

# NORA News



September 2021

[www.noraelectric.org](http://www.noraelectric.org)

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## Attend NORA's 70th Annual Member Meeting September 27th



Northern Rio Arriba Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Member Meeting which will take place on Monday, September 27, 2021, at the Chama Community Center. The Annual Meeting is welcome to all member owners and community members. Doors will open for registration at 11:00 am. A complimentary lunch will be served at noon, and all members will receive a goodie bag and raffle ticket. The meeting will start at 1:00 pm.

Board of Trustees President Steve Rendon will lead the meeting followed by NORA's Executive Vice-President and General Manager Anthony Mercure, and several other distinguished guests. There will be much information to cover since the Annual Meeting was cancelled last year due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

One of the action items on the agenda is a review of NORA's updated bylaws which will be up for approval by member vote. The proposed revision has been available to all members to read in the NORA office since August 26th. The revision is also be available for viewing on NORA's website at [www.noraelectric.org](http://www.noraelectric.org).

At the conclusion of the meeting, members will have an opportunity to win one of many revered prizes in the annual raffle. Members must be present to win.

**September 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual Member Meeting**  
11:00am Registration  
12:00pm Lunch  
1:00pm Meeting Begins



## Do You Have Energy Wasting Habits?



It's not likely that we've ever intentionally set out to waste energy, but unfortunately, it happens more often than we realize. The following behaviors are common examples of energy wasting habits. If you have ever been guilty of any or all of them, some simple tweaks to your routine can add up to significant energy savings.

**1. Leaving the lights, television, stereo, or computer on in an empty room.** This is a very common energy-wasting habit, but it is also very easy to fix. When you will not be using a particular room for an extended period of time, make it a point to simply turn off the lights, TV, etc. off when you leave. Not only will you will save energy, but this will help your bulbs and devices last longer as well. When lights do need to be left on in an unoccupied room for safety or other reasons, be sure to replace any remaining incandescent bulbs with more energy-efficient LED or CFL bulbs. They use as much as 75% less energy than conventional incandescent bulbs and last a lot longer.

**2. Not adjusting your thermostat.** It's important to adjust the temperature of your home as necessary when no one is home or at night. This is a cost-effective way to save energy. If this is something you find easy to forget, consider installing a programmable thermostat. While your home is occupied, it's recommended by the US Department of Energy to set your thermostat at 78 degrees



Fahrenheit in the summer and 68 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter. In an unoccupied home or while sleeping, it is recommended to set the temperature higher in the summer and lower in the winter. Utilizing a programmable thermostat could optimize your savings by automatically adjusting temperatures based on your schedule. There are many smart technology options available which *(Continued on page 2)*

If you are currently experiencing financial difficulty, or if you are in a low income status and are continuing to have difficulty paying your utility bills, please contact the NORA office for options on setting up payment arrangements. You can also request financial assistance through LiHEAP by calling 800-283-4465.

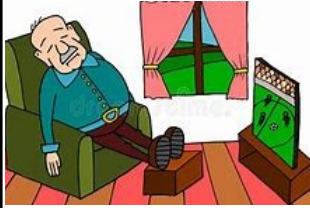


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can interact with your phone and provide advanced features, such as programming remotely or self-programming.



**3. Falling asleep while watching TV every night.**



Whether you've ever fallen asleep on your couch unintentionally while watching a late night movie or if you like the background noise and light to help you drift off to sleep on a nightly basis, having the television going while you are sleeping can add up to substantial energy waste. As a best practice, simply turn off your TV when you begin to feel drowsy, or if your TV is equipped with a sleep timer, as most newer models are, set the timer to turn off the TV in 30 minutes or later. For those of you unwilling to turn off your TV at night, having an Energy Star certified TV will use less energy than a standard TV set.

**4. Taking long showers and/or letting the water "warm up" too long.**

It is estimated that a typical showerhead uses around two and a half to three gallons of water per minute. Not letting the hot water run too long before stepping in and keeping your shower to under ten minutes will help keep your energy use to a minimum. So much water, energy, and your money will literally "go down the drain" during an extended shower. Another way to save on water is to install WaterSense labeled showerheads and assorted water fixtures throughout your home. They are water-efficient products that will conserve much more water than standard fixtures.

**5. Washing small laundry and dishwasher loads.**

Waiting to complete a full load of laundry or load of dishes is much more energy efficient than doing partial loads. Starting your dishwasher with just a few dishes inside or a small load of clothes in your washer can be convenient, but it's a big waste of energy. Following the manufacturer's instructions will ensure that your clothes or dishes will be fully cleaned, and you'll save energy and water.

**6. Forgetting to change your furnace filter.**

A clean air filter is essential for your heating and cooling systems to operate efficiently. A dirty clogged air filter will cause your heating or cooling system to unnecessarily work harder to keep you comfortable. Check your manufacturer's guidelines on how often you should replace or clean your filters and follow their recommendations. If possible, write the date on the new filter to help keep track of when you last replaced it. Remember to also have your heating and cooling system inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified professional.

**7. Leaving the refrigerator door open too long**

It is estimated that the average person spends as much as 10 hours browsing through an open refrigerator or freezer every year. Obviously, an open refrigerator door allows cold air to escape which will then prompt the fridge motor to work overtime to regulate back to the ideal temperature needed to store your food safely.



Think about what you are looking for before opening the door, then decide what you want and close the door quickly.

**Energy Safety Tip**  
*Never secure a power cord to a wall or the floor using staples or nails. This could cause damage to the cord which could lead to electric shock or cause a fire.*

**Our linemen are on call 24 hrs/day, 7 days a week. Please call 575-756-2181 to report power outages.**

**Billing Schedule September 2021**

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| <b>Bill Due Date</b> | <b>21-Sep</b> |
| Usage From           | 31-Jul        |
| Usage To             | 31-Aug        |
| SEDC Pickup @11:59pm | 1-Sep         |
| Bill Sent            | 1-Sep         |
| Late Notice Sent     | 22-Sep        |
| Disconnects/Cut Off  | 13-Oct        |
| Contact/Follow Up    | 6-Oct         |

**SEPTEMBER**

Touchstone Energy<sup>SM</sup>