



MESSAGE  
FROM  
GENERAL  
MANAGER/  
CEO

TRENA  
QUINN

## Working Together To Lower Demand

**WHEN TEMPERATURES** drop, electricity use naturally rises. The cold drives us indoors, where we rely more heavily on heating systems, more lighting and household appliances. And heaters run longer and more frequently to maintain comfortable indoor temperatures.

Combine all of that with the fact that most people use electricity at the same times—typically in the mornings and early evenings—and the result is significant pressure on our electric grid.

Navarro County Electric Cooperative works closely with our generation and transmission provider to plan for these seasonal weather changes and ensure you have reliable power every day of the year. This partnership involves detailed resource and infrastructure planning to make sure electricity is available whenever you need it.

However, it's important to remember that our local system is part of a much larger regional and national grid.

During winter, when homes and businesses use more electricity simultaneously, overall demand can approach—or even exceed—available supply.

updates and information to members.

To prepare for these scenarios and minimize risks, Navarro County EC and our generation partner take measures to strengthen reliability year-round. These include routine system maintenance, investments in grid modernization and comprehensive disaster response planning.

These proactive steps are designed to ensure our portion of the grid remains resilient even under extreme conditions. Still, maintaining a reliable electric system requires a collective effort, and every Texan plays an important role in lowering demand when the grid is under stress.

**You can help by taking the following simple actions during periods of high electricity use, especially on the coldest days of winter.**

**Lower your thermostat slightly.** Even reducing the temperature by a few degrees can help.

**Delay using large appliances during peak hours,** which are typically 5–9 a.m. and 4–9 p.m. in the winter. Run dishwashers, washing machines and dryers during off-peak hours—typically midday or late evening.

**Adjust your water heater.** Set it to 120 degrees and space out showers to save energy and hot water.

**Unplug unnecessary devices.** Power used for lighting and electronics adds up and accounts for a significant portion of home energy use. Disconnect unused items and turn off lights in empty rooms to reduce waste.

Understanding how cold weather impacts electricity demand is key to maintaining system reliability. By practicing simple energy conservation habits at home, you not only save money on your monthly bill but also help strengthen the resilience of the grid that powers our community.

Together, through small actions and shared awareness, we can ensure that our homes remain warm, our lights stay on and our local grid continues to serve us reliably throughout the season. ■



KONSTANTIN YUGANOV / ISTOCK.COM

This is especially true during severe weather events such as ice storms, sudden temperature drops or equipment malfunctions that reduce generation capacity. In rare cases when demand threatens to outpace supply, the regional grid operator may call for temporary, controlled outages to prevent broader system failures. If such a situation arises, Navarro County EC will provide timely



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## Apply Now for NCEC Scholarships

**NAVARRO COUNTY ELECTRIC** Cooperative will award \$6,000 scholarships to six local students for the 2026–27 school year.

Applications are available online at [navarroec.com](http://navarroec.com) and must be received in our office by March 6. The scholarships must be used for the fall 2026 and spring 2027 semesters.

For more information, contact Mark Rash at (903) 874-7411, ext. 120, or [mrash@navarroec.com](mailto:mrash@navarroec.com). ■



### POWER TIP

The dryer lint trap is an important energy saver, so make sure to clean it before each load.

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## 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](mailto:msdept@navarroec.com)

**Web** [navarroec.com](http://navarroec.com)

### General Manager/CEO

Trena Quinn

### Board of Directors

Ron L. Buckley, President, District 2

Kent Sheffield, Vice President, District 1

George Smith, Secretary-Treasurer, District 6

Benny 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 14,000 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](http://navarroec.com)
- Through the SmartHub app
- By phone at 1-855-939-3698  
(Phone payments are not accepted on the NCEC office line.)

### TEXAS CO-OP POWER

NCEC provides *Texas Co-op Power* and [TexasCoopPower.com](http://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](http://navarroec.com)



Check us out at  
[TexasCoopPower.com/navarro](http://TexasCoopPower.com/navarro)

# Committees Appointed To Nominate Director Candidates

**PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3**, of the bylaws of Navarro County Electric Cooperative, the board of directors at their December 18, 2025, meeting appointed committees to nominate director candidates for districts IV and V.

The directors whose terms are expiring are Bill Southard, District IV, and Benny Melton, District V.

## District IV Nominating Committee

<b>Lyndy Ashford, Chair</b>	<b>Mark Kelley</b>
9720 NW CR 1350	10823 NW CR 1350
Blooming Grove 76626	Blooming Grove 76626

**Paula McClure**  
6929 NW CR 1380  
Blooming Grove 76626

## District IV

District IV includes all members inside an area bounded by and beginning at the intersection of FM 55 and Chambers Creek, heading east and southeast along Chambers Creek to its intersection with Richland Creek, then west along Richland Creek to FM 709, then north on FM 709 to FM 2452, then northwest along FM 2452 to State Highway 31, then south along State Highway 31 to FM 1126, then north along FM 1126 to FM 744, then west along FM 744 to FM 55, then northwest along RM 55 to its beginning at the intersection of FM 55 and Chambers Creek.

## District V Nominating Committee

<b>Marty Weaver, Chair</b>	<b>Dennis Shifflet</b>
3513 FM 55	6209 FM 639
Blooming Grove 76626	Frost 76641

**Dwayne Watson**  
22060 W. State Highway 22  
Mertens 76666

## DISTRICT V

District V includes all members inside an area bounded by and beginning at the intersection of State Highway 31 and State Highway 171 in Hubbard, heading northwest along State Highway 171 to Ash Creek, then northwest along Ash Creek to FM 1242, then northwest along FM 1242 to State Highway 171, then northwest along State Highway 171 to State Highway 22, then west along State Highway 22 to Interstate 35 East, then north along I-35E to Chambers Creek, then east along Chambers Creek to FM 55, then south along FM 55 to FM 744, then east along FM 744 to FM 1126, then south along FM 1126 to State Highway 31, then northeast along State Highway 31 to FM 2452, then southeast along FM 2452 to FM 709, then south along FM 709 to Richland Creek, then southwest along Richland Creek to State Highway 31, then south to its beginning at the intersection of State Highway 31 and State Highway 171 in Hubbard.

## BYLAWS EXCERPT, ARTICLE IV, Section 3

### Election and Tenure of Office

(a) Nominating Committee. Not less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the annual membership meeting, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members of the district where the term of the Director is expiring.

Such nominating committee shall nominate one or more members from the district where the term of the Director is expiring, as a Director for that district for the ensuing year. The nominating committee shall meet at a place convenient to the committee to select nominees, such meeting to be held not less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting of the members, and report to the Cooperative the names of its nominees within three (3) days thereafter.

(b) Nominations by Petition. In addition to Nominating Committee nominations, Members may nominate, through petition, individuals from the district where the term of the Director is expiring, as a Director for that district to run for election for a Director position. Nominating Members make nominations by petition by returning to the Cooperative no later than March 15 (or the next business day, if March 15 falls on a weekend or holiday for which the Cooperative's business office is closed), a completed application package obtained from the Cooperative for each petition nomination:

1. listing, on each page of the petition, the name of the petition nominee;
2. indicating, on each page of the petition the Director position (District) for which the petition nominee will run; and
3. containing the printed names, addresses, and telephone numbers, and original dated signatures signed within sixty days of the first signature, of at least 50 members from the District for which the nominee is nominated; provided that any candidate(s) so nominated must meet the qualifications prescribed in Section 4 hereof.

(c) No Nomination From the Floor and Write-In Candidates. Members may not make nominations from the floor nor nominate or vote for write-in candidates.

(d) Notice of Director Nominations. At least ten (10) days before a Member Meeting at which Members are scheduled to elect Directors, the Cooperative shall notify Members of the:

1. director positions scheduled for election by Members;
2. names and corresponding Director positions of all Nominating Committee Nominations; and
3. names and corresponding Director positions of all Member petition nominations, if any

(e) Approval of Director. Each member present at the annual membership meeting may vote for one candidate from each District where the term of a Director is expiring. The candidate from each district who receives the highest number of votes shall be declared the Director for that District.

(f) Notice of Bylaws. At least sixty (60) days before a member's



meeting where Directors will be elected, the Cooperative must provide Members with this Bylaw section.

Section 4. Qualifications

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director of the Cooperative who:

- (a) Is not a member, or has a controlling interest in another person or entity that has one or more accounts with the Cooperative, that is not in good standing, and maintains a bona fide principal place of residence receiving electric service from the Cooperative in the area served or to be served by the Cooperative for a period of twelve months prior to nomination (and continuously thereafter); or
- (b) Is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy, or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the Cooperative; or
- (c) Is the incumbent of, or candidate for, an elective public office in connection with which a salary is paid. School trustees shall not be considered as salaried, elective public officers; or
- (d) Is a current employee or has been, within five (5) years, an employee of the Cooperative or who has ever been an employee of the Cooperative and had such employment terminated by the Cooperative, or is a spouse, brother, sister, mother, father, grandmother, or grandfather of a current employee of the Cooperative or a person who has been, within five (5) years, an employee of the Cooperative or a person who has ever been an employee of the Cooperative and had such employment terminated by the Cooperative; or
- (e) Has ever been convicted of a felony; or
- (f) While serving on the Board, is not present at 3 consecutive meetings (other than due to bona fide illness).

Upon establishment of the fact that a director is holding office in violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the Board of Directors shall remove such director from office.

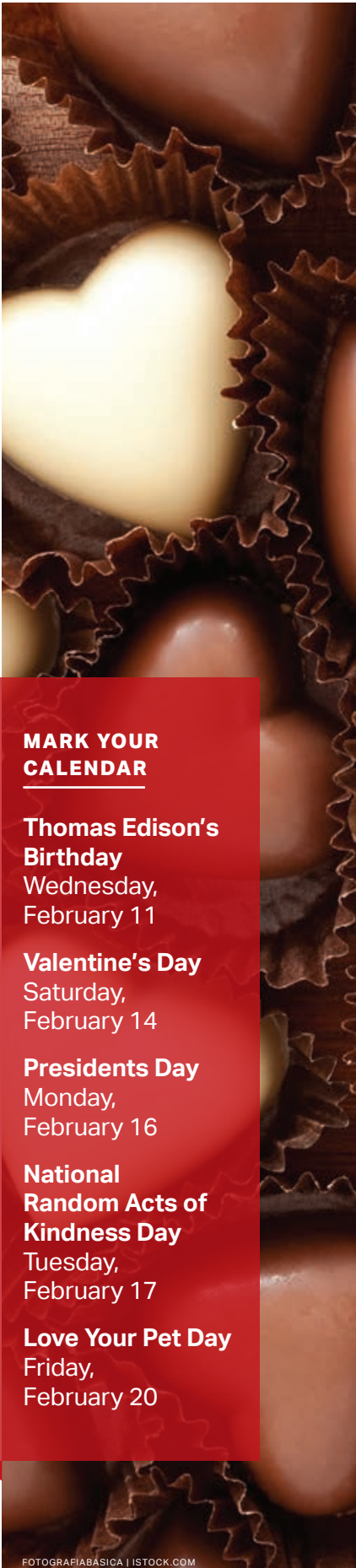
Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors. ■

NCEC Operation Round Up

Fourth quarter 2025 grants approved

Organization/Agency	Grant	Organization/Agency	Grant
American Red Cross	\$2,340	Mildred Athletic Program (Golf)	\$1,840
Barry Volunteer Fire Department	\$2,140	MISD Legends Club	\$2,100
Boys and Girls Club	\$2,800	Navarro County Ambulatory Care	\$2,440
Common Ground Ministries	\$1,424	Next Generation STEM	\$750
Corsicana Middle School AG	\$2,000	Our Time Productions	\$1,200
Diamonds and Rubies	\$500	Shepherd Inn Transitional Housing	\$2,500
Frost Beta Club	\$1,800	Southern Oaks VFD	\$1,000
Frost Community Center	\$1,500	T&S Ministries	\$1,680
Frost ISD DC Trip	\$1,300	Trinity Star Arts Council	\$1,900
Jerry Liversage Ministries	\$1,000	Yu Belong Outreach	\$1,640

Total Grants Approved: \$38,317



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Thomas Edison's Birthday**  
Wednesday, February 11

**Valentine's Day**  
Saturday, February 14

**Presidents Day**  
Monday, February 16

**National Random Acts of Kindness Day**  
Tuesday, February 17

**Love Your Pet Day**  
Friday, February 20

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## Why You Should Make Time for Your Annual Meeting

**DID YOU KNOW** every cooperative is required to conduct an annual meeting of the membership? The purpose is to hold the election for the board of directors, share important financial information, occasionally vote on other matters such as bylaws changes and, of course, give away some great door prizes.

Navarro County Electric Cooperative's annual meeting is a community gathering where neighbors can meet new neighbors—or catch up with old acquaintances. As our lives get busier, we must remember the value of face-to-face human connections.

Very few organizations are as uniquely positioned as cooperatives to connect a community.

The simple act of smiling, saying hello and shaking someone's hand goes a long way, and as our country and community face many challenges, including rising prices, overcoming these challenges is easier when we come together.

Navarro County EC's annual meeting is designed to take care of the important business of your co-op and the equally important business of building a real sense of community. All cooperatives serve an economic and social purpose. While safe, reliable and affordable electric power is crucial to our mission, improving the quality of life for all members is at the core of what we do every day.

If you haven't attended the annual meeting in the past or if it has been a few years, we urge you to take the time to be with your fellow co-op members.

We get out of life what we put into it. Navarro County EC is connected to you by more than just power lines. We're your neighbors, and we look forward to seeing you at your annual meeting—10 a.m. May 30 at the Navarro College Cook Center in Corsicana. ■

## Cheesecake With Dark Chocolate

### CRUST

**1 cup crushed nuts (macadamias or walnuts work best)**

**1 cup flour**

**¼ cup brown sugar**

**½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened**

### FILLING

**1 cup heavy cream**

**1 package cream cheese (8 ounces), softened**

**1 cup sugar**

**1 teaspoon vanilla**

**2–3 squares dark baking chocolate, to taste**

**1. CRUST** Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a bowl, mix crushed nuts, flour, brown sugar and butter. Press evenly into a 9-by-9-inch baking dish. Bake 30 minutes.

**2. FILLING** With an electric mixer, whip heavy cream until it thickens. In a separate bowl, mix cream cheese, sugar and vanilla. Fold whipped cream into cream cheese mixture.

**3.** Grate dark chocolate squares, reserving some to top with, and fold into cream cheese mixture.

**4.** Spoon mixture over crust, smooth with back of spoon, and top with reserved grated chocolate. Refrigerate at least 1 hour before serving.

**SERVES 16–18**

**TCP** Find this and more delicious recipes online at [TexasCoopPower.com](http://TexasCoopPower.com).

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## Types of Heat Pumps

**HEAT PUMPS CAN** be an energy-efficient heating and cooling option since they move heat from one place to another rather than generate it by burning fuel. There are three main types of heat pump systems to consider, each with benefits and drawbacks, depending on your needs and location.

**Use the following information from the Department of Energy and Consumer Reports to begin determining which heat pump system is best suited for your home.**

### Air-Source

- ▶ These are the most commonly used heat pumps.
- ▶ They move heat rather than converting it from a fuel like combustion heating systems do.
- ▶ Air-source pumps can reduce heating costs by about 50% when compared to baseboard heaters or electric furnaces.
- ▶ They represent a legitimate space-heating alternative in colder regions with newer, more efficient systems.

**Note:** If temperatures in your area often drop below 25 degrees, you will need an auxiliary heating system (depending on the size of your system).

### Geothermal

- ▶ These are more expensive to install but provide more energy savings for heating and cooling.
- ▶ Geothermal systems move heat through pipes buried underground.
- ▶ When compared to a conventional heating system, they can reduce energy use by 25%–50%.
- ▶ They're effective in extreme climates but aren't ideal for smaller lots and certain soil conditions.

### Ductless Mini-Split

- ▶ Mini-split systems are easier to install, quiet and small in size.
- ▶ They're good for heating and cooling individual rooms or small spaces.
- ▶ There's no energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30% of a typical home's heating and cooling energy use.
- ▶ Installation can be pricey, but incentives may be available.

Heat pump systems should be installed by a licensed professional. Contact Navarro County Electric Cooperative for more information and potential incentives. ■

## Don't Pay More for Your Phone

**BETWEEN THE PRICE** of a new phone and the cost of the service, a smartphone is a pretty big investment. The devices seem to be getting more and more powerful, and their energy needs are growing to match. Don't add to the cost by wasting electricity while you charge it up.

If your phone is plugged into a charger that's plugged into the wall, it's using electricity. If the phone is fully charged and still plugged in, it's still using electricity.

If you unplug your phone but leave the charger plugged in, that charger is still using a small amount of electricity. And if your household has multiple phone owners, then all of those chargers plugged in around the house start to add up.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the average home wastes about \$100 a year on "phantom energy" from electronic devices that remain plugged in when not in use. This accounts for 5%–10% of residential energy use.

Why waste and pay for energy that you're not using? Simply unplug chargers and other digital equipment when not in use. You can also plug them into power strips, and turn off the power strip when you're not using the devices. ■



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