

CELEBRATING
75
YEARS



Spoon River News

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President's Report



William R. Dodds
President/CEO

Mark your calendars to attend the Annual Meeting of Members!

I hope you've already marked your calendar to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on June 13. Registration starts at 5 p.m. at Canton High School, and the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. If you've never been to our Annual Meeting, here's a look at what goes on:

- Dinner is served from 5 to 6:30 in the cafeteria. This gives us a chance to meet and catch up with fellow members. We always have a nice meal of pork chop sandwiches, sides and desert.
- At the business meeting, we watch a short video about the Cooperative's past year, recognize employee anniversaries and elect three directors to the board. This is your chance to be part of the democratic process that governs cooperatives.
- We award three \$500 college scholarships to high school seniors who live in our territory. Every student who applies for a scholarship will be recognized.
- Entertainment will be provided this year by Brandon Styles. Brandon has performed in Las Vegas and has a top-notch act that will surprise and entertain you.
- Attendance prizes will be awarded at the end of the meeting. We always give away some nice gifts. This year's grand prize is a flat-screen television.

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of Members this year. Our employees go out of their way to make sure it's not just business, but a fun evening for all. We ask that you RSVP to (309) 647-2700 by June 4.





**Call us if
your power
goes out.**



(309) 647-2700

Spoon River Electric Cooperative

930 South Fifth Ave, PO Box 340, Canton, IL 61520

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

309-647-2700 • www.srecoop.org

President/CEO

William R. Dodds
bdodds@srecoop.org

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Jack Clark, Lewistown

Vice Chairman

Bernard Marvel, Browning

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Lyle Nelson, Abingdon

Assistant Treasurer

Terry Beam, Cuba

Board of Directors

James Banks, Canton
Robert Lascelles, Ipava
Greg Leigh, Avon
John Spangler, Marietta

Editor of Spoon River News

Brenda Rothert
brothert@srecoop.org

Spoon River Electric Cooperative – By the Numbers

Miles of line energized: 1,249 • Number of members served: 4,944

Number of power poles in territory: 29,255

Around-the-clock appliances

By Magen Howard

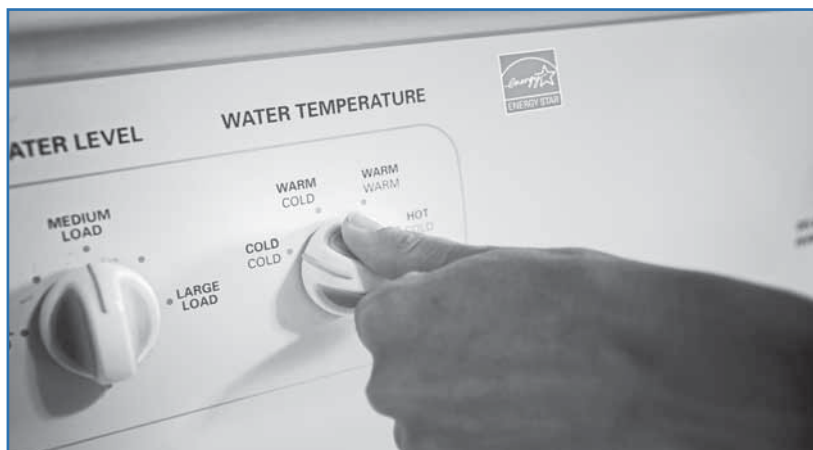
In 2013, new appliances don't just cook your food and keep it cold, wash your clothes and dishes, or offer a few hours of entertainment. These machines boast myriad functions that make our lives easier—but in doing so also consume more energy.

While appliances have become more energy efficient as technology has evolved and federal standards tightened, few ever truly shut down anymore. And as Americans add more and more electronic devices to their households—25 on average, according to the Consumer Electronics Association—much more energy is consumed.

Take a phone charger as an example. Leaving it plugged in without a phone attached doesn't mean it's not drawing power—in fact, it uses 0.26 watts of electricity even when a phone isn't connected, and 2.24 watts when the handset is charging.

Of course, that 0.26 watts by itself might not be a big issue. But if most of your electronic devices are doing that, it can add up to as much as 10 percent of your bill, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Take a look around your house—how many cords are plugged in? Of those, how many are actually attached to a device? You might be surprised at how much electricity your family consumes, even when you don't realize it.



Cable boxes are a big culprit of 24/7 energy use. Leaving your cable box plugged in for a year and never turning it off adds, on average, \$17.83 to your electric bill. Toss in a DVR function and that total jumps to \$43.46, DOE reports.

And electronics aren't the only problem. Basic “white goods” appliances like clothes washers and dryers, refrigerators, and dishwashers are so savvy that you can set them to come on late at night, when the wholesale power your co-op must buy costs less—helping your co-op keep power affordable for you and your neighbors. Here again, the bigger you go with a new appliance, the more energy it will use.

Electric bills don't have to be held hostage by 24-hour-a-day energy use. For starters, use a power

strip to turn several electronics on or off at once. For a bigger investment, look into “smart” power strips. They allow you to cut power to certain appliances—say, your TV—while letting power flow to your cable box because it takes time to reboot after being unplugged.

If you're in the market for a new appliance, look for an ENERGY STAR model. It generally consumes less power all around and uses less standby energy.

But remember that you actually have to use those energy-efficient settings on your appliances to see savings on your electric bill.

For more information on energy-efficient living, visit www.srecoop.org.

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START YOUNG.**



Find out how your local electric cooperative can help you lead by example at TogetherWeSave.com.



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Service is our top priority. We're your comfort for today and tomorrow.

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