

## *Rate Increase Approved by Public Service Commission*

It's been ten years since Nolin RECC had an increase in rates. In fact, Nolin actually decreased base rates in 1990! This is an incredible record and one that we are extremely proud to claim, but we can't avoid delaying a rate increase any longer.

After filing for a rate increase in December 2016, Nolin received approval from the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) on June 21st for an 11.4 percent increase for residential electric usage which went into effect immediately. Members began seeing a portion of this increase on their July bill statement. The increase will add about \$12 a month to the average residential electric bill which includes a \$4.46 increase in the cost of member service charge.

It's remarkable that this increase is only the third one we've experienced in nearly 40 years, which serves to prove Nolin works very hard to hold rates steady while the cost of living continues to increase. We operate your cooperative with your best interests in mind, and we are always reluctant to raise rates unless it is absolutely necessary.

To offset the slight increase, members are encouraged to take advantage of Nolin's energy rebate programs. We have several ways to help you manage your electricity usage – just call the Nolin office at 270-765-6153 and ask for one of our energy advisors.

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## *Managing and Affording Electricity*

One of the easiest and quickest ways you can manage your electric bill is by enrolling in Nolin's variable budget billing plan. This program allows members to pay an average dollar amount each month based on the previous 12 months' usage. The service is provided

at no cost and is an excellent way to smooth out the month-to-month variability of energy usage.

Prepare yourself for the heating season now by switching your Nolin RECC account over to budget billing. Members can enroll by calling the Nolin RECC office at 270-765-6153, or visit [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) and click on "My Account" to access the variable budget billing plan.

Any time you need energy advice or need to talk with a representative about your electric bill, please don't hesitate to contact us.



# Energy-Saving Tips

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Want to save money on your energy bills? Here are some simple ways you can manage your energy usage:

- **Check furnace filters.** Be sure to clean or replace your heating and cooling system's air filter. At a minimum change the filter every three months; a dirty filter clogs the system, making it work harder to keep you warm.
- **Install a programmable thermostat.** Is your home alone most of the day? If you have an electric or gas furnace, programmable thermostats can knock up to 10 percent off heating bills with the ability to automatically turn temperatures down 10 to 15 degrees for 8 hours a day.
- **Insulate water heaters and pipes.** Wrap water pipes connected to the water heater with foam, and insulate the water heater, too. To save about \$75 annually, consider lowering the water heater temperature from 130 degrees to 120.
- **Bundle up your home.** The more heat that escapes from cracks, the more cold air enters, causing your system to work harder and use more energy. Air leaks should be plugged with weather-stripping, caulk, or expandable foam.
- **Use a low-flow showerhead.** Water heating accounts for about 14 percent of your energy bill. Low-flow showerheads can minimize water use by up to 50 percent.

Want more ways to save? Take the home energy savings tour and see how little changes add up to big savings at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) (click on Energy Savings) or visit [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

