

'CHILL' WINTER ENERGY BILLS

When temperatures go down in winter, energy use and bills go up. Even if you keep the thermostat at the same temperature inside, your heating system has to work harder to counteract outdoor chill and longer winter nights. Add the extra electricity for space heaters, electric blankets, holiday lighting, and hot baths and showers. It's easy to understand why energy use goes up during winter months in most households. Save energy and lower your monthly bills by following these tips:

- Set thermostats on furnaces around 68 degrees F., while still maintaining comfort and safety. Don't turn a heat pump down more than 5 degrees to prevent more expensive emergency heat coming on.
- Open curtains, shades, and blinds on sunny windows to take advantage of the sun's heat. Close window treatments at dusk to trap heat indoors for the night.
- Space heaters use a lot of electricity. If you use one, be sure to follow the manufacturer's safety precautions.
- Run ceiling fans clockwise to push warm air down.
- Close the fireplace damper when not enjoying a woodburning fire.
- Use slow cookers or microwave and convection ovens instead of the regular oven.



CO-OP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Public, private, and homeschooled high school seniors whose families receive electricity from NOVEC may apply for higher-education scholarships. NOVEC is awarding two additional scholarships in 2022. One will go to a student attending an HBCU institution and another to a student enrolling in a technical or trade school.

NOVEC students will find the online application for \$1,500 scholarships at novec.com/scholarship. Vocational scholarship application requirements are available here as well.

College Scholarship Application Requirements:

- 3.5 GPA on 4.0 scale
- Two letters of recommendation
- Typed 300-400 word autobiographical essay
- Lives in a home served by NOVEC
- Applicants must enter college in autumn 2022.

Mailing Address:

NOVEC Scholarships P.O. Box 2710 Manassas, VA 20108

Email: Scholarships@novec.com

Phone: 703-335-0500 Fax: 703-392-1789

NOVEC applications are available online at novec.com/scholarships. Due Date: March 14, 2022

Virginia Co-op Scholarships

NOVEC students may also apply for \$1,000 scholarships from the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives Education Scholarship Foundation. The foundation will select winners based on financial need, academic achievement, and personal statements. Applications are due by April 1, 2022. Find the application and guidelines at vmdaec.com/scholarship. Email scholarship@vmdaec.com for more information.

TOGETHER, LET'S CONTROL **POWER BILLS**

As winter temps drop, your heating system uses more energy to keep your home warm. This can drive up electricity use and your bills.

We're here to help. Reduce energy use and manage your bills with these tips:



Set the thermostat at 68°F or lower and dress in cozy layers.



Don't use space heaters. They are energy hogs that use more electricity than you think.

Find more easy ways to save and custom energy calculators, at the NOVEC.com **Energy Resource Center!**





NOVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer. **(f) (y)**





PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM OLD MAN WINTER

Cold weather, snow, ice, and wind can damage your home. Take these precautions:

- Have gutters and downspouts cleaned to prevent ice dams and roof damage. Consider installing gutter guards to keep out leaves and debris.
- Insulate your attic to save energy and prevent damage from thaw/ freeze cycles.
- Shut off exterior hose-bib water lines. Look for valves under sinks and near the water heater.
- Locate the main water valve in case of an emergency; it's usually in the basement or utility room.

NOVEC HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE:

Monday, Feb. 21, 2022 NOVEC offices will be closed for Presidents' Day.

Our system control center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even on holidays. To report outages, call 703-335-0500 or toll-free 1-888-335-0500.