





## **Beat Back the Bills** as Summer Swelters

**FOCUS ON ENERGY-SAVING TIPS TO LOWER THE** TEMPERATURE ON HIGH ELECTRIC USE

In these hot summer months, air conditioning can make up over half of your electric bills! That means keeping cool on hot days can lead to high usage. View our energy-saving tips to minimize the impact on your summer bills.



#### **SUMMER SAVING IS A BREEZE WITH OUR ENERGY-SAVING TIPS:**



#### **BEAT THE HEAT WHEN YOU EAT**

Using the oven or stove raises the temperature in your home, so your air conditioning unit has to work harder to keep it cool. Salads, sandwiches, and slow-cooker meals are great alternatives.



#### **SAVINGS ARE ON THE LINE**

Laundry accounts for about 7% of your electric bill. Take it down a notch by washing your clothes in cold water and line drying them outside. Between the sun and the heat, they'll be ready in no time.



#### **BUMP IT UP**

Raise your thermostat a few degrees when you're home and turn it up even higher when you're away. When it's time to lower the temp, do so 2 degrees at a time.



#### **BLOW AWAY THE SUMMERTIME BLUES**

Switch on a fan when you're in the room, and you'll feel 4 degrees cooler. Be sure to switch it off when you leave — fans cool people, not spaces.



#### **BE A LITTLE SHADY**

Close your curtains, blinds, or shutters to keep the sun from adding unnecessary heat to your home.

**GET MORE TIPS AT MYPEC.COM/SAVINGS.** 



### TRACK YOUR ENERGY USE WITH USAGE EXPLORER

Saving on your electric bill starts with your habits.
Log in to your account at pec.smarthub.coop and access the Usage Explorer tool to view your daily energy use. This is an easy way to track how much power you use, so you can make adjustments to save energy and money. Knowing how you use energy can help you save.

Log in from your computer, smartphone, or tablet, and start monitoring your energy use with Usage Explorer. For extra convenience, download the SmartHub app on your smartphone. If you need assistance, call us Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 888-554-4732.

Learn more at myPEC.com/smarthub.









## Introducing Your PEC External Relations Team

#### SEE HOW WE BUILD BRIDGES THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

t PEC, we're always working to strengthen the communities we serve. The sole mission of the three individuals who make up our external relations team is to do just that by building a bridge between us and local government leaders throughout the Texas Hill Country.

These representatives regularly meet and partner with city and county officials to share insights about our operations, listen to their community's needs, and come up with solutions. Whether it's infrastructure planning or providing timely updates on major projects, they ensure your local government stays informed and empowered.

"Building and maintaining these relationships helps us serve our members

more effectively," said PEC External Relations Representative Jared Fields. "By keeping these open lines of communication, we can anticipate needs, address concerns, and work together toward the shared goal of providing safe, reliable energy to the members we serve."

But their work doesn't stop at the government level. Through our Winter Weather Roadshows, Power Connection events, and the recent Ready as One Community Preparedness Fair in Marble Falls, they actively engage with our members to ensure they're well educated on how PEC operates and what they can do to stay safe and save on their electric bills.









#### **MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVES**



#### **Beth Koennecke**

Primary cities: Austin, Blanco, Boerne, Briarcliff, Bulverde, Cottonwood Shores, Fair Oaks Ranch, Horseshoe Bay, Johnson City, Junction, Marble

Falls, Meadowlakes, Rocksprings, Round Mountain, Spring Branch **Primary counties:** Blanco, Comal,

Gillespie, Kendall, Kinney, Real, Burnet, Edwards, Kimble, Llano, Mason, Menard, San Saba, Schleicher, Sutton, Travis



#### **Jared Fields**

**Primary cities:** Bertram, Cedar Park, Florence, Georgetown, Granite Shoals, Highland Haven, Jonestown, Kempner, Lago Vista, Leander,

Liberty Hill, Point Venture, Round Rock, Volente, Weir

**Primary counties:** Bell, Lampasas, Williamson



#### **Diana Gonzales**

**Primary cities:** Bear Creek, Buda, Creedmoor, Dripping Springs, Hays, Kyle, Lakeway, Mountain City, Mustang Ridge, Niederwald, San Leanna,

San Marcos, The Hills, Uhland, Wimberley, Woodcreek

**Primary counties:** Bastrop, Bexar, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Hays, Kerr

We're proud to be a cooperative that listens to and works with those we serve. Our external relations representatives ensure your voice is heard.

Learn more about this dynamic team at myPEC.com/community-relations.

# Enjoy Your Summer Safely

#### **PROFESSOR VOLT IS HERE TO HELP YOU OUT!**

ith summer in full swing and many of you enjoying the outdoors, it's a good time to make sure you're aware of electrical safety hazards outside your home. To help keep you on your toes this season, PEC's Professor Volt is here with some handy tips!

#### **KEEP SAFE WHILE YOU SWIM**

Make sure your pool light is properly covered, keep power cords, lawn equipment, or other electrical tools away from water, and take a "rain check" on aquatic activities if lightning is present.

### MAKE SURE YOUR LAWN EQUIPMENT IS IN TIP-TOP SHAPE

Electric lawnmowers and string trimmers are great tools and can help save you money on gas and maintenance. But before you give your lawn a trim, ensure the tools are in good condition and free of frayed cords, bad batteries, or other damage.

## INVEST IN GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTERS (GFCI)

Protect yourself by installing GFCI outlets in areas near hoses or pools. Be sure to test them each month. This can be done by plugging in a light and turning it on, then seeing if it turns off when pressing the 'Test' button on the GFCI. Push the 'Reset' button to turn the light back on.

That's it from me — stay bright and safe this summer! For more safety tips, visit us at myPEC.com/safety.





# **Celebrate Safely This Fourth of July**

With Independence Day celebrations coming up, PEC wants you and your loved ones to stay safe when using fireworks. Leaving fireworks to the professionals is the safest thing to do, but if you are going to use them, be aware of electric infrastructure such as power lines and pad-mounted transformers. Do not use fireworks anywhere near power lines.

An incident involving fireworks and PEC equipment could cause a fire, explosion, downed power line, or power outages.

myPEC.com/safety

