



**Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC**  
Nolin RECC Compliance Coordinator,  
Randy Meredith, 3 years of service

*News you can use*

## What would life be like without electric co-ops?

In the holiday movie classic, *It's a Wonderful Life*, the lead character, George Bailey (played by Jimmy Stewart), wishes he had never been born due to financial troubles he is experiencing. Through the help of an angel, he sees how many lives would have been negatively affected if he didn't exist. George comes to realize that, even with his problems, he has a wonderful life with great friends and family.

So what do you think life would be like if community leaders had not founded Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative more than 75 years ago?

Living in the U.S. in 2015, it is nearly impossible to imagine life without electricity. So many of our modern conveniences that improve the quality of our lives are dependent on electricity as the "fuel" to make them work. From the alarm clock that wakes us up, to the refrigerator that keeps our morning milk cold and fresh, electricity is with us throughout the day. Of course, so much of our entertainment, whether it comes from the TV, radio, or computer, depends on the kilowatt-hours that your electric co-op provides. Just think, there would be no smartphones or cell phones if there were no electricity.

Businesses of all kinds rely on electricity to produce and sell the products we need. So it is no wonder that many electric co-ops feel that, while our primary product is electricity, we are really in the quality of life business.

As we celebrate the season that reminds us to be thankful for all that we have, it is important to remember the 1.3 billion people in the world that still live without reliable electric service. That is equal to about four times the U.S. population!

Many of the things we take for granted living in the U.S. are much harder and more time-consuming for people in developing countries around the world. We are proud members of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) that is working through their affiliate, NRECA International, and the

NRECA International Foundation to help bring power to people in developing countries like Haiti and Liberia. In fact, three Nolin employees recently returned from a 21-day trip to Haiti where they helped to build power lines that were energized for the first time in October. You can view their progress and results at [www.nreca.coop/it-starts-with-power](http://www.nreca.coop/it-starts-with-power). And as this article is written, two more Nolin line technicians are in Haiti working to improve lives.

We are thankful that our community ancestors right here had the vision and foresight to do for ourselves what needed to be done, gathering our friends and neighbors to form Nolin RECC. As the electric business of the 21st century continues to evolve, you can count on Nolin to meet all of your electric energy needs. More importantly, we are here to help improve the quality of your wonderful life.

Happy Holidays from your friends at Nolin RECC!



**Mickey Miller**  
President & CEO



### On the inside...

Affording Energy .....	22C
Connect to Savings.....	22E
Generator Safety .....	22F

# Let's work together to be energy efficient

Complying with President Obama's Clean Power Plan unveiled in August is going to be expensive for utilities and consumers of electricity across the nation. And it is going to put tremendous pressure on bills to rise in the years ahead.

Though we can't control Washington, D.C., regulations, Nolin remains committed to helping you keep your electric bill as low as possible. Maximizing the energy efficiency of your home or business will be critical as the impact of the EPA regulations take effect. We have programs and experts who are eager to help.

There are easy ways to make your home or business more energy efficient. Here's how:

**1** Get a free energy audit. Contact Nolin to have an energy professional evaluate your home and recommend energy-efficiency improvements. For an immediate energy audit, use the online analysis at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com). Click on *BillingInsights*.

**2** Tighten up. Inexpensive, do-it-yourself solutions, such as caulking around windows and light fixtures or adding an extra layer of insulation, can save up to 20 percent on heating and cooling costs.



Nolin RECC energy professionals Todd Drake, left, and Billy Pait.

**3** Get your ducts in a row. Efficiency can be improved up to 30 percent just by sealing leaks in heating and cooling systems.

**4** Sign up. Enroll in SimpleSaver to help reduce peak electric demand and receive bill credits to cut your energy costs. Call (800) 305-5493 or go to [www.simplesaver.coop](http://www.simplesaver.coop) to enroll.

**5** Make a change. Nolin offers up to \$1,000 in rebates for replacing your outdated, inefficient electric resistance heating system with a high-efficiency one.

**6** Get rebates for new appliances. Nolin will remove old refrigerators and freezers for free (and pay \$50 each for up to two of them). If you buy appliances with an ENERGY STAR label, you're probably eligible for rebates from Nolin.

Nolin also offers energy-efficiency programs and incentives for businesses. Contact Billy Pait at

(270) 765-6153 ext. 3357 for details.

Yes, the price of electricity is probably going to get higher in years ahead. So resolve now to become more energy efficient in 2016. Nolin energy professionals are standing by to help. Call us.

## Budget your electric bill all year

Let us help you manage your dollars so that your electric bill stays in line with your budget.

Nolin's Budget Billing is simple...the program allows members to pay an average dollar amount each month based on the previous 12 months' usage. In other words, members no longer receive higher bills in the winter and summer due to increased HVAC usage.

You don't have to visit the Nolin RECC office to sign up for budget billing – you can enroll over the telephone by calling (270) 765-6153, or visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) and click on "Residential Bill Payment."



JUPITERIMAGES/THINKSTOCK

# AFFORDING ENERGY

## Things you can do to prevent disconnection

Although Kentucky is fortunate to have one of the lowest electricity rates in the nation, energy costs can still impact a family's budget during the winter when usage is higher than usual.

We understand in these tough times that budget crunching may have you juggling bills. No employee at Nolin likes to disconnect a member's electric service for nonpayment. It's never pleasant, especially during the cold months.

If you receive a cutoff notice in the mail, don't wait until the final day to call the office for help. Members receive their cutoff notice in the mail around 10 days prior to the disconnect date. Often we can handle payment extensions over the phone, so it pays to call first and as soon as possible.

Once a member is disconnected for nonpayment, they are required to pay with credit/debit card, money order, or cash to reconnect electric service. However, credit/debit card payments can be completed over the telephone.

Payment assistance agencies in our area are listed on the Nolin RECC late-notice statement. Members needing assistance are urged to contact these agencies for information and help:

**THE SALVATION ARMY (270-234-0833)**

**CABINET FOR HEALTH & FAMILY SERVICES  
(270-766-5099)**

**COMMUNITY ACTION OF CENTRAL KENTUCKY  
(Hardin Co. 270-769-1927) (LaRue Co. 270-358-3937)**

**HELPING HAND OF HOPE  
(270-351-4673) (270-769-3092)**

Please call Nolin at (270) 765-6153 before your bill is late so that you can avoid unnecessary charges.

### NONPAYMENT SERVICE CHARGES

*If service has been disconnected for nonpayment, the following charges apply:*

**Service Charge to Disconnect \$20.00**

### CONNECTION & RECONNECTION CHARGES

**During business hours ..... \$20.00**

**After business hours ..... \$50.00**

Accounts subject to disconnect may be required to pay a deposit or an additional deposit equal to  $\frac{3}{12}$  average usage.

## SCAMMERS are preying on you

Stay away from scammers, especially anyone who calls requesting credit or debit card information and saying you are going to be disconnected unless you pay.

If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be with Nolin RECC and you have questions about the call, hang up and call our office. Don't provide them information about your account or make a payment over the phone.

Nolin takes extra safety precautions to make sure our employees drive clearly marked vehicles and carry identification. Don't answer the door for someone until you are absolutely positive they represent a legitimate company.

If you think a person or business is running a scam, you



can file a complaint with the Better Business Bureau at (800) 866-6668. You can file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at (877) 382-4357, or file a complaint with the Kentucky Attorney General at (888) 432-9257.

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# COOPERATIVE RELIABILITY



## Reliability means keeping your electricity on.

Enjoy your holidays knowing that Nolin RECC  
is working to keep you energized!

Your cooperative is looking out for you this Christmas and  
every day of the year by providing safe, reliable electricity!

If you need us during the holidays, just call us – we'll be there!

**emergency number: (270) 765-6153**

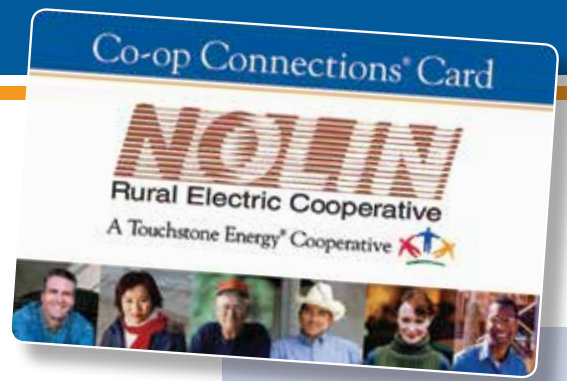
**e-mail: [service@nolinrecc.com](mailto:service@nolinrecc.com)**

**[www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com)**

## Capital credits claimed by estates

Members of Nolin RECC earn capital credits based on the amount of electricity consumed. Capital credits can be released to executors or administrators of co-op members' estates at a discounted rate. The executor or administrator of a member's estate can fill out an application for capital credits. Along with the application, Nolin requires a copy of the death certificate, and a copy of the court order appointment as executor or administrator. The deceased member's account must be closed before the funds for payment paperwork is processed. Applications for capital credits are approved by the Nolin RECC board of directors. After approval, a check for accrued capital credits is mailed to the executor or administrator of the estate. For more information, please contact Nolin's Membership Records Coordinator Jeanne Jordan at (270) 765-6153 ext.3338.

# Your Co-op Connections Card: Connecting you to holiday savings



Each and every month Nolin looks out for our members by providing them with the most reliable electric service at the lowest possible cost. That's the foundation of our co-op and something in which we take pride.

Another way we look out for our members is by providing every household with a Touchstone Energy Co-op Connections Card. This card is free to all Nolin RECC members.

More than 2,700 Kentucky businesses and thousands of companies nationwide offer discounts when you show them your card. Many Nolin members use their card at local stores and pharmacies to save money on everyday expenses like food, prescription drugs, and home services.

But the savings don't stop there. Your card can also connect you to some great deals for the holidays.

Before you tackle your holiday shopping list, visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) and click on the Co-op Connections Card in the lower left corner of the home page, or go directly to [www.Connections.coop](http://www.Connections.coop) for co-op member discounts on groceries, gifts, travel, and more.

When shopping locally for gifts, show your Co-op Connections Card at participating retailers to receive their discount. Members can also receive up to 25 percent off on name-brand retailer gift cards at [GiftCards.com](http://GiftCards.com).

Your Co-op Connections Card is also your ticket to online

savings. Earn cash back on purchases of more than 300,000,000 products from more than 4,000 leading online merchants with Co-op Connections' Cash Back Mall.

Are you cooking for a holiday party? Co-op Connections has teamed with [Coupons.com](http://Coupons.com) to bring you hundreds of printable coupons for top brands such as General Mills and Kraft Foods. You're sure to save some money on the ingredients you need for your famous green bean casserole.

If you're traveling this holiday season, don't miss the discounts on hotel rates and rental cars available to Co-op Connections cardholders.

Here's wishing you a happy holiday season filled with savings.

Need a card? Call the Nolin RECC office to request a Co-op Connections Card!

## PLEASE WELCOME THESE BUSINESSES THAT NOW HONOR NOLIN'S CO-OP CONNECTIONS CARD:

**Elizabethtown:**

- Shoney's**
- WhoDos Pizzeria**
- Roxie's**
- Brakeway**
- Jen's Cake Stop**
- Ken Tower's Tire & Auto**
- Totally Tan**
- The Cookie Store**
- Fire House Subs**

## From the tree... to what's under the tree.

This holiday season, let our Co-op Connections Card help you save on everything from the tree, to the trimmings, to the gifts underneath.

[www.Connections.coop](http://www.Connections.coop)



Eve  
 North Pole  
 Fireplaces  
 Snowman  
 Toys Gifts  
 Movies  
 Socks  
 Nuts &  
 Reindeer Sc.  
 Kids Loved on  
 Morning Red s.  
 Snowman Snow a.  
 Presents Clothes Movie  
 Games Hats Video Games  
 Stockings Ornaments Eg.  
 Goggles Bicycles Computers Ca  
 St. Nick Yuletide Snow Snow  
 Chestnuts Sled Wre  
 Frosty Rudolph Reindeer Scarf  
 Jingle bells Family Friends Loved c  
 Cane North Pole Eve Morning Red s  
 Stocking Star Snowman Snc  
 Gifts Presents Clothes Movie  
 Jackets Gloves Hats Video Gam  
 Stockings Ornaments Eggno



# Don't Generate Danger

When it comes to generator safety,  
your safest call is to a licensed electrician

**W**hen the power goes out, a portable generator can make life a lot easier. But if it's used improperly, that generator can make life a lot more dangerous!

Always have a licensed electrician hook up the standby electrical system and portable generator to your home. Your electrician can determine the proper size generator required to meet your individual needs.

Keep these tips in mind when you're using a portable generator:

- Plug individual appliances into the generator using heavy-duty, outdoor-rated cords with a wire gauge adequate for the appliance load.
- Observe the generator manufacturer's instructions for safe operation.
- Do not plug the generator into a wall outlet.
- Never use a generator indoors or in attached garages.
- Only operate the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated dry area, away from air intakes to the home, and protected from direct exposure to rain and snow, preferably under a canopy, open shed, or carport.
- The generator cannot be connected directly to the housing wiring. Regardless of generator size, you must contact a licensed electrician to install a generator transfer switch and to hook up the generator. This will protect your cooperative's workers from being shocked by power from your generator while doing repairs to the line.
- Never store gasoline in the home. Gasoline, kerosene, and other flammable liquids should be stored outside of living areas in properly labeled, nonglass safety containers. They also should not be stored in an area near a fuel-burning appliance: the vapor from gasoline can travel invisibly along the ground and be ignited by pilot lights or arcs caused by activating electric switches.

For code compliance on portable generators, contact Nolin RECC at **(270) 765-6153**, e-mail **comments@nolinrecc.com**, or visit our Web site at **www.nolinrecc.com**.

**NOLIN**  
Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative 

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# Keep the holidays bright—and safe

Festive parties, dazzling lights, and decorations are beautiful holiday traditions. But some of the things that make the holidays so special can also be hazards that jeopardize the safety of you and your families.

Don't let electrical accidents darken your holiday celebrations. Look for and eliminate potential dangers posed by holiday lighting, decorating, and entertaining.

Safe Electricity, a national public awareness organization that has partnered with Nolin RECC, offers these tips to help keep homes festive and safe year-round:

## COOKING:

- Inspect all small appliances and electric cords to make sure they are in good repair and read operating instructions before use.
- When purchasing new kitchen appliances, look for UL-listed appliances with automatic shut-off features.
- Never plug more than one high-wattage appliance into a single outlet.
- Never stand in or near water when using electrical appliances, and make sure outlets near sinks are equipped with properly tested ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).
- Stay focused and attentive to baking, brewing, and simmering foods.
- Keep young children away from cooking areas and closely supervise older children helping with baking and cooking.
- Keep cooking areas clean and free of grease.
- Make sure a working fire extinguisher is on hand and know how to operate it.

## DECORATING:

- Place fresh-cut trees away from heat sources, such as heat registers, fireplaces, radiators, and televisions. Water the tree frequently.
- Use only lights that have been safety tested and have the UL label.
- Before use, check each light string for broken sockets, frayed cords, or faulty plugs. Replace damaged strings. Always unplug light strings while replacing bulbs.
- Don't string together more than three standard-size sets of lights.
- Make sure extension cords are in good condition and are UL-approved cords rated to carry the electrical load you will connect to them.





## Christmas Light Displays

Be sure to travel through Freeman Lake Park in Elizabethtown to experience more than 100 lighted Christmas displays. You can't miss the Nolin RECC arched display with a motorized bucket truck and elf at the entrance of the park. Also visit Christmas at Creekfront in Hodgenville (Hwy. 210 just before you reach the square). Nolin RECC will have a lighted display along with many other Christmas scenes.

*The Nolin RECC offices will be closed December 24 & 25, 2015, & January 1, 2016.*

### Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com). Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."



### New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$30 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Arthur Jones, of Radcliff.**

### We've Got Your Number!

**\$25** **WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity**

*Nolin News* features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are two randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and **win a \$25 CREDIT on your electric bill.** You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News!*

### HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

#### ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

#### RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199  
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

**TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247**

**PAY DIRECT BY PHONE TOLL FREE — 1-855-356-6359**

**FOR EMERGENCIES — (270) 765-6153**

Web site: [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com)  
e-mail: [comments@nolinrecc.com](mailto:comments@nolinrecc.com)

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