



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER AND CEO BRYAN STORY

Stay in the Know

AT LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, we're constantly striving to improve our operational efficiency so we can provide the most reliable electric service possible for our consumer-members.

We rely on data for nearly every aspect of our operations, which is why we could use your help.

By making sure we have your most accurate and complete contact information, we can continue to provide the high level of service that you expect and deserve. Up-to-date information enables us to improve customer service and enhance communications for reporting and repairing outages. It also allows co-op members to receive information about other important programs, events and activities.

Current contact information allows for a more efficient power restoration process during an outage. Your phone number is linked to your service address in our outage management system. This means that when you call to report an outage, our system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your meter location. That helps us predict the location and possible cause of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correct the problem.

While we always do our best to maintain continuous service, we occasionally plan outages to update, repair or replace equipment. In these instances, we can provide advance notification to affected members through automated phone messages, text messages

or email if we have your updated contact information and communication preferences.

Keeping the co-op updated with your information also helps us when there's a question about energy use or billing. Discrepancies on your account can be taken care of promptly if Lamar Electric can easily get in touch with you.

Emails and text messages are also used to notify registered members of any changes in co-op events.

Many of you have been members of the co-op for years, and it's likely that your account information hasn't been updated for some time. We recognize that many members now use a cellphone as their primary phone service, and we might not have that number in our system.

I want to emphasize that when you provide your contact information to the co-op, we will never share this information with any third parties. It's only used by Lamar Electric to send important information to you.

Please take a moment to confirm or update your contact information through our SmartHub app, by submitting an email to info@lamarelectric.coop or by contacting our office. By doing so, you'll help us improve service and efficiency so we can better serve you and all members of the co-op. ■



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BEAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Stay Back and Stay Safe

WORKING WITH ELECTRICITY can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, *USA Today* lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why for Lamar Electric Cooperative, safety is the No. 1 priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above anything else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance—and your help!

Distractions Can Be Deadly

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences.

If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews—and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between an intruder and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You'll recognize Lamar Electric employees by their uniforms with our logo clearly displayed and the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our community.

Slow Down and Move Over

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they're near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us. ■



5225 US Hwy. 82 E, Blossom, TX 75416
P.O. Box 68, Blossom, TX 75416
Phone (903) 784-4303
Web lamarelectric.coop

General Manager and CEO

Bryan Story

Board of Directors

George M. Wood, President, Blossom
Lyle Yoder, Vice President, Pattonville
Mike Williams, Secretary-Treasurer,
Detroit
Matthew Albus, Roxton
Josh Hostetler, Sumner
James D. Floyd, Annona
Barbara Golden, Detroit
Jeremy D. Hamil, Sumner
Ron E. Tippit, Clarksville

Contact Us

For information and to report outages, please call us.

(903) 784-4303

MEMBER BENEFITS

- Level billing
- Automated meter reading
- Free bank draft service
- E-Bill
- Visa and Mastercard accepted
- Prepaid metering

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

Lamar Electric provides *Texas Co-op Power* and TexasCoopPower.com to give you information about events, safety, special programs and other activities of your cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the co-op office.

VISIT US ONLINE

lamarelectric.coop



Check us out at
TexasCoopPower.com/lamar



WE'VE GOT YOU

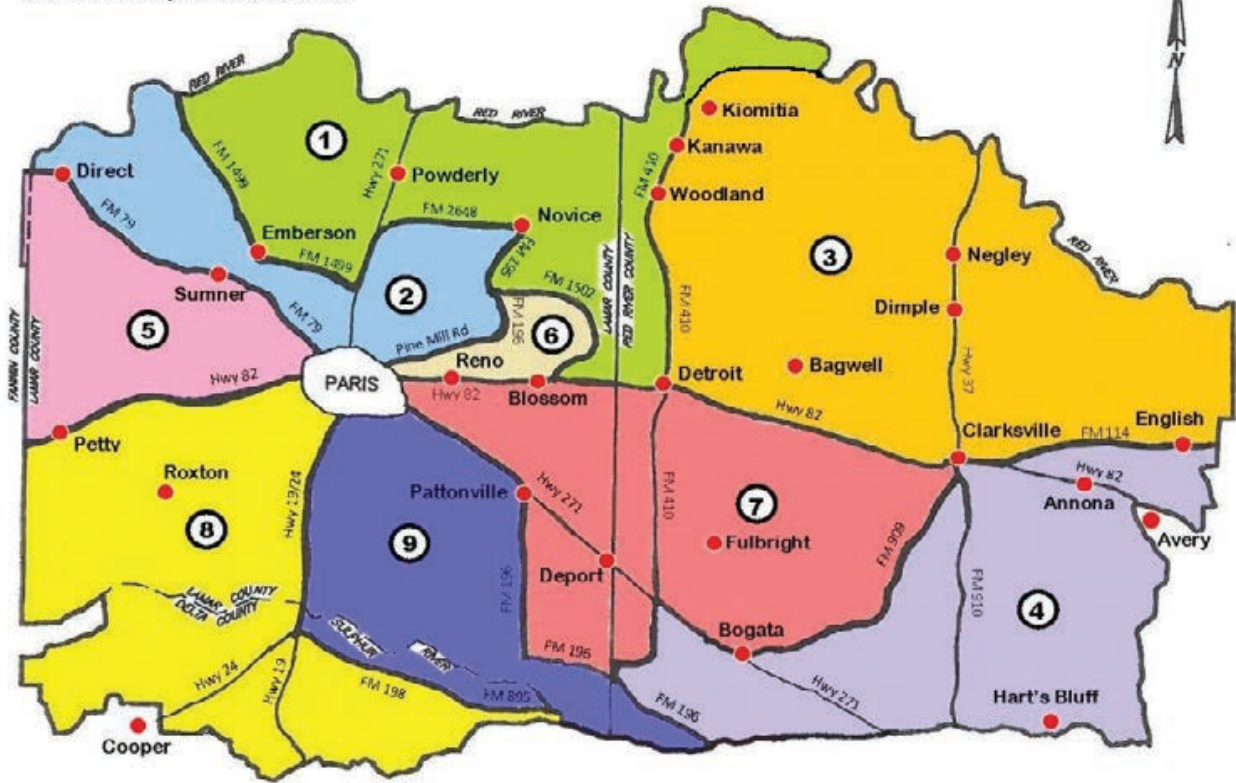
A lot goes into powering this community. That's why Lamar EC wants you to know we've got you. It's a pledge to make sure you're always taken care of. A pledge we honor every day. From our member service representatives to our lineworkers and those making sure the power you use every day is there when you need it. We've got you. Always.

Your source for power. And information.

LAMARELECTRIC.COOP



Circled Number represents Board District



Director Elections, Scholarships Set for Lamar Electric Annual Meeting April 20

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING of Lamar Electric Cooperative will be 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at the cooperative's headquarters, 5225 U.S. Highway 82 E. in Blossom. Registration opens at 9 a.m. The business session begins at 10 a.m. and will include any necessary reports of the officers, board members and committees as well as the election of directors in districts 1, 8 and 9, each for a three-year term.

You do not have to be present at the meeting to vote in the director election. Before the meeting, ballots will be mailed to members who reside in those districts. If you reside in one of the districts holding an election, you may vote either by mail or in person at the meeting.

Each member in attendance at the meeting will receive a registration gift, and drawings for other prizes will be held. You must be present at the time of the drawing to be eligible to win a prize.

Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded at the meeting. To be eligible for a scholarship, a candidate must:

- ▶ Live full time in a residence served by Lamar Electric.
- ▶ Be a graduating senior attending a high school or an accredited home school program within the counties served by Lamar Electric.

Applications must be received at the cooperative office by 5 p.m. April 12.

Questions about the meeting? Call (903) 784-4303 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. ■



M-PRODUCTION | IISTOCK.COM



Want To Save Energy? Start With the Water Heater

ONE COMMON APPLIANCE can put you in hot water: Water heaters account for about 18% of a typical home’s energy consumption. It doesn’t have to be that way. **Here are five energy-saving tips:**

Lower the temperature of your water heater to “warm,” which is 120 degrees. This will save energy and slows mineral buildup and corrosion in the water heater. Another bonus: A lower water temperature lowers the risk of scalding, especially for older adults and children.

Upgrade your water heater to a newer, energy-efficient model. If yours was made before 2004, when new federal energy efficiency regulations took effect, you’re spending more than you need to heat water. And by purchasing a new one, you can stave off problems like leaks and breakdowns before they happen.

If you’re buying a new water heater, choose one that “fits” your home. A water heater that’s too small for your family’s needs will be over-worked, so its burner is constantly running. An oversized unit will waste energy by constantly heating more water than your family needs.

Take shorter showers. Doctors say a five- to 10-minute shower is just enough. Any more, and the hot water can dry out or even damage the surface of your skin. Any less might not be enough time to get clean and hydrate your skin.

Insulate the water heater and pipes. Install a water heater blanket made from insulating material to prevent heat from seeping into the air instead of the water. ■

LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Lamar Electric Cooperative will award six \$1,000 scholarships to students who plan to pursue an academic degree or certification from an accredited university, college, junior college, technical school or other postsecondary educational institution. Scholarship payment will be made directly to the institution in one lump sum and must be used within two years of the award date. Funds may be used for tuition, books, and room and board.

Eligibility Requirements:

To be considered for a Lamar Electric scholarship the student must:

- Live full time in a residence served by Lamar Electric Cooperative.
- Be a graduating senior attending a high school or an accredited home school program within the counties served by the Cooperative.
- Apply by April 12.

Winners will be chosen in a random drawing at the Lamar Electric Cooperative Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, April 20, 2024. You need not be present to win.

Entry Deadline is April 12, 2024

Once the application is completed email to: scholarship@lamarelectric.coop

Or mail to:

Lamar Electric Cooperative
Attn: Scholarships
PO Box 68
Blossom, TX 75416

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL _____

COLLEGE OF INTEREST _____

COLLEGE MAJOR OF INTEREST _____

PARENTS/GUARDIANS NAMES _____

LAMAR ELECTRIC ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

PHONE _____