



# An Energy Update

from Nolin RECC



*Control Energy Usage  
Manage your Account  
Round-Up Your Change*

November 2016

## *10 ways to lower home energy usage this winter*



Want to save money on your energy bills this winter — without spending a lot to make it happen? Here are 10 low- or no-cost changes you can make:

1. Use your home's ceiling fans to make the rooms feel warmer. Ceiling fans running slowly in reverse will circulate the heat that rises toward the ceiling.
2. Add weather stripping or caulk around windows and doors. Light a match or a stick of incense and hold it near the window frame. If the smoke sways, that means the window is leaking air. Caulking can significantly reduce heat loss.
3. Rearrange your furniture. Move sofas and rugs that are blocking vents, which can cause uneven heating. Locate your most frequently used furniture near interior walls.
4. Install a "smart" thermostat that lets you program it or adjust the heat even after you've left the house. There's no need to heat your home at the same level when it's empty as when your family is home.
5. Keep the shades wide open during daylight hours. The sun heats your home for free all day. Close the curtains at night to keep heat in.
6. Check the seams and joints of your ductwork for leaks. Repair any leaks with a duct-sealing compound for even and efficient heating.
7. Put on a sweater and keep the thermostat at a lower temperature. You could save at least 1 percent per degree on the heating portion of your electric bill.
8. Run your clothes dryer and dishwasher after dark. They produce heat that can keep your home warm at the coldest time of the day.
9. Install compact fluorescent bulbs or LED lights. These bulbs use far less energy than incandescent bulbs.
10. Limit your hot water use. Running the hot water when it's not needed is like pouring energy dollars down the drain. Wash clothes in cold water and take shorter showers.

## *Busy life? Use SmartHub!*

You've got the power to manage your electric bill online with Nolin's SmartHub!

SmartHub allows you to take control of your energy usage by viewing your account electronically whenever you want. This innovative tool gives you the power to examine your account, make payments, report a service interruption, and compare monthly and yearly electricity usage.

SmartHub is fully and safely integrated to Nolin's billing system and can be accessed through mobile and Web apps. Visit the Nolin Web site at [www.nolinrecc.com](http://www.nolinrecc.com) and click on SmartHub!

**Better yet, download the SmartHub app right now!**



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## *Giving Back to Your Community*

Nolin RECC members were introduced to Operation Round-Up (ORU) in 2006 and since that time over 5,500 members have signed up to help others in their community by rounding up their electric bill each month. The small change from rounding up to the nearest dollar is deposited into a special account and is used to help worthy causes and programs in the community.

Local citizens make up a non-profit board of directors that govern the program. The board reviews applications for community projects and makes decisions on when, where, and how to utilize funds.

ORU participation is voluntary and open throughout the year. Any Nolin member who signs up for the program before 5 PM, December 2, 2016, will earn a chance to win \$100, \$50, or \$25 in a cash drawing. Those already enrolled in ORU will automatically be eligible for the drawing for each active Nolin account.

If you would like to help others in your community by donating under a dollar a month, check the appropriate box on the back of your electric bill that allows you to sign up for the program, or you may call the Nolin office at 270-765-6153.

