



## CENTRAL ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

*A tradition of dependable, hometown service since 1937*

Carthage 601-267-5671  
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# Committed to all things big and small

Mississippi's electric cooperatives believe in neighbors helping neighbors. That's just another way of saying we're committed to our communities, and it's central to everything we do.

October is National Co-op Month, which is a perfect time to highlight our commitment to the local communities we serve.

Your electric cooperative keeps the power flowing, providing lights, running stoves, heaters, air conditioners and energizing the images we see in the game of the week or our favorite television series.

Sure, that's our main mission, but when you look around your neighborhood, there's a good chance the folks at your electric co-op have played some small role in helping to make things better.

Because we're your neighbors, our kids attend the same schools. Members of our co-op staffs are right there with you at parent-teacher organization fundraisers. You can bet you'll hear their voices among the bidders at 4-H/FFA project auctions, and some of those energy

efficiency projects at the science fair might just be co-op inspired.

We see the same challenges and depend on the same services you do. At the fire hall or emergency medical services garage, you'll see some of our lineworkers, field representatives and member services staffers listed on the roster of volunteers.

We work with members to solve the problems in our communities that members see. But none of this is new. In fact, it's why your electric co-op is not just some company. Since the beginning, the people behind the co-op have regularly gone through their communities looking for ways to meet needs.

Reliable, affordable power is still one of those needs, but listening to members still helps us to see and learn about new ones.

These days, we do that through conversations member services representatives have with members on the telephone or at our service center counters. Staffers are also listening for your concerns at churches, fast food restau-

rants and on the sidelines at the local ballfields.

With us, whether you grew up on our lines or just moved into our service territory weeks or months ago, you'll always have a voice. When we listen to you, we find out how we're doing and that lets us know when we get it right, or need to make changes to keep from getting it wrong.

We care about the things you care about, because we live here too. We get involved early on the big economic development issues. Our engineers, lawyers and accountants work with other community leaders to find solutions creating new jobs and launching new industries.

But our commitment to community means we should be there to help with the small things too.

At the neighborhood level, it's the little things that really make a difference. That's always been the co-op way. Each and every one of us connected to the co-op is every bit as committed to being here and staying involved each and every day.



## THE DREADED Vampire Load

more when the television is on, but they are always working – even when the TV is off. This is especially true for those devices with a DVR function that records your favorite TV shows.

The instant-on television is another culprit. The intention of the “instant-on” feature is instant gratification for the viewer, meaning no waiting for the TV to turn on and warm up. Unfortunately, for that convenience, the TV must be on at nearly full power. So, in this mode, it can be a real energy drain.

The typical gaming console can use as much energy as a regular refrigerator even when it's not being used. Make sure to check the console settings and disable automatic updates, which is where the energy drain comes from. Games on the console are frequently updated, which requires a lot of electricity.

So how does the average family combat these dreaded vampire loads? Garlic garlands? Silver bullets?

Fortunately, none of the remedies of fable are necessary. You just need to change how you handle these energy-sucking electronics. Here are a few suggestions.

- Unplug chargers when not in use.
- Invest in smart power strips. These look like normal power strips but have a twist; one of the outlets is the “master” that receives power all the time. The others are off. When the device connected to the master outlet turns on, the rest of the outlets receive power too.

Ingenious and perfect for entertainment set ups. Have the television in the master outlet and when you turn it on, the set-top box, speakers, streaming devices, etc. will turn on too. They are also ideal for PC's and their peripherals.

- Turn off the instant-on function on your TV. Turn off set-top boxes that do not contain the DVR functionality or use a smart power strip.
- Disable automatic updates in gaming consoles and turn the console completely off when you finish using it.
- When replacing any device or appliance, look for an EnergyStar® rated product.

Vampire loads are a real problem that will only continue to grow as the digital age advances. But you can fight the vampires with vigilance and application of the recommendations above. Contact Central Electric for additional suggestions and energy-saving advice.



## ELECTRIC CO-OP STATS

- There are 26 electric co-ops in Mississippi and over 900 electric co-ops located in 47 states.
- Electric co-ops serve approximately 1.8 million Mississippians.
- Electric co-ops serve 85 percent of the landmass in Mississippi.



ELECTRIC CO-OPS COMMIT

Co-op Month 2017

#coopmonth

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR CO-OPS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

**Central Electric**  
would like to thank our dedicated linemen  
who traveled to Florida and assisted

**Clay Electric Cooperative**  
in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

*We are proud of our linemen!*



Jerrell Scott  
Beau Chandler  
James Tull  
Gaines Measels  
Andy Wilkinson  
Chipper Jones  
Bill Lofton  
Jeffery Dennis  
Quinton Pullin  
Cole Thompson  
Trace Taylor  
Leran Ealy  
Bobby Johnson  
Bob Adcock  
Nathan Harvell

## Fall/Winter Energy Tip:

When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours and save around 10 percent a year on your heating and cooling bills.

A programmable thermostat can make it easy to set back your temperature – set it and forget it!

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

TIP of the Month

