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Three ways to **SAVE ENERGY** OUTDOORS

by Pat Keegan and Brad Thiessen

The most common way to save energy during summer months is lowering your cooling costs indoors. Since you are spending a lot of time outdoors, you can certainly save energy and money by reducing your air conditioning use inside. Setting the thermostat just a few degrees higher can make quite a difference. But there are ways to save energy outdoors too!

Hopefully these ideas will help you enjoy your outdoor living space this summer — and help you save energy!

Pumps and Maintenance

Many of us have one or more pumps that service our yard or reside on our property. Pumps can supply water for a swimming pool, your lawn and garden, or your septic system or well. It's easy to let maintenance slip, which cuts the pump's efficiency and shortens its life.

Maintaining pumps involves cleaning the filters or checking oil and belts. If you have multiple pumps and need to hire a professional for assistance, try to do all the maintenance at once to reduce the overall cost. You may also want to consider replacing older pumps with energy efficient ENERGY STAR®-rated ones before they break down. While you're at it, check for leaks in the water lines, which make your pumps work harder and longer.



Doing annual maintenance on outdoor pumps, like the swimming pool pump shown here, can make it more energy efficient. Photo credit: Michael Coghlan

Grilling

Using your oven can raise your kitchen's temperature up to 10 degrees, increasing the need for running your air conditioner, so grilling outdoors is a great way to save energy. If you like to barbecue or grill most of your meals, you may want to consider the fuel you use. If natural gas is available, it's usually much less expensive than propane. Natural gas is also convenient because you don't have to refill any tanks like you would with propane. On the downside, if you don't already have gas lines running to your patio or deck, the cost of installing them can be prohibitive.

Other fuel types like charcoal briquettes or wood take more preparation and can be fussy to work with, and charcoal grills emit three times as much carbon as gas grills.



Cooking all the courses on the grill eliminates the need to turn on the kitchen stove. Photo credit: Scott Van Osdol

Outdoor Lighting

If you have security lighting, there's a good chance you can save a little energy. Some security lights can be 500 to 1000 watts. That's the equivalent of 40 to 80 indoor LED bulbs — quite a lot of energy! Adding timers, motion sensors and light sensors can reduce your bulb energy use. Plus, when you use your lights less often, your neighbors may appreciate a little less light pollution!

Switching to LEDs is another great strategy. Solar lights are also a good way to light walkways, a water feature or your deck — without having to buy any electricity at all.



Solar landscape lighting is a popular outdoor lighting option, and they use natural energy from the sun.

Johnny Mack Chancellor REMEMBERED

Services for long time Central Electric employee, Johnny Mack Chancellor, were held June 5, 2021 at Trinity Baptist Church in Leake County with a burial service in the Midway Baptist Church cemetery. Johnny was born on April 15, 1963 to Joel and Patty Chancellor. He went to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, May 30, 2021.

Johnny began his career at Central Electric on November 7, 1983, and has been a staking engineer for 37 years. Johnny's work allowed him to travel over every mile of power line of the association in its seven-county service area. Fulfilling a promise to his dad, Johnny finished college and was a 2000 graduate of Mississippi State University. He worked during the day, attended school at night and made every event his boys were involved in no matter how tired he was.

Johnny was loved by everyone at Central Electric. He always had a smile on his face and was willing to help his co-workers with any situation.

Johnny was known as a man of integrity, commitment and good humor. He loved the simple things in life, like spending time with his family and cheering on Mississippi State University. His favorite and most

precious title was simply "Pop-Pop."

Most importantly, Johnny loved his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as evidenced by his servant heart and by giving his heart to Jesus as a boy, being baptized in the Lobutch Creek along with his dad. He is now praising his Savior for all eternity.

He is survived by his mother, Patty Chancellor of Carthage. He leaves behind, Linda, a loving wife of 37 years. He had two sons, Justin (Brandi) of Brandon, and Jeffery (Brittany) of Meridian. He is also survived by four granddaughters (Avery, Anna, Lynlee and Sidney) and one grandson (John Walt). He had three brothers, Dr. Michael Chancellor (Nevine) of Daytona Beach, Fla., Joey Chancellor of Clinton and Danny Chancellor (Sherry) of Conroe, Tex. He leaves behind five nieces and one nephew. Preceding him in death was his father, Joel Chancellor.

General Manager Brian Long said about Johnny, "He was a good friend and dedicated employee. Johnny will be missed by all who knew him and there is certainly a void felt in our cooperative family. We extend our prayers to his family and loved ones."