## **CURRENTS**

#### JNEC's February 2022 Newsletter

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### **HOW TO SEAL AIR LEAKS WITH CAULK**

Air leaks can waste a lot of energy dollars, letting hot air inside during the warmer months and allowing drafts during the cooler season.

Sealing all those cracks and large openings to the outside is one of the quickest energyand money-saving tasks, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

First, gather the materials you will need for the project, including:

Caulk and caulk gun. Most caulking compounds come in disposable cartridges. Consider that you'll probably need a half-cartridge per window or door.

Putty knife or large screwdriver. A tool for scraping will help you remove old caulking before applying new sealant.

Paper towels or a rag. Keep a damp cleaning cloth available to wipe up any stray caulk. When you're ready to begin, follow these step-by-step instructions from the DOE:

- 1. Clean all areas that you plan to caulk. Remove any old caulk and paint. Make sure the area is dry so you won't seal in any moisture.
- 2. Prepare the caulking gun. Cut the tip of the cartridge of caulk at a 45-degree angle and insert the tube in the gun. If you've never used a caulking gun, do a test caulking by applying a line onto a newspaper or paper towel so you have a good sense of what to expect before trying your hand on a door or window.
- 3. Hold the caulking gun at a 45-degree angle to the edge that's to be filled. Slide the tube nozzle along the joint while pulling the trigger of the caulk gun to apply the material. You'll know you've got the right angle when the caulk is immediately forced into the crack as it comes out of the tube. Try to avoid stops and starts.
- 4. "Tool" the caulk by pushing it into the crack. Once you've covered 2–3 feet of the surface with a bead of caulk, dampen your finger (or spoon, piece of wood or foam paintbrush) and glide over the bead, pushing the caulk into the crack.
- 5. Clean up any mistakes or excess caulk with a damp rag. Take care of any problem areas right away.
- 6. Allow the caulk to dry according to the directions on the package. It usually takes about 24 hours for caulk to fully cure.

# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

About 30% of a home's heating energy is lost through inefficient windows. Caulk and weatherstrip all windows to seal air leaks.

When running your home heating system, lock all operable windows to ensure the tightest seal possible.

Source: Dept. of Energy



## Operation Round Up® A Successful Membership program in 2021!

TO JOIN OPERATION ROUND UP® CALL JNEC AT 409-423-2241 OR 800-231-9340 AND TELL OUR MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE THAT YOU WANT TO BE IN OPERATION ROUND UP®.

OPERATION ROUND UP® IS AN INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND RAISING PROGRAM. BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2002, A VOLUNTARY AND EXCITING MEMBER-FUNDED PROGRAM SUPPORTING WORTHWHILE PROJECTS IN OUR COMMUNITIES WAS IMPLEMENTED AT JASPER-NEWTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (JNEC). OPERATION ROUND UP® FUNDS ARE SPENT LOCALLY. AN OPERATION ROUND UP® COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF MEMBERS REPRESENTING EACH DISTRICT IN JNEC'S SERVICE AREA DECIDES HOW DONATIONS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

OPERATION ROUND UP® IS SUCCESSFUL WITH OVER \$51,250.00 DISTRIBUTED IN 2021. SINCE 2002, JNEC MEMBERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED OVER \$1,503,873 TO THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES. EVERY MONTH, YOUR ADDITIONAL PENNIES, NICKELS AND DIMES ARE ADDED TO THIS SPECIAL FUND THAT HELPED IN 2020 THE FOLLOWING LOCAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS THROUGHOUT JNEC'S SERVICE AREA:

NEWTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BUNA PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUNA FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DEWEYVILLE 4H CLUB BUNA OPERATION GRADUATION 2021 FRIENDS OF THE KIRBYVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY TROUT CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. DEWEYVILLE 4-H & FFA ALUMNI DEWEYVILLE PROJECT GRADUATION 2021 **NEWTON COUNTY ESD #5** DEWEYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT KIRBYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT KIRBYVILLE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH THE HELPING PLACE KIRBYVILLE FFA ALUMNI KIRBYVILLE OPERATION GRADUATION 2021

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST ENCAMPMENT NEWTON FOOD SHARE **EVADALE OPERATION GRADUATION 2021** JASPER COUNTY 4H COUNTY COUNCIL BON WIER VOLUNTEER DEPT. JASPER COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM **BURKEVILLE 4H** THE FOOD MINISTRY SALVATION ARMY – NEWTON SERVICE UNIT ROGANVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWTON FAIR BUYERS COMMITTEE. JASPER COUNTY JR. LIVESTOCK FOUNDATION KIRBYVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE EAST TEXAS PREGNANCY HELP CENTER BEECH GROVE VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT SANTA'S TOY BRIGADE BUNA LITTLE DRIBBLERS CHAMPION OAKS RANCH EAST TEXAS MUTUAL AID SOUTHEAST TEXAS FIRST RESPONDERS KIRBYVILLE YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE HUGHES CENTER OUTREACH JASPER COUNTY TRI-COMMUNITY VFD MASA HOPE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH BUNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

### **JNEC Annual Membership Meeting for 2022** CANCELED

This year's Annual Meeting of the Membership has been canceled out of concern for the health and wellbeing of our members, employees and community. We hope that all members use caution and follow the recommendations offered by health officials to ensure their health and safety. Please look for more information regarding this subject and other news in our newsletter, Texas Co-op Power magazine and website: www.jnec.com. We appreciate your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times.



