



# CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

A tradition of dependable, hometown service since 1937

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## ARE YOU A LEADER? IN YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

### Our Cooperative Youth Leaders program

offers the tools and knowledge that will enable you to sharpen your leadership skills in your classroom, community, church, and family. Since 1986, students in Mississippi have competed for the opportunity to participate in this unique leadership program. This program is an educational and fun experience that makes a lasting impact on young people.

Our program is for high school juniors interested in enhancing their leadership skills.

### Once you are selected as a Central Electric representative, you will attend:

#### Cooperative Leaders Workshop

The three-day workshop features a true cooperative learning atmosphere. More than 80 students from across the state will experience cooperative team-building exercises, a breakfast with their legislators, a visit to the Capitol, a town hall meeting, and motivational speakers. We will also have time for games and interaction between the students.

You will have the opportunity to earn a \$500 or \$1,000 scholarship.

#### Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.

Each year, Mississippi's student delegation joins more than 1,800 high school juniors from 44 states across the nation at the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., where they learn about cooperatives and rural electrification from a national perspective.

The Youth Tour is a wonderful sightseeing experience that also offers an opportunity for making new friends.

The Youth Tour is organized by the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi (ECM) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

#### It is an honor to be selected

The group of young Mississippians participating in the program represent electric cooperatives across the state. Students are selected through various forms of competition conducted by the local cooperatives.

Annually, more than 1,000 young people are involved in the program selection process statewide.

#### Cost

Students' expenses for both events are funded entirely by Central Electric. There are no hidden costs; Central Electric pays for all travel, lodging, meals, educational materials, and admission fees. Our support of the program demonstrates a commitment to our young people and a desire to provide an effective, high-quality leadership program to help prepare them for life's challenges.

#### How to get involved

Central Electric's Cooperative Youth Leaders program Director will contact an official at each of our local schools and provide program details. If you are interested in being a representative, contact your school guidance counselor or fill out and return the application on the following page.

# COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERS APPLICATION

(Please limit your information to this sheet)

Are you currently a high school junior and your parent(s) or legal guardian receives electric service from Central Electric Power Association? If so, you are eligible to apply to represent Central Electric Power Association in the Cooperative Leaders Workshop March 1-3, 2023, and the NRECA Washington, D.C., Youth Tour June 18-23, 2023.

### Cooperative Youth Leaders program guidelines

1. Applicant must be a high school junior (11th grade) whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) receives electric service from Central Electric Power Association.
2. The top applicants will be selected by an independent panel of judges to participate in an interview process. Following the interview process, winners will be selected to represent Central Electric Power Association in the Cooperative Leaders Workshop in Jackson and the NRECA Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.
3. If selected, student must commit to attend both the Cooperative Leaders Workshop March 1-3, 2023, in Jackson, MS and the NRECA Youth Tour, June 18-23, 2023, in Washington, D.C.
4. Application must be filled out by the student and postmarked by **Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022**. Please email your application to [jcpatterson@centralepa.com](mailto:jcpatterson@centralepa.com) or mail to:

#### Cooperative Youth Leaders

Attn: Jessica Patterson  
Central Electric Power Association  
Post Office Box 477  
Carthage, MS 39051



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Please contact Central Electric's youth leadership program coordinator if you have any questions.  
**Jessica Patterson, program director**  
601-267-5671 • [jcpatterson@centralepa.com](mailto:jcpatterson@centralepa.com)

Student's full name \_\_\_\_\_

Name student goes by \_\_\_\_\_

Student's mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Student's 911 address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Name Central EPA bill is listed in \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Student's t-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/legal guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any school and community activities/memberships and leadership positions:

Please list any awards or special recognition:

What are your college and career goals?

What are two characteristics of a good leader and why?

What is an interesting fact about yourself?



Like our Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi Cooperative Youth Leaders page [www.facebook.com/ECMYLP](https://www.facebook.com/ECMYLP) and follow us on Instagram [@msyouthleaders](https://www.instagram.com/msyouthleaders).

# Easy ways to help a neighbor SAVE ENERGY

by Miranda Boutelle



I'm a firm believer that saving energy helps the environment as well as the pocketbook. So, how can I help others improve their energy savings at home?



Helping people feels good. Supporting community is sewn into the fabric of your electric co-op, which is guided by the Seven Cooperative Principles that put the needs of members first.

**On National Good Neighbor Day, which is September 28 — or any day this month — join in the cooperative spirit and help your neighbors, friends and family save at home with these do-it-yourself energy-saving tips.**

*Tips range in physicality and cost, providing options based on your ability.*



## Change lightbulbs

Prioritize changing lights that are used the most, such as incandescent porch lights left on all night. LEDs use about 75% less energy and last up to 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs. Some neighbors can't climb step stools or ladders, so help them out if you are able. Be sure to check for overhead power lines when using ladders outside.



## Swap the filter

Furnace filters should be checked regularly and replaced when they are dirty. Simply writing down the dimensions of the furnace filter can help your neighbor, who can pick up a pack of new ones in the store or order online. If you find a really dirty furnace filter, don't remove it until you have a replacement. Operating your system without a filter allows dirt and dust in the system to go directly to the heating and cooling components, which can damage the system and necessitate costly repairs.



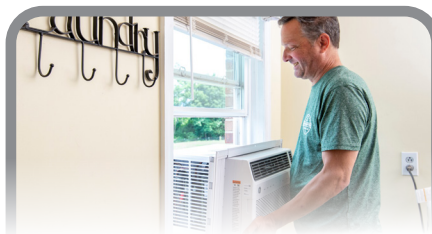
## Adjust the water heater

Check the water heater and set it to 120 degrees. Use a kitchen thermometer to test the water temperature. At the faucet nearest the water heater, turn only the hot water on and wait until it gets hot. Let the hot water run into a glass and place a kitchen thermometer in it. Wait until it registers the highest temperature. If the water heater is set too high, you can save energy by lowering the setting.



## Open the dampers

Register dampers allow heated and cooled air to properly circulate throughout the home. If you have a central air heating or cooling system, dampers should be left open. The idea that closing registers saves energy is a common misconception. If furniture is on top of dampers, move it to a new permanent spot so it does not block air flow.



## Remove the window AC

By removing the unit before wintertime, the window can close properly. This prevents heat from escaping and wasting energy. It also keeps the room more comfortable. Window AC units are heavy and awkward. This project is best done with a buddy. Get that person to commit to helping put the unit back next spring.



## Share energy-saving programs

Information is a great way to help, and it's free. Look into programs your co-op offers and share that information with your neighbor. Don't forget to check the U.S. Department of Energy for federal tax credits for upgrades.

*Miranda Boutelle is the vice president of operations and customer engagement at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy efficiency company.*