

the COOPERATOR

FEBRUARY 2025 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative A supplement to Oklahoma Living



Ensuring your home is properly insulated can improve energy efficiency and make your home more comfortable. Insulation acts like a cozy coat that reduces heat loss during winter months and a protective layer that reduces heat gain during summer months.

Many older homes have less insulation than newer homes, but even newer homes can benefit from additional insulation. While it's not the least expensive efficiency improvement, adding insulation and air sealing your home can provide the biggest bang for your buck in energy savings and overall comfort.

The most common areas to insulate are attics, ceilings, crawlspaces or unconditioned basements, exterior and interior walls, floors, and ductwork located in unconditioned spaces.

The amount and effectiveness rating of insulation required for each area varies by climate, but many websites like The Department of Energy or Home Depot provide easy-to-follow recommendations. The chart to the right shows recommended R-values for specific areas of the home based on Oklahoma's climate.

It's important to understand how insulation effectiveness is measured. Insulation is rated in R-value, which measures the material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness. The R-value you'll need depends on factors like climate, type of heating and cooling system, and which area of the home you plan to insulate.

Insulation is offered in a wide range of materials from bulky fiberglass rolls to cellulose materials made from recycled paper products. If you're considering installing additional insulation, talk to an expert who can offer guidance on the right materials for your budget, climate and comfort needs. Investing in proper insulation for your home not only enhances comfort but also reduces energy consumption.

Recommended R-Values

Uninsulated Attic: R49-R60 3-4 inches of Attic Insulation: R38-R49 Uninsulated Floor: R19 Uninsulated Wood-Frame Wall: R20 or R13 + R5 CI* or R0 + R15 Insulated Wood Frame Wall: Add R5 CI*

*CI refers to 'continuous insulation,' applied to the exterior of the wall assembly just inside the cladding.



OUR MISSION

Founded in 1937, Kay Electric Cooperative remains focused on our primary mission: to provide safe, affordable and reliable power for our member-owners. Today, our service territory includes 2,263 miles of line and more than 5,900 meters located in Kay, Grant, Noble, Osage and Garfield counties.

CONTACT US

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 580-363-1260 | 800-535-1079 300 W. Doolin Ave. Blackwell, OK 74631 www.kayelectric.coop

REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or report via SmartHub at www.kayelectric. coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.

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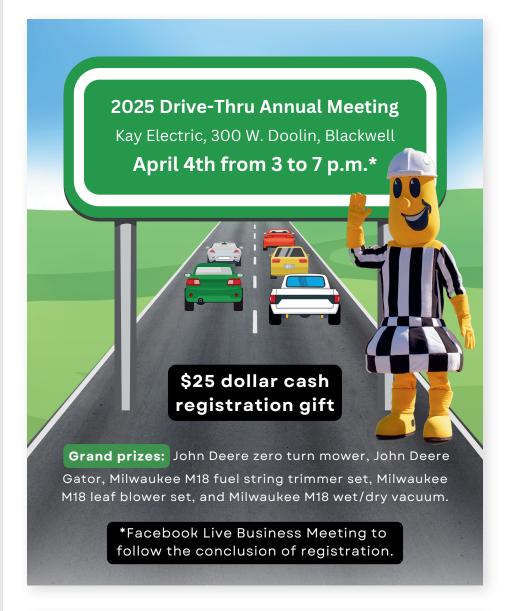
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EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

- Pay online using SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app.
- Pay by phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your bank account or credit card. Sign up at www.kayelectric.coop.







LOCAL **HIGHLIGHTS**

KEC Linemen Level Up

Congratulations to Kay Electric Cooperative's newest journeymen linemen! Pictured with KEC Director of Operations Heath Lambert (from left), Kris Spencer, Chris Young and Jacob Barr completed extensive training and on-the-job experience to reach this milestone. Your dedication inspires us all!

Save the Date for District Meetings!

Meetings are scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

District 7

Monday, Feb. 10 Kay Electric Co-op Kay Room, Blackwell, OK

District 8

Tuesday, Feb. 11 Carolyn Renfro Event Center, Ponca City, OK

District 9

Thursday, Feb. 20 Noble County Fairgrounds, Women's Building, Perry, OK

happy valentine's day

This Valentine's Day, show your home some love by checking your electrical outlets and cords:

- ◆ Inspect cords for damage and replace if frayed.
- Avoid overloading outlets—spread the power evenly.
- Use surge protectors to keep your devices safe.

Keep sparks flying in your relationship, not your home!

Avoid Energy Scams

Scammers will try anything to deceive utility customers, including a tactic that claims customers have overpaid their bill. If you receive a call, text or email from someone claiming you overpaid a utility bill and need to provide your banking or credit card information to receive a credit, it's likely a scam. In case of overpayment, Kay Electric will apply a credit to your account to cover future charges. 1438307

Source: *Utilities United Against Scams*



GOOD **COOKIN'**

Caramel **French Toast**

Serves 3 to 4

Ingredients

- 6 slices white bread
- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon corn syrup
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup half-and-half
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Powdered sugar

Instructions

Cut slices of bread in half. In saucepan, melt butter. Add brown sugar and corn syrup. Bring to boil, stirring frequently. Pour into 8-inch square baking dish. Arrange bread slices over caramel mixture. In small bowl, whisk eggs, half-and-half, vanilla extract, cinnamon and salt. Pour over bread slices. Cover with aluminum foil and refrigerate overnight. Heat oven to 350°F. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking and remove aluminum foil. Bake 25-35 minutes, or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you have a home office, look for opportunities to save energy in your workspace. Use ENERGY STAR®-rated equipment, which consumes up to 50% less energy than standard models. Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life. Another way to save energy in your home office is to use efficient lamps for task lighting. Replace any older bulbs with energy-saving LEDs. 1052500

Source: energy.gov

\$25 is hiding in this issue!

If you spot your account number hidden in these pages, please contact Kay Electric to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill. If no account numbers are claimed, the prize money will carry over to the next month for a maximum bill credit of \$50. Call 800-535-1079 or email contact@kayelectric.coop to claim your prize.

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