

THE MESSENGER

A Publication for North Arkansas Electric Cooperative Members



Marathon® electric water heaters' thick polyurethane insulation reduces standby heat loss as well as energy consumption.

Lease or buy Marathon® water heater

NAEC leases and sells Marathon® water heaters. The non-metallic electric water heaters are durable and well-insulated for reduced standby heat loss.

Qualified members can lease up to a 50-gallon tank for \$12 a month and an 85-gallon or larger tank for \$15 a month for their home. NAEC pays a portion of the installation by contracted, licensed plumbers. (Please note: leased tanks cannot be installed in manufactured homes.)

Call 870-895-6245 or visit one of NAEC's three offices for more information.

NAEC mailing members' capital credit certificates this month

If you had electric service with North Arkansas Electric Cooperative in 2017, you should receive your capital credit certificate for that service around the end of the month.

These certificates are notices only and cannot be cashed or used as credit against electric bills. They are the co-op's way of informing members of the amount assigned to each account in capital credits for the year.

The cooperative business structure is different from most. NAEC does not return the money earned to an unknown investor or stockholder. Cooperative profits, called margins, are assigned to you, the owners, who are also users of the co-op's services.

These margins are assigned on a prorated basis according to the amount of service used during the year in question. When and how much of your capital credits will be refunded depends on whether the co-op's financial condition warrants such a refund. The decision to refund capital credits is a complex one because margins represent system equity.

This equity is essential to the co-op's financial strength. If NAEC returns too much of the system's equity as capital credits, then it could jeopardize its standing with lending agencies. It also would mean the co-op is refunding capital that is used as funds for construction.

Without these internally generated funds, the co-op would have to increase its borrowing, increasing interest costs and the cost of providing service. On the other hand, if NAEC kept all margins year after year and built up a high equity level, we rightfully could gain the reputation of acting like a private power company, not giving any evidence of being owned by our members.

The balance in a properly maintained equity/capital credit program lies somewhere between those two extremes. The NAEC Board of Directors strives to maintain that proper balance.

If you have questions about capital credits or your account, please call 870-895-3221 to speak with a member service representative. Our offices are open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You also may send an email to info@naeci.com.

Members' Economic Participation

The third of seven Cooperative Principles states members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative.

Line workers to be recognized April 9

The second Monday of April marks Lineworker Appreciation Day each year. Please join us April 9 in recognizing the hard work of NAEC's linemen as well as countless more across the country who keep the lights on.

Anyone who would like to send a message to NAEC's line technicians can email info@naeci.com or post on NAEC's Facebook or Twitter accounts.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH



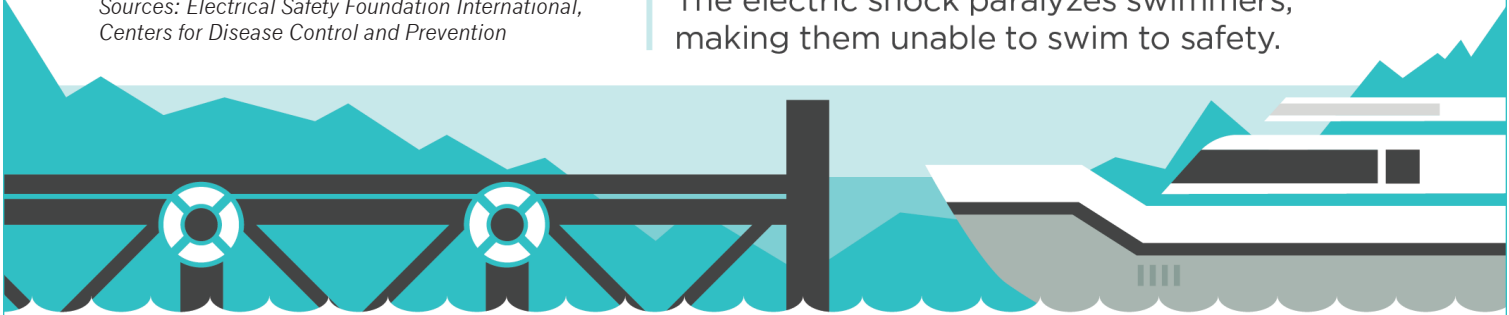
Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight. Test the seal by closing the door over a piece of paper. If you easily can pull the paper out, your seal may need to be replaced, or the latch may need to be adjusted.

— energystar.gov

HOW TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING

Sources: Electrical Safety Foundation International, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Each year, 3,800 people die from drowning. Electric shock drowning occurs when an electric current escapes boats, docks and lights near marinas, shocking nearby swimmers. There are no visible signs of current seeping into water, which makes this a hidden danger. The electric shock paralyzes swimmers, making them unable to swim to safety.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR:

Swimmers

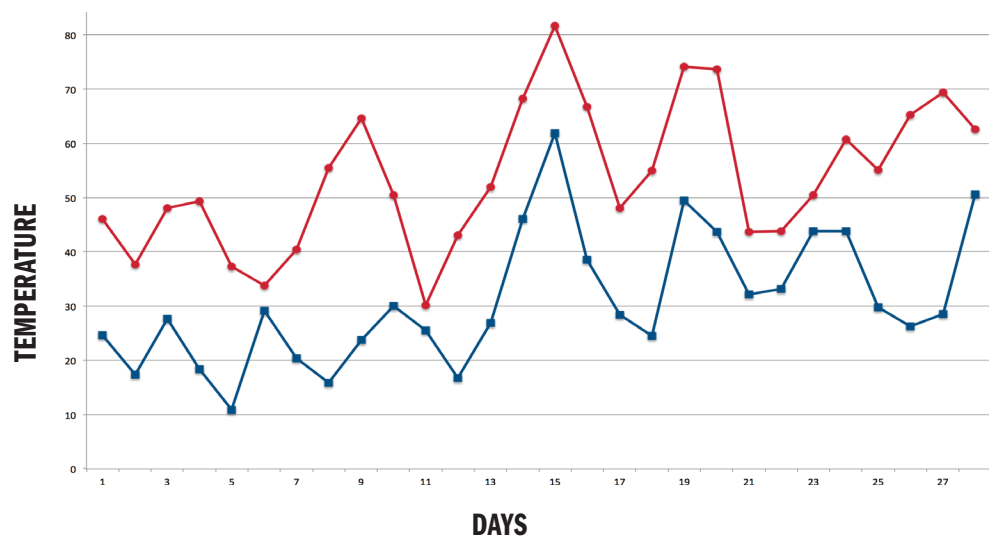
- **Never swim near a boat or launching ramp.** Residual current could flow into the water from the boat or the marina’s wiring, potentially putting anyone in the water at risk of electric shock.
- If you feel any tingling sensations while in the water, **tell someone and swim back** in the direction from which you came. Immediately report it to the dock or marina owner.

Boat Owners

- **Ensure your boat is properly maintained and consider having it inspected annually.** GFCIs and ELCIs should be tested monthly. Conduct leakage testing to determine if electrical current is escaping the vessel.
- **Use portable GFCIs or shore power cords** (including “Y” adapters) that are “UL- Marine Listed” when using electricity near water.
- Regularly have your boat’s electrical system inspected by a certified marine electrician. **Ensure it meets your local and state NEC, NFPA and ABYC safety codes.**

If you see electric shock drowning taking place, turn power off, throw a life ring and call 911.

DAILY HIGHS & LOWS – FEBRUARY 2018



Average Daily High:
53.83 compared to 61.6 in 2017

Average Daily Low:
30.98 compared to 34.5 in 2017

Total Rainfall Amount:
6.62" compared to 3.41" in 2017

Warmest Day:
Feb. 15, 81.7 degrees at 2:30 p.m.

Coolest Day:
Feb. 5, 10.9 degrees at 6:30 a.m.

CONTACT NAEC

870-895-3221
info@naeci.com
naeci.com

RIGHT-OF-WAY

West tree-trimming crews will be in the Horseshoe Bend and Viola areas.

ON THE FRONT

Line Foreman Jay Jones helps Cody Marquis try on line gear at the Career Expo at Mountain Home High School on March 2.

