



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Navarro County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.
Cook Center at Navarro College in Corsicana

- ▶ Door prizes will be awarded at the close of the meeting.
- ▶ Look for full details in next month's *Texas Co-op Power*.
- ▶ Make plans to attend.

Spanish and sign language interpreters can be made available at the meeting by notifying the co-op by April 21.



BRENDAN ANDREWS



GUILLERMO VALDEZ

Lineworkers Complete Training

NAVARRO COUNTY Electric Cooperative congratulates Brendan Andrews and Guillermo Valdez on satisfactorily completing training on the operation of and safe work procedures for regulators, reclosers and capacitors. Understanding how these three pieces of equipment work on the line will help Andrews and Valdez provide service to the cooperative's members and resolve electrical service problems. They will continue to do their part to provide reliable and affordable electrical service to the cooperative's members. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Good Friday
Friday, April 7
Our offices will be closed in observation of the holiday.

Easter
Sunday, April 9

Lineworker Appreciation Day
Monday, April 10

Earth Day
Saturday, April 22



FROM LEFT: Jerad Taylor, 10 years; Breezy Elder, five years; Charlotte Weaver, 40 years; and Josh Boortz, five years.

Navarro EC Recognizes Years of Service

Congratulations to these Navarro County Electric Cooperative employees who recently were honored for their years of service to the co-op and its members.

Navarro County Electric Cooperative

CONTACT US

3800 W. Highway 22, Corsicana, TX 75110
P.O. Box 616, Corsicana, TX 75151
Local (903) 874-7411
Toll-Free 1-800-771-9095
Email msdept@navarroec.com
Web navarroec.com

General Manager/CEO
Billy P. Jones

Board of Directors
Ron L. Buckley, President, District 2
Kent Sheffield, Vice President, District 1
George Smith, Secretary-Treasurer, District 6
Bennie Melton, District 5
Julie Mraz, District 7
Gary Murphy, District 3
Bill Southard, District 4

24/7

Outage Hotline Numbers

For information and to report outages, please call us.

LOCAL
(903) 874-7411

TOLL-FREE
1-800-771-9095

ABOUT NAVARRO COUNTY EC

NCEC owns and maintains more than 3,000 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 12,000 members in Ellis, Freestone, Hill, Limestone and Navarro counties.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Online at navarroec.com
- Through the SmartHub app
- By phone at 1-855-385-9975
(Phone payments are not accepted on the NCEC office line.)

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

NCEC provides *Texas Co-op Power* and TexasCoopPower.com to give you information about events, safety, special programs and other activities of your cooperative. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the co-op office.

VISIT US ONLINE
navarroec.com



Check us out at
TexasCoopPower.com/navarro

DID YOU KNOW?

Becoming a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years).

HOUSTON COUNTY EC

POWER TIP

Before you dig, dial 811 or visit call811.com to protect underground utilities. Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and utilities.

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Don't Wait for Summer To Get Your AC Inspected

A **SPRINGTIME TUNEUP** can prevent your air conditioning system from going on the fritz later, when the weather is so hot that you won't want to be without the AC for even a few hours.

It typically costs around \$100 to have a professional inspection of your system, and it's well worth the money.

Some contractors offer an annual preventive maintenance agreement, which will cost a few hundred dollars a year and typically includes a fall and spring inspection of your HVAC system and discounts on repairs and equipment. A better deal most often is to pay as you go for individual inspections.



Either way, your cooling system will get attention from a qualified, licensed service technician who's trained to spot problems that most homeowners overlook. The tech might even alert you to a small repair now that could prevent an untimely and potentially expensive AC breakdown down the road.

When HVAC equipment fails, it's inconvenient and uncomfortable—especially during the dog days of summer. Remember, your HVAC system runs best when it's regularly cleaned and serviced. With a little maintenance along the way, you can add years to your system's life span. ■



10 Do's and Don'ts for Using Portable Generators

AS MUCH AS Navarro County Electric Cooperative plans and prepares to prevent power outages, they can still happen because of circumstances out of our control.

If you're planning to use a portable generator in the event of an outage, Navarro County EC reminds you to do so safely.

With proper use and maintenance, portable generators can provide great convenience during an outage. However, when generators are used incorrectly, they are extremely dangerous.

Here are 10 do's and don'ts to keep in mind when using portable generators:

- 1. DO:** Install backup carbon monoxide alarms.
- 2. DO:** Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times.
- 3. DO:** Position generators at least 25 feet outside the home—well away from doors, windows and vents that can allow deadly CO to enter the home.
- 4. DO:** Ensure your generator is properly grounded. Use a portable ground-fault circuit interrupter to prevent electric shock injuries.
- 5. DO:** Use three-pronged extension cords that are rated to handle the load of the generator. Inspect extension cords for damage before use.
- 6. DON'T:** Operate a generator inside your home or an enclosed or even partially enclosed space. Generators produce high levels of deadly gas.
- 7. DON'T:** Use generators in or near water, in the rain, or while wet. Water and electricity are a deadly combination.
- 8. DON'T:** Rely on generators as a full-time source of power. They should only be used temporarily or in emergency situations.
- 9. DON'T:** Overload generators. They should only be used to power essential equipment. Make sure your generator can handle the load of the items you plan to power.
- 10. DON'T:** Connect generators directly into household wiring unless you have an appropriate transfer switch installed. If a generator is connected to a home's wiring without a transfer switch, power can backfeed along power lines and electrocute your neighbors or utility lineworkers making repairs. ■

Make Safety Priority No. 1 When Doing Home Projects



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MORE PEOPLE ARE DOING their own home remodeling, repairs, maintenance, landscaping and construction projects. Navarro County Electric Cooperative urges all do-it-yourselfers to take precautions, especially when working around electrical equipment and overhead power lines.

Make sure outdoor outlets have a ground-fault circuit interrupter. Use a portable GFCI if your outdoor outlets don't have them. It's also a good idea to have GFCIs professionally installed in wet areas of the home, such as the kitchen, bath and laundry, and on all outdoor outlets.

Safety tips to remember:

Look up and around. Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long metal tools, like ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles, or when installing rooftop antennas and satellite dishes or doing roof repair work.

Be especially careful when working near power lines attached to your house. Keep equipment and yourself at least 10 feet from lines. Never trim trees near power lines—leave that to the professionals. Never use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines. Contact a professional maintenance contractor.

If your projects include digging, like building a deck or planting a tree, call 811 before you begin. Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. This service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted and can help you avoid serious injury.

Always check the condition of cords and power tools before using them. Repair or replace worn or damaged cords and tools.

Electricity and water don't mix. If it's raining or the ground is wet, don't use electric power or yard tools. Never use electric appliances or touch circuit breakers or fuses when you're wet or standing in water. Keep electric equipment at least 10 feet from wet areas.

Make certain home electrical systems and wiring are fit to support the increased electric demands of new electric appliances, home additions or remodeling projects. An older home may not be adequately wired for today's electricity consumption, putting your family at risk for fire and electric shock. Have a professional replace worn and outdated circuitry and add outlets for appliances and electronics—not a job for casual do-it-yourselfers. ■

Lineworker Appreciation Day Keeps Going Strong

ELECTRIC LINeworkers don't always receive the recognition they deserve for keeping our electricity flowing. But since 2015, there has been a special day when we can thank them. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors passed a resolution to honor these hardworking individuals every second Monday in April:

"Whereas linemen leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on; Whereas linemen work 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain and repair the electric infrastructure; Whereas linemen are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe for all after storms and accidents; and Whereas there would be no electric cooperatives without the brave men and women who comprise our corps of linemen; Therefore be it resolved that NRECA recognize the second Monday of April of each year as National Lineman Appreciation Day and make available to electric cooperatives, materials and support to recognize the contributions of these valuable men and women to America's electric cooperatives." ■



STEVE DEBENPORT | ISTOCK.COM