

# NorVal

## News

AUGUST 2024



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**NORVAL.COOP**

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- 5 RICK STAHL 762-7162
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- 7 ROCKY KITTLESAN 263-1510  
SECRETARY/TREASURER



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.



## Electricity Provides Powerful Value

If you're like a lot of people, there are aspects of your life that become sort of a daily routine. We get ready for work, get in our cars and drive to the coffee shop on the way to the office. At lunchtime, we drive to the nearest fast-food location and get lunch. Once we finally end the day at home, we stream an episode or two of our favorite shows before bed.

As we all look for ways to save money in this age of increasing inflation, we can begin to think about our daily routines and how much value it provides us compared to the money we spend. A morning latte costs about \$6 per coffee, a fast-food combo with a burger, fries and a drink is setting us back \$10, and our Netflix subscriptions are about \$16 each month. All these daily expenses total around \$85 a week, or about \$340 a month. And what was the real value—short-term satisfaction and a larger waistline? Even if we start packing our own lunches, lattes still cost about \$120 a month. Is this the best value for our money?

The average daily cost of electricity is about \$5.65, and the average monthly electric bill for members of NorVal Electric Co-op is about \$169.00. You could power your entire home every day for the price of a medium latte. We could brew our own coffee, cook our own meals, binge a series and run on a treadmill for less than the cost of that drink. Now that's real value.

Electricity provides benefits that we

often take for granted. It goes well beyond short-term satisfaction by allowing us to charge devices and have cold food and hot water, all in a comfortable indoor climate. Besides the privilege it affords, electricity has also remained relatively cost-stable even amidst rising inflation.

As a member-owned cooperative, NorVal Electric does everything in its power to ensure your costs stay reasonable and that electricity remains a great value for our members. It's not always easy, as there are several factors beyond inflation that impact the price of electricity—some within our control but most beyond it.

The cost of electricity can fluctuate due to supply and demand, infrastructure investment, maintenance and operational expenses. Weather patterns also contribute, affecting both demand and generation capabilities, with extreme conditions leading to heightened energy use or disruptions. Government policies, such as subsidies for renewable energy or taxes and regulations on emissions, shape electricity costs as well. Since we are a cooperative, we consider the impact of those costs on our members. As our community continues to rely on electricity for nearly everything in our homes, schools, and businesses, one of our guiding principles is to keep it reliable and affordable. You can be assured, NorVal Electric works each day to ensure electricity remains the best value for your money.



**NorVal Electric Will be Closed  
Monday, September 2nd  
in observance of the Holiday**

# BACK TO SCHOOL

**We want to wish all of the  
students, teachers and parents  
a great 2024-2025  
School Year!!**

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Placing heat sources, such as lamps, computers or TVs, near your thermostat can result in false temperature readings, increased energy use and inconsistent cooling/heating. Make sure your thermostat is installed in an area clear of obstructions, electronic devices, direct sunlight and drafts.

Ensuring your thermostat is free from these types of interferences optimizes energy efficiency, improves indoor comfort and reduces wear and tear on your cooling/heating system.

*Source: energy.gov*



## NICK'S NOTES

**BY: NICK DULANEY, LINE SUPERINTENDENT**

Summer is quickly coming to an end, and it's amazing how fast it has gone by. We're determined to make the most of the nice weather while it lasts. Our crew has already added 26 new services this summer. They've started to rebuild the Boreson Line, a single-phase line between Glasgow and Hinsdale, replaced poles and lights, and upgraded some older meters on our system. Joe and Christina, from our operations team, have been busy performing underground utility locates, handling right-of-way use agreements and monitoring outages.

The crew aims to complete a few more construction jobs before summer wraps up. As construction season winds down, we'll begin planning and ordering materials for next year. I'm continually impressed by how much we accomplish despite low supplies and long lead times. We appreciate everyone's continued patience and understanding during this busy season.

## SAVE THE DATE: NORVAL ELECTRIC'S ANNUAL MEETING

**OCTOBER 22, 2024 LUSTRE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL  
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 4:30 PM  
DINNER AT 5:30 PM WITH THE BUSINESS MEETING TO FOLLOW**

**ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A \$30 BILL CREDIT ON THEIR  
PRIMARY ACCOUNT UPON REGISTERING**

**WE HAVE BOARD POSITIONS OPEN FOR DISTRICTS 5 AND 6. IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE BOARD PLEASE  
CONTACT THE OFFICE BY AUGUST 30TH.**

**To the right  
are pictures  
of poles  
damaged  
from  
lightning  
strikes over  
the 4th of  
July holiday  
and the work  
being done to  
replace them.**

