



Lindy Bilberry and Jennifer Delzeit, fourth and fifth on second row, traveled to Washington, D.C., with other students from around the nation as part of the "Government in Action" Youth Tour program.

Lindy Bilberry

Garden City High School



Lindy Bilberry

It's rare as a young adult to have an experience that truly changes your outlook on things. It's even rarer to have such an experience among a group of, well, strangers. For me, however, the Victory Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., was just that: an experience that truly changed my perspective of what it is to be a proud American.

Seeing thousands upon thousands of names of those missing or killed in action upon the Vietnam War Memorial is a truly humbling experience. I don't know how anybody could look at those names and be filled with anything but respect and thankfulness for those who serve our country in the armed forces. There's no way to grasp just how amazing all the memorials are through pictures. Looking upon the face of Abraham Lincoln's statue, I realized just how great our nation is. The National Archives was one of my favorite stops on the trip. It's one thing to see the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution in a book, and quite another to see it in person. Seeing the documents that laid the foundation for our nation and seeing the signatures of some of the greatest patriots our nation has ever known is something that I have dreamed about, and an experience I will never forget. For me, however, the most touching memorial was the one found at the Pentagon. Since this was the only memorial dedicated to something that happened during my lifetime, my feelings towards the names on the markers were even more real. I saw the memorial and sight of what was probably the worst national tragedy that will happen in my lifetime. There's no way that you can leave the Pentagon Memorial feeling the same as you did when you came.

I am so grateful to the board and members of the Victory Electric for giving me the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C., on the Youth Tour. I made great friends, saw amazing and unforgettable sights, and came back even more proud to be an American.

“I made great friends, and saw amazing and unforgettable sights...”

Jennifer Delzeit

Dodge City High School



Jennifer Delzeit

One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things. Freedom is something most Americans take for granted. Not often enough do we think about the brave men and women who have gone to war to protect our flag. My trip to Washington, D.C., made me realize just how lucky we are to be born into this country. With freedom comes pride, and that is exactly what I have gained.

I was lucky enough to go to Washington, D.C., with other youth from all across Kansas and Hawaii. We visited numerous historical museums and monuments, ranging from the Holocaust Museum to Abraham Lincoln's monument overlooking the reflection pool. However, I enjoyed Mount Vernon the most. Mount Vernon was considerably unique compared to the other museums because it was exactly the way George Washington left his house when he died, not just a replica. It was amazing to see all of these beautiful artifacts on his estate, all aligned neatly, then walk outside and see the Potomac River exactly the way George himself would have seen it. The view was simply stunning. Other highlights from my trip include the Newsuem and touring the capitol building. The Newsuem was a fairly unique museum that hit home for many of us on the tour. The Newsuem has front page stories from all across the nation of different dates and times. It has newspaper articles from when JFK was shot clear to when the first polio vaccine was discovered. It also has the largest amount of the Berlin Wall found anywhere except Germany. It has a portion dedicated to 9-11, which had some of the hardest stories and excerpts to read. On the other hand, touring the capitol building was also a phenomenal experience. My favorite part of the entire tour was looking up and seeing the magnificent paintings on the dome.

“It was truly the highlight of my year.”

All in all, the trip was planned perfectly and everything went along smoothly. I am very grateful for being sponsored to go on this once in a lifetime trip by Victory Electric. It was truly the highlight of my year.

Washing Gets Efficiency Boost

Efficiency standards strengthened for clothes washers, dishwashers

Cleaning dishes and dirty laundry may not cost as much in a few years, thanks to increased federal energy efficiency standards.

On average, clothes washers and dishwashers are responsible for 3 percent of a home's electric bill and 20 percent of a home's indoor water use. In May, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) boosted the minimum energy efficiency requirements for the appliances. The improvements are expected to save consumers \$20B in energy and water costs through 2030.

Returns on rinse cycles

Thanks to the tougher standards, each

household could save up to \$350 in energy costs over the life of a new clothes washer compared to today's models, according to the DOE.

When DOE formed these new standards, consumer choice was an important concern, so different styles of clothes washers were considered and standards set to accommodate each. Front-loading washers must use 15 percent less energy and 35 percent less water, while top-loading models must cut energy use by 33 percent and drop water consumption by 19 percent.

Energy efficiency experts peg water savings to be 10,000 gallons—or

250 baths—for every household, every year, under the new standards.

The changes take effect with 2015 models. This is the fourth time clothes washer standards have been strengthened over the past 25 years.

Dishes don't drain as much

Cleaning dishes drains energy and water. New dishwashers will use 15 percent less energy and more than 20 percent less water—saving about \$100 over the lifetime of the appliance, according to experts.

Improved dishwasher standards kick in next year, marking the third time these standards have been raised since 1987.

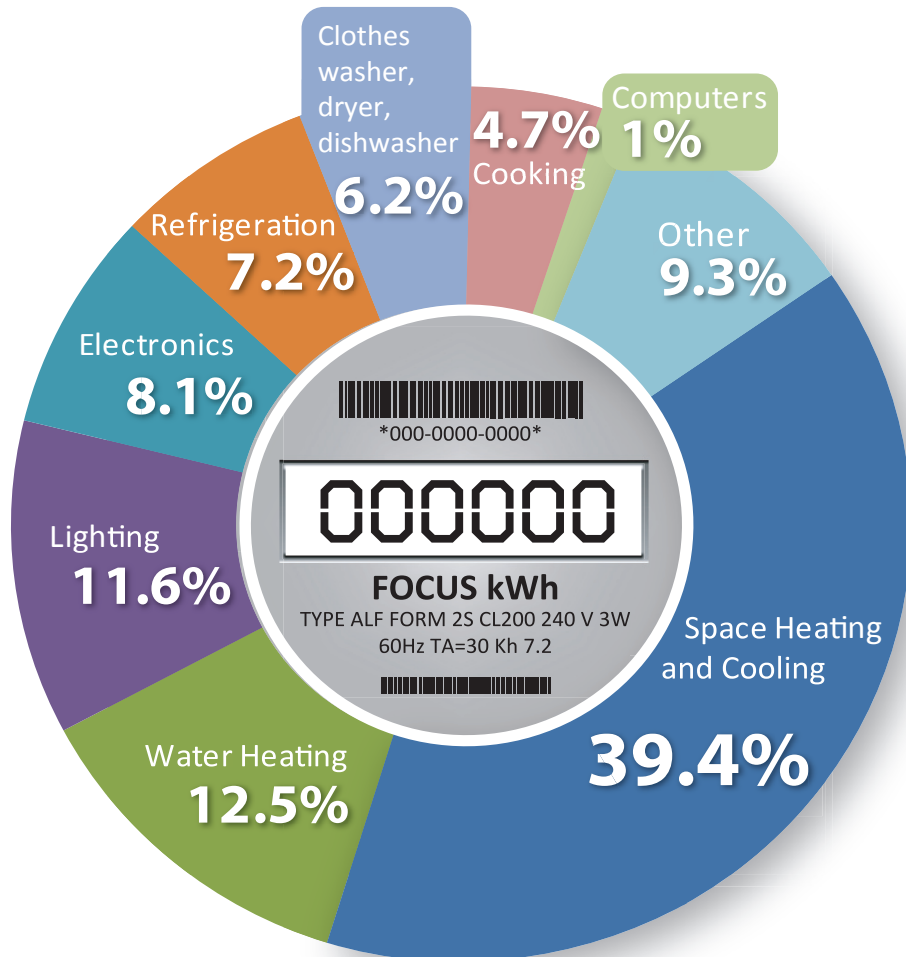
Set standards to save

Energy efficiency standards cover a wide range of appliances, from refrigerators and air conditioners to microwaves and other electrical equipment. Standards for more than 40 products are being strengthened with the promise to cut \$350 billion from electric bills through 2030. According to the DOE's Building Technologies Program, consumers and businesses already save \$15 billion every year as a result of federal energy efficiency standards; DOE expects these annual savings to double by 2025.

National standards not only help consumers save on electric bills, but manufacturers benefit by avoiding a patchwork of different state standards. DOE notes its revised energy efficiency standards for dishwashers and clothes washers were developed with help from companies like Whirlpool, General Electric, and LG Electronics, industry advocates, national environmental organizations, and consumer groups.

To find more ways to save energy at home, visit EnergySavers.gov OR TogetherWeSave.com.

How Your Home Uses Electricity



Lavando obtiene impulso de eficiencia

Fortalecer las normas de eficiencia para lavadoras de ropa y lavaplatos

Limpieza de platos y ropa sucia no puede costar tanto en pocos años, gracias al aumento de las normas de eficiencia de energía federal.

En promedio, lavaplatos y lavadoras de ropa son responsables de 3 por ciento de la factura de electricidad de una casa y 20 por ciento de uso de agua interior de una casa. En mayo, el Departamento de energía de Estados Unidos (DOE) potenciado los requisitos de eficiencia de energía mínima para los aparatos. Las mejoras se espera que para salvar a los consumidores \$20 billones en costos de energía y agua a través de 2030.

Devoluciones de ciclo de enjuague

Gracias a los más estrictos estándares, cada hogar podría ahorrar hasta \$350 en los costos de energía durante la vida de una lavadora de ropa nueva en comparación con los modelos de hoy, según el DOE.

Cuando DOE formó estas nuevas normas, elección de los consumidores era una preocupación importante, por lo que se consideraron diferentes estilos de lavadoras de ropa y fijar normas para dar cabida a cada uno. Lavadoras de carga frontal debe utilizar 15% menos de energía y agua 35% menos, mientras que los modelos de carga superior deben reducir la utilización de energía en un 33 por ciento y deje caer el consumo de agua en un 19 por ciento.

Expertos de eficiencia de energía de ahorro de agua a ser 10.000 galones — o 250 baños — para cada hogar, cada año, bajo las nuevas normas.

Los cambios surtirán efecto con modelos de 2015. Esta es la cuarta ropa de tiempo las normas de la lavadora se han fortalecido en los últimos 25 años.

Platos no drenar tanto

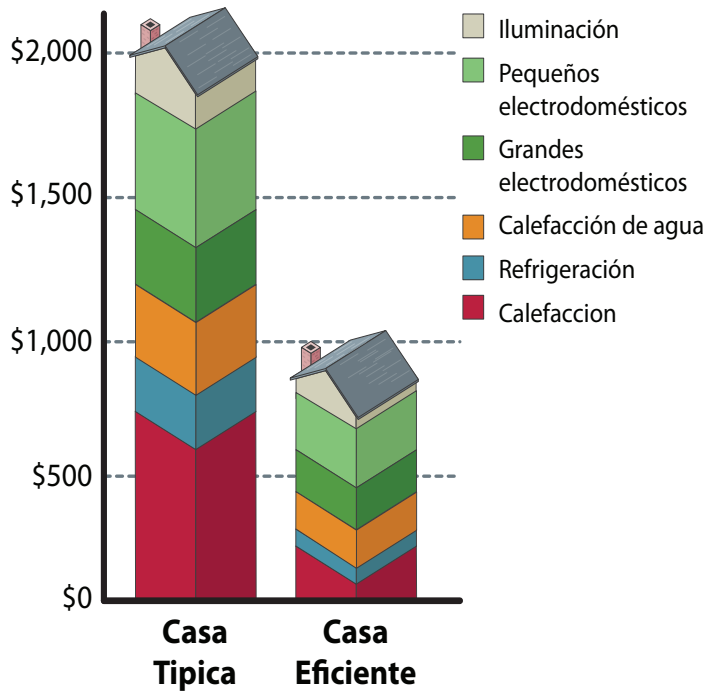
Limpieza de platos drena agua y energía. Nuevos lavaplatos utilizará 15% menos de energía y más del 20 por ciento menos de agua — aproximadamente \$100 de ahorro durante la vida útil del aparato, según los expertos.

Lavaplatos mejora estándares en el próximo año, marcando la tercera vez que estas normas se han planteado desde 1987.

Establecer normas para guardar

Normas de eficiencia energética cubren una amplia gama de dispositivos, desde refrigeradores y acondicionadores

**Factura de energía anual de una casa
Típica contra una eficiente**



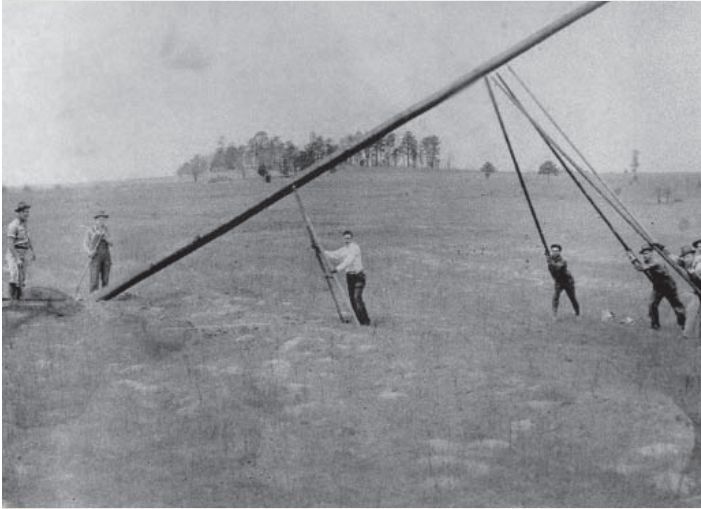
Fuente: Departamento de energía de Estados Unidos, 2009 datos de energía de edificios Book. Savings are DOE Home Energy Saver estimates. Libro. Los ahorros son estimaciones de ahorro de energía del hogar de DOE.

de aire para hornos de microondas y otros aparatos eléctricos. Normas para más de 40 productos se están fortaleciendo con la promesa de cortar \$350 billones de facturas de electricidad a través de 2030. Según el DOE programa de tecnologías de construcción, los consumidores y las empresas ya ahorrar \$15 billones cada año como consecuencia de normas de eficiencia de energía federal; DOE espera que estos ahorros anuales al doble para el año 2025.

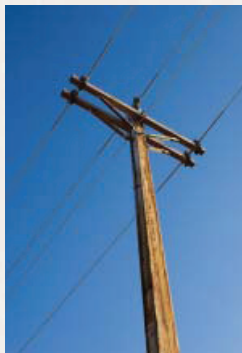
Normas nacionales no sólo ayudan a los consumidores ahorrar en facturas de electricidad, pero los fabricantes se benefician evitando un mosaico de normas estatales diferentes. Notas DOE que sus estándares de eficiencia de energía revisada para lavaplatos y lavadoras de ropa fueron desarrollados con la ayuda de empresas como Whirlpool, General Electric y LG Electronics, defensores de la industria, las organizaciones ambientales nacionales y grupos de consumidores.

Para encontrar más formas de ahorrar energía en casa, visite EnergySavers.gov o TogetherWeSave.com.

ELECTRIC CO-OPS WERE CONSTRUCTED WITH LINES, POLES AND THE FOOLHARDY NOTION THAT WE ALL PROSPER BY HELPING EACH OTHER.



It seems obvious in retrospect, but there was a time when getting electricity outside of the city limits wasn't a given. Today, the spirit of community that co-ops were built upon continues to thrive. And as members we can all lend a hand by saving energy. Learn how at TogetherWeSave.com.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM