



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER AND CEO BRYAN STORY

## We Can Make 2025 Better Together

A BRAND-NEW YEAR is upon us, and just as many of you might, we at Lamar Electric Cooperative have a few resolutions. In our ongoing quest to provide reliable electric service and responsive and timely member service, we'd like to redouble our efforts to solicit feedback from our membership.

Your comments, questions and concerns are always welcome and often serve as a springboard for new and better services. If we don't get a sense from those we serve of what we're doing right and which areas need improvement, we're neglecting an important tool for positive change.



Another goal we continuously work toward is securing sustainable power agreements at competitive rates for the long-term value of Lamar Electric's membership. By keeping an eye on the power market's horizon and emerging sources like renewables, we can negotiate the best rates and ensure that our members always have access to safe and reliable power. We resolve this year to uphold this commitment as staunchly as ever.

Finally, we expect to maintain our involvement in community outreach. These contributions—whether through scholarships, fundraisers or donations to local fire departments—get to the core of

who we are and articulate our enduring Concern for Community. We resolve to keep doing our part to uplift our community across a broad spectrum of charitable endeavors.

As a complement to our resolutions, here are a few we'd like to propose to you to get the most out of your co-op membership.

Make a point of attending LEC's annual meeting. There simply is no better, more direct or immediate method for making your voice heard: You can vote in important elections to determine your cooperative's leadership, pose questions to your general

manager, air concerns and maybe even win a prize!

In addition, time spent gathering with fellow co-op members adds up to a worthwhile investment of a few hours each year.

Another resolution to consider is evaluating your personal stewardship of electricity. We all can find small or large ways to conserve more energy, increase efficiency and simply waste less.

In the market for a new appliance this year? Buy one that is Energy Star-rated. Or make this the year when you commit to weatherizing your house to seal leaks and gaps where air gets through. A fresh start always provides a meaningful opportunity to take stock of our surroundings and goals and make changes accordingly.

One last resolution to set, in concert with your cooperative, is

renewing your commitment to serve our community. Whether by volunteering individually or donating to whatever organization strikes a chord with you, this is perhaps the most rewarding and beneficial resolution of all.

With thoughtful attention to these resolutions, together we can make this year one of our best yet. ■



## 2025 Youth Tour Application Process Open

**SINCE 1958**, electric cooperatives across the country have been sending young people to the nation's capital for a weeklong study tour. Once again this year, Lamar Electric Cooperative will send two students from our area on a trip of a lifetime.

These students will participate in the Government-in-Action Youth Tour, an all-expenses-paid trip that will start in Austin and take them to Washington, D.C. Youth Tour participants will visit the U.S. Capitol, meet with members of Congress and tour many historical sites, monuments and museums.

### Who Is Eligible?

Tenth, 11th, and 12th grade students who live full-time in a residence served by Lamar EC or attend one of the three high schools served by Lamar Electric, which are Prairiland, Detroit and Faith Christian. Home-schooled students served by Lamar Electric are also eligible.

### How To Apply

Go to [lamarelectric.coop/youth](http://lamarelectric.coop/youth) and complete the 2025 Youth Tour application, which includes the following:

1. Application form
2. Written essay on this year's topic: "Should electric linemen be considered first responders? Why or why not?" The essay must be two pages, double-spaced with a 12-point font and 1-inch margins.

### Deadline

The application and essay must both be received no later than 5 p.m. January 31. Final selections will be announced by February 21. ■



5225 US Hwy. 82 E, Blossom, TX 75416  
P.O. Box 68, Blossom, TX 75416  
**Phone** (903) 784-4303  
**Web** [lamarelectric.coop](http://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  
James D. Floyd, Annona  
Barbara Golden, Detroit  
Jeremy D. Hamil, Sumner  
Josh Hostetler, 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](http://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](http://lamarelectric.coop)



Check us out at  
[TexasCoopPower.com/lamar](http://TexasCoopPower.com/lamar)

# WATCH FOR YOUR NEW LAMAR ELECTRIC BILL



Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Mon-Fri  
 Visit us online at [www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop)  
 Phone: (903) 784-4303  
 Email: [info@lamarelectric.coop](mailto:info@lamarelectric.coop)

Member Name: **JOHN DOE**  
 Account #: **999999999**

Billing Date: **05/10/2022**  
 Current Bill Due Date: **06/01/2022**

### Important Messages

BP Informational Message will print here.

Total Due  
**\$136.21**  
 Due Date:  
 06/01/22

Previous Balance	\$128.31
Payment Received	-\$128.31
Adjustments	-\$5.72
Balance Forward	-\$5.72
<b>Current Charges</b>	<b>\$141.93</b>
<b>Total Due 06/01/22</b>	<b>\$136.21</b>

Account Number: 999999999  
 Service Address: 123 ANY ST.

Substation:  
 Feeder:

Description	Meter No.	Reading Dates		Days	Readings		Mult	kWh Usage	Demand Reading
		From	To		Previous	Present			
RESIDENTIAL	12345678	04/10/22	05/10/22	30	24945	26292	10	1,347	5.231



KEEP  
 SEND



PO BOX 68  
 Blossom, TX 75416

Account Number	999999999
Total Due 06/01/2022	\$136.21
Amount Due After 06/01/2022	\$143.02

PAY YOUR BILL 24/7  
 ONLINE: [www.lamarelectric.coop](http://www.lamarelectric.coop) or download the SmartHub app.  
 PHONE: (903) 784-4303 Press 1 for Automated Payment System



LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
 PO BOX 68  
 BLOSSOM TX 75416-0068

JOHN DOE  
 123 ANY ST  
 ANYWHERE, USA 99999



# Annual Meeting Set for April 26

LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE will hold its annual meeting at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26, at the cooperative headquarters, 5225 U.S. Highway 82 E. in Blossom. There will be additional information in *Texas Co-op Power* regarding the meeting over the next few months.

Three positions on the board of directors are up for election each year, and this year, districts 5, 6 and 7 will be voting for their directors at the annual meeting.

Members residing in districts 5, 6 and 7 who wish to be a candidate for one of the available board positions must appear in person at the main office of the cooperative and fill out a nomination form between January 26 and February 25, as outlined in the co-op's bylaws. If you're unsure of which district you live in, please refer to the district map below.

## Lamar Electric Cooperative Bylaws Excerpt

**ARTICLE III. SECTION 3. Qualifications.** No person shall be eligible to become a board member of the cooperative who:

- Has not been a member of the cooperative for at least one year prior to nomination;
- Has not been a bona fide resident of the board district for which seeking election for at least one year prior to nomination;
- Is any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative;
- Is an employee of this cooperative or has been terminated from the cooperative less than five years;
- Is a close relative of an employee or an employee's spouse ("close" being defined as wife, husband, grandparent, grandchild, parent, child, brother, sister, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, and/or sister-in-law);

brother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, and/or sister-in-law);

f) Has been convicted, pleaded guilty or plead "no contest" to a felony; or

g) Is an incumbent of, or candidate for, an elective public office for which a salary is paid.

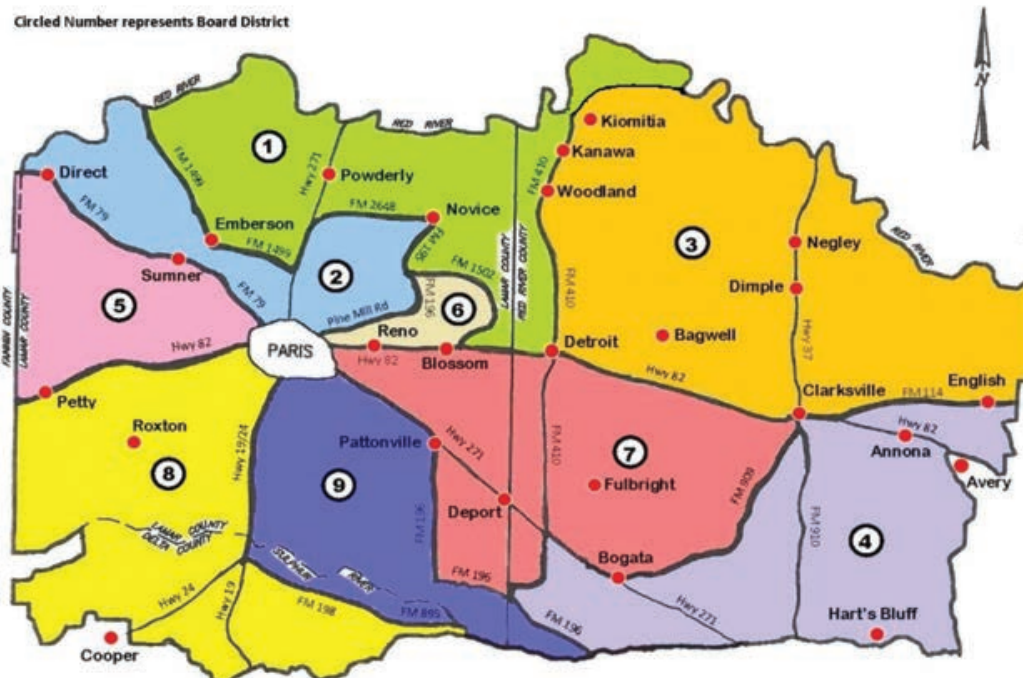
h) Current account credit with Lamar Electric must be in good standing.

No person shall be eligible to remain a board member who:

- Is not a member of the cooperative;
- Is not a bona fide resident of the district for which elected;
- Is any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative;
- Is an employee of this cooperative or has been terminated from the cooperative less than five years;
- Is a close relative of an employee or an employee's spouse ("close" being defined as wife, husband, grandparent, grandchild, parent, child, brother, sister, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, and/or sister-in-law);
- Has been convicted, pleaded guilty or plead "no contest" to a felony; or
- Is an incumbent of, or candidate for, an elective public office for which a salary is paid.

Upon establishment of the fact that a board member is holding office in violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the board shall remove such board member.

Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board or at any special or annual meeting of the members. ■



# Lamar Electric Cooperative 2025 Scholarship Application

LAMAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE will award 10 \$1,500 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

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

- ▶ Live full time in a residence served by Lamar Electric Cooperative.
- ▶ Be a graduating senior attending a high school or an accredited homeschool program within the counties served by the cooperative.
- ▶ Apply by April 4.

Winners will be chosen in a random drawing at the Lamar Electric Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, April 26. You do not need to be present to win.

## Apply by April 4

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

## Or mail to:

Lamar Electric Cooperative  
Attn: Scholarships  
P.O. Box 68  
Blossom, TX 75416

## Lamar Electric Cooperative 2025 Scholarship Application



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_

College of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

College Major of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' Names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Lamar Electric Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



## Why Electric Co-ops Replace Utility Poles

**YOU PROBABLY DON'T** pay much attention to the utility poles throughout Lamar Electric Cooperative's service territory, but did you know they're the backbone of our distribution network?

Strong, sturdy poles ensure a reliable electrical system, which is why we routinely inspect the poles on our lines. Throughout the year, our crews check for decay caused by exposure to the elements. They know which poles are oldest and conduct inspections through a rotational process. Typically, a standard wooden distribution pole is expected to last more than 50 years.

Occasionally, poles need to be replaced for reasons besides decay and old age. Weather disasters, power line relocation and car crashes are potential causes for immediate replacement.

When possible, Lamar communicates when and where pole replacements will take place so you stay informed of where crews will be working.

Here's a quick breakdown of how crews replace a utility pole.

Crews will start the process by digging a hole, typically next to the pole being replaced. The depth of the hole must be 15% of the new pole's height.

Next, the new pole must be fitted with bolts, cross arms, insulators, ground wires and arm braces—all of the necessary hardware for delivering safe, reliable electricity. Then crews safely detach the power lines from the old pole. The new pole is then raised and guided carefully into position, and the lines are attached, leaving the new pole to do its job.

So the next time you come across a Lamar EC crew replacing a pole, use caution and know that this process ensures a more reliable electric system for you, our members. ■

## Plan Now To Join Us at the Annual Meeting

**ONE OF LAMAR ELECTRIC** Cooperative's favorite dates in 2025 is April 26, when we will host our annual meeting.

We hope you'll mark your calendar early and plan to join us for the big day, which will take place at Lamar Electric's meeting room. We thank you in advance for your attendance and getting involved because your participation means so much to us.



During the annual meeting, we'll share a few brief business updates, and we're going to have a bit of fun too with door prize drawings.

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our community's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community.

Our core purpose and mission are to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a co-op, we're also motivated by service to our community rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting. ■