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CANADIAN VALLEY ELECTRALITE

Five Ways to Stay Cozy this Winter

Baby, it's cold outside! When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways you can keep comfortable without turning up the thermostat.

Here are five easy ways to stay cozy this winter.

1. Whether you're experiencing extremely cold winter temps or you simply "run cold," **an electric blanket can**

deliver quick warmth like a regular throw or blanket cannot. Electric blankets can include a variety of features, such as timers and dual temperature settings (if your cuddle buddy prefers less heat). This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat, and your energy bill will thank you.

2. One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at

home is to **keep your feet warm**. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty.

3. On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and **harness natural warmth from sunlight**. Open all curtains, drapes and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in—you'll be able to feel the difference.

4. Another way to make your home cozier is to **use a humidifier**. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a

little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin and improve sleep.

5. Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, **area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet** on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures 1202075801 of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.

These are just a few ways you can stay cozy this winter without turning up the thermostat. Don't forget the hot chocolate!



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Serving Hughes, Lincoln, McIntosh, Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, Seminole & portions of Oklahoma, Cleveland & Creek counties

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Interstate 40 at the Prague/Seminole Exit

Area Office - 35 W. JC Watts Street, Eufaula

Office Hours - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

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IN CASE OF TROUBLE

1. Check for blown fuse or tripped circuit breakers.
2. Check with your neighbors. Ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported it.
3. If not, call the office or download the Smarthub app to report the trouble.

	Read	Billing date	
Cycle 1	26th-31st	5th	1-1/2% penalty
Cycle 2	6th-11th	15th	applied 20 days
Cycle 3	16th-21st	25th	after billing date

Operating Statistics for October

	2019	2020
Operating Revenues	\$4,600,197	\$4,525,647
Wholesale Cost of Power	\$3,301,835	\$3,197,024
Percentage WPC is of Revenue	71.78	70.64
Consumers per Mile of Line	4.80	4.86
Revenue per Mile of Line	\$875.56	\$858.92
KW Peak Demand - This month	144,930	134,856
Billing kW demand	104,290	105,474
KW Peak Demand - YTD	171,445	159,902
KWh Purchased - This month	59,528,896	55,450,042
Taxes Paid	\$100,364	\$92,231
Interest on Long Term Debt	\$179,273	\$172,705
System Load Factor	55.2	55.3

New Services Staked in November

During the month of November, 49 new services were staked. The total new services staked in 2020 is 566. This compares to 447 for the same period in 2019.

Keep Your Heat to Yourself

Before you crank up the thermostat, consider taking these low-cost steps to conserve energy around the house:

- * Add another layer of attic insulation. Most homes built before 1980 are under-insulated, which means heat is escaping through your ceiling and roof. If you have fewer than 11 inches of attic insulation, you probably need more.

- * Turn on the humidifier. Unless your furnace has a built-in humidifier, buy a free-standing, portable one and use it in frequently occupied areas like the bedroom and living room. The extra moisture will make your home feel more comfortable.

- * Put on a sweater. Before making the whole house hotter, make yourself comfortable. If you're chilly, layer your clothes or wrap a blanket around yourself. Cranking up the thermostat by even one degree will raise your heating bill by about 3 percent.

- * Install a programmable thermostat. Why heat the house when nobody's home? Programmable thermostats turn down the heat while you're sleeping or away, and ease it back up just before you wake or get home.

- * Open the draperies. Let the sun shine in during the day; its warmth will give your heater a break. Close the drapes at night to guard against the cold.

- * Change furnace filters regularly. Dirty filters make your furnace work harder.

- * Seal heating ducts. If your air ducts have cracks or holes, some of the warm air generated by your furnace will escape into the attic or basement instead of reaching your living areas.

Regional Office Hours

Eufaula	Seminole	Seminole Warehouse
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

OPERATION ROUND-UP

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BEGINNING BALANCE 10/31/20	\$221,757.40
DEPOSITS	8,825.13
INTEREST INCOME	3.73
CHECKS ISSUED	-15,930.96
APPROVED, NOT YET PAID	-13,546.27
BALANCE 11/30/20	\$201,109.03

CVEC Foundation administers and disburses funds collected through CVEC's Operation Round-Up Program.

Consider Appliance Age, Repair Cost

When an older appliance is on the fritz, it usually makes sense to replace it rather than to sink money into repair after repair. But when an appliance breaks down before its expected life span has passed, a repair could be the better option.

Before you call a repair tech or head to the nearest big-box store to buy something new, consider:

The appliance's age.

Use the 50% rule: If your appliance is more than halfway through its useful life, and if the repair will cost more than 50% of the price of a new one, head for the store.

The National Association of Realtors estimates that a dishwasher should last a good nine years; a clothes dryer, 13 years; a garbage disposal, 12; an electric range, 13; an exhaust fan, 10; a freezer, 11; a microwave, refrigerator, 13; and a clothes washer, 10.

The warranty. Newer appliances usually come with a warranty of at least a year, and sometimes two, on labor and parts. If the broken device is still covered, call for service.

Your budget. If the repair bill is through the roof and you can afford to buy a new appliance, you could save a little money in the long run.

Newer models of refrigerators, water heaters

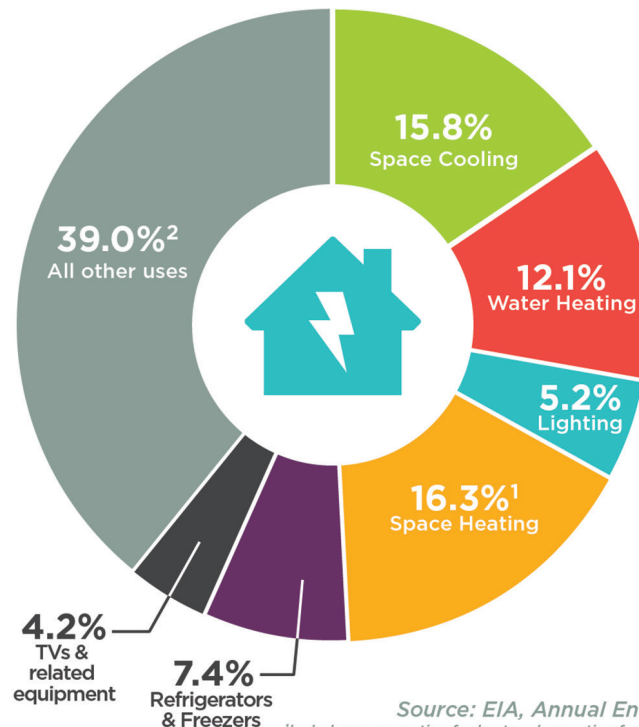
and dishwashers are so much more energy- and water-efficient than older versions that you could see a difference on your utility bills if you replace rather than repair.

Consider the hidden

costs of buying new, however. For example, will you have to pay to have the replacement appliance delivered and installed? Will you need to modify your kitchen for new appliance to fit?

How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, computers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses" below) accounts for nearly 40% of electricity consumption in American homes.



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2020

¹Includes consumption for heat and operating furnace fans and boiler pumps.

²Includes miscellaneous appliances, clothes washers and dryers, computers and related equipment, stoves, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.

AUTOMOBILES & BIKES

1996 Ford L-9000 dump truck, L-10 Cummins engine, single axle, excellent condition, \$14,000, 918-618-3358.

1962 Pontia Bonneville to be restored, \$1,800 OBO; 1972 Pontia LeMans, parts car, make offer; 1988 Honda Goldwing, needs work, \$900, call Bill at 405-642-1740.

FARM & RANCH

John Deere back hoe, good working condition, \$16,000; equipment trailer, excellent condition, \$3,000, 918-618-3358.

2005 Kubota L4400 tractor, 845 hrs., 45 hp, 4WD, front loader and rear hydraulics, sun shade, barn kept, \$17,500, 405-210-0637.

HOME & LAND

MISCELLANEOUS

Savage bolt-action 25-06 caliber, Savage double-barrel 12-gauge shotgun, J.C. Higgins 12 gauge shotgun, \$50-\$400, 405-219-2673.

Will haul away unwanted major appliances, misc. scrap metal, or car batteries within a 10-mile radius of Shawnee, 405-765-9700 or 765-6805.

FREE - One-year-old female cat, has been spayed and has all shots, good lap cat litter box-trained, needs a good home, raised indoors, never been outside, tabby-colored; her sister, not spayed, white with black patches, 405-760-6133.

Cochin Bantams, 405-659-1268.

Puppies needing homes: Pits, born 9-15-2020, and Collies, born 10-20-2020; also older dogs, good guard and farm dogs, born January 2019, 918-866-2468.

2002 Itasca 32' RV, 5kg generator, 2 slide-outs, Bout new tires all around, 8.1 liter Chevy gas engine, \$15,000, 417-679-0099, ask for Lou or leave message.

Looking for someone to live in the trailer on my property and help take care and maintain it, 405-878-6697.

Small, square bales of good, clean prairie hay, \$5/ea., 405-598-5860.

Used Stella guitar in good condition, \$150; framed 1967 remake Gone with the Wind poster, \$50, 405-997-8165.

Unilift Patient Lift, C-model, multi-function, motorized up and down, with permanent ceiling track @ 20 feet, plus seat and hammock sling, \$1,750, 405-454-3925.

Creative project needs donations of PVC pipe/fittings, any size, length, quantity, new or used, will pick up for free, 405-404-0120.

Find Your Account Number and Win \$25

If you find your account number hidden in this issue of *The Electralite*, you could win \$25. The account number must be your own.

Report finding the number to us by the 15th of the month. You need to report finding it by phone, mail or in person.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Replace standard power strips with advanced power strips to save energy. Advanced power strips look like ordinary power strips, but they have built-in features that are designed to reduce the amount of energy used by standby electronics that consume energy even when they're not in use (also known as phantom load).

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) estimates that the average home loses \$200 annually to energy wasted by phantom load.

Source: www.nrel.gov

ELECTRALITE CLASSIFIED ADS

- Each CVEC member family is limited to ONE free classified ad per month.
- Length of the ad cannot exceed space provided below. Ads run only one time and must be resubmitted to appear in the next edition. **Return the completed form to P. O. Box 751, Seminole, OK 74818. Forms may also be dropped off at either office location, or email your ad to editor@mycvec.coop.**
- **Ads must be received by the 5th of each month; if received after the deadline they will be printed in the next issue.**

All information below must be completed.

Name _____

Address _____

Account # _____

Phone # _____

Stay Warm, Safe with Electric Blankets, Space Heaters

An electric blanket and a space heater can keep you toasty-warm on the coldest winter nights.

But use them safely.

Follow these tips to stay safe as well as warm:

Extension cords are not meant for long-term use, especially with heaters. If you must use one with a space heater, check that its power rating is at least as high as the unit's. Cords with lower rating may melt or catch fire.

Place heaters at least three feet away from anything flammable, and keep them off of furniture. Steer portable heaters clear of water, which means they're not safe

for use in bathrooms.

If you buy a new electric space heater, choose one with a switch that turns off the unit automatically if it falls over.

Neither electric space heaters nor electric blankets are meant for overnight use. Pile on cotton blankets and turn your electric warmers off before you drift off to sleep.

Don't fold or roll electric blankets while they're plugged in.

For extra safety, replace the batteries in your smoke detectors at least once a year.