

Suds and savings

10 ways to save energy in the laundry room

Your clothes washer and dryer account for a significant portion of energy consumption from major appliances, and let's face it—laundry is no one's favorite chore. Make the most of your laundry energy use! There are several easy ways you can save energy (and money) in the laundry room. The Department of Energy recommends the following tips for saving on suds.

- 1. Wash with cold water.** Switching from warm to cold water can cut one load's energy use by more than half, and by using a cold-water detergent, you can still achieve that brilliant clean you would normally get from washing in warm water.
- 2. Wash full loads when possible.** Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the load, so fill it up if you can.
- 3. Use the high-speed or extended spin cycle in the washer.** This setting will remove more moisture



before drying, reducing your drying time and the extra wear on clothing.

- 4. Dry heavier cottons separately.** Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.
- 5. Make use of the "cool down" cycle.** If your dryer has this cycle option, you can save energy because the clothes will finish drying with the remaining heat in the dryer.
- 6. Use lower heat settings to dry clothing.** Regardless of drying time, you will still use less energy.
- 7. Use dryer balls.** Dryer balls, usually wool or rubber, will help keep clothes separated for faster drying. They also help reduce static, so you can eliminate dryer sheets.
- 8. Switch loads while the dryer is warm.** This allows you to take advantage of the remaining heat from the previous cycle.
- 9. Clean the lint filter after each drying cycle.** If you use dryer sheets, remember to scrub the filter once a month with a toothbrush to remove excess buildup.
- 10. Purchase ENERGY STAR-rated washers and dryers.** When it is time to purchase a new washer or dryer, look for the ENERGY STAR label. New washers and dryers that receive the ENERGY STAR rating use about 20 percent less energy than conventional models.

To learn more ways to save energy at home, visit touchstoneenergy.com or go to the Department of Energy's home efficiency page energy.gov/energysaver.





<p>AGE GROUPS:</p> <p>4-6 7-9 10-12</p>	<p>CONTEST RULES:</p> <p>1. Crayons & Colored pencils only 2. One submission per child 3. Fill out entry form on back of coloring page</p>	<p>Prize:</p> <p>Beach Goodie Bag</p>
--	---	--

It is time again for the Shelby Electric Cooperative annual coloring contest! This year, we are celebrating a cooperative icon, Willie Wiredhand. Willie was created in 1951, so this will mark his 70th year in the rural electrification program.

All children ages 4-12 are invited to help us celebrate by submitting an entry. All you need is a box of crayons or colored pencils, your imagina-

tion, and the coloring page that you can download from the cooperative's website, shelbyelectric.coop. You can also pick up a coloring page and official rules at the cooperative's headquarters in Shelbyville. Turn in your finished artwork to Shelby Electric Cooperative by **July 2** for a chance to be one of our three winners.

There will be one winner from each age group (4-6, 7-9, and 10-12). Each

winner will receive a Beach Goodie Bag. If you have any questions give us a call at 217-774-3986 or send us an email at email560@shelbyelectric.coop

We can not wait to see your submissions! Drop them off at Shelby Electric Cooperative office located at 1355 State Hwy 128, Shelbyville or mail them to P.O. Box 560, Shelbyville, Illinois 62565.

SHELBY News

P.O. BOX 560
Shelbyville, IL 62565
Phone: 217-774-3986
or 1-800-677-2612
Pay-by-Phone:
1-855-385-9981
www.shelbyelectric.coop
twitter.com/YourCoop
facebook.com/YourCoop

Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



ANNUAL MEETING

Reminder: Your cooperative will be holding its 83rd annual meeting of members on **Friday, June 4** at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds in Shelbyville. Although there will be no pre-meeting activities, the cooperative will have a drive through only barbeque pork chop dinner and all members will be able to register for an attendance prize of a \$15 bill credit. Registration and meal pick-up are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. For those who would like to attend the business meeting, it will be held in the show arena at 1:00 p.m. Annual meeting notices were mailed out mid-May. If you did not receive one or misplaced yours, call the cooperative at 217-774-3986. You can also download one from our website, www.shelbyelectric.coop.

Keaton retires



Forrest Keaton

We wish you the best in retirement, Forrest!

The cooperative board of directors recently acknowledged Forrest G. Keaton for 17 years of dedicated service as our cooperative attorney. Forrest's career as an attorney spanned just under 44 years.

Forrest thought about becoming an attorney when he was in high school. By the time he started college at Bradley University in 1970, he was locked in on that career path.

He graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law in May 1977. Forrest served his country on active duty in the United States Air Force as a judge advocate from October 1977 through July 1982. Shortly after he left active duty, he joined what is now Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C. in Jacksonville in August 1982. He remained in the Air Force Reserve until retiring from military service in 2007. Forrest started representing the cooperative as its attorney in 2004 and will begin his retirement at the end of June 2021.

His retirement plans are pretty fluid. Forrest plans on increasing his volunteer work with the Kiwanis club. "I have been active in our local Kiwanis club for the past 30 years, and I will probably increase my role in its school partnership and mentoring activities," stated Keaton.

Travel is also in the plans. "We do have plans to take a trip to England and Scotland early this fall, if the travel restrictions allow for it. We will also have more flexibility to visit our daughter and her husband in Austin, Texas, and our oldest son and his wife in Alexandria, Virginia. Our youngest son works in Shanghai, China, and the hope is to one-day make a trip to China. That plan is uncertain for a while," continued Keaton. "I've enjoyed my time as attorney for the cooperative. It has been an honor and pleasure to represent Shelby Electric Cooperative in that capacity."

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary.

Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.



Source: www.energy.gov

Helping us out this summer!



Eli Courtright



Cade Helton

The cooperative welcomed these two young men in April. Eli and Cade will be helping out the line crews this summer. Both of them were on the Ram wrestling team, graduated high school in 2019, attended lineman school in Tennessee at the same time, worked for Kelly Construction, and now they are working at the cooperative this summer. Eli and Cade are excited to use their training to assist the line crews and look forward to learning from them.

Welcome Eli Courtright and Cade Helton.

REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla and electrical safety around water

Cooling off in the water on a sweltering hot summer day is a refreshing break desired by many kids and adults. So much so that the demand for residential pools and spas outnumbers the supply due to a variety of pandemic-related reasons. Some people prefer to get their water recreation by heading to the lake or river. In fact, boat sales splashed to a 13-year high in 2020. The National Marine Manufacturers Association expects the boom to continue through 2021.

With the increased interest in water recreation, Shelby Electric Cooperative wants everyone to remember that water and electricity do not play well together. Pure water, such as distilled water that has been condensed from steam, is actually an insulator and does not conduct electricity. However, the water sources we experience in our daily lives are full of impurities which make the water powerfully conductive.

Adults in charge of outdoor, water-related activities should regularly check for situations that could be dangerous *and* educate children on the best safety practices.

Following are crucial tips to remember:

- 💧 Never touch electrical equipment when wet.
- 💧 Do not place electrical appliances or tools near water sources.
- 💧 Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are required to be installed within



6 feet of a water source, and are recommended to be installed within 20 feet of a pool or hot tub.

- 💧 Know where the electrical switches and circuit breakers are located for pools and hot tubs.
- 💧 Pools and decks should be built at least five feet away from underground electrical lines and 25 feet from overhead lines.
- 💧 Look up and live! Check for overhead lines before beginning any water activities. Raising long items such as pool cleaning accessories, fishing poles, or boating equipment can suddenly turn a situation deadly.

- 💧 If you feel a tingling sensation while in the water, avoid metal ladders and equipment while attempting to exit the area.
- 💧 If a swimmer is getting shocked, do not dive in the water to rescue them! The water around them is likely to be energized. Turn the power off at the source of electricity, then use a fiberglass hook to assist them.

Enjoy soaking up summer and its water activities, but be safe while doing so!

~Marla Foor,
Communication Specialist
Sources: Safelectricity.org,
Marketplace.org, usgs.gov