

CURRENTS

JNEC's November 2024 Newsletter



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5 Simple Steps to Saving Energy

Looking to improve your cash flow? These simple, low-cost steps can make a big impact on your energy budget.

The energy you use is critical for the comfort, convenience and safety of your family, but you still have to pay for it. Fortunately, there are a variety of simple, low-cost measures you can take to optimize your energy dollars while still maintaining your comfortable lifestyle.

1. Focus on lighting.

Replace conventional incandescent bulbs with ENERGY STAR®-certified LEDs. These bulbs are at least 75% more efficient and last much longer.

2. Adjust the thermostat

Raise or lower temperatures (depending on the season) at night and when you're away from home. Wi-Fi-enabled smart thermostats provide advanced features, such as remote control and self-programming.

3. Plug smarter

Many electronic devices continue to use power when they're turned off or not in use. Unplug battery chargers and any other devices when it's convenient. Plug devices into an advanced power strip. They automatically shut off devices when they're not in use.

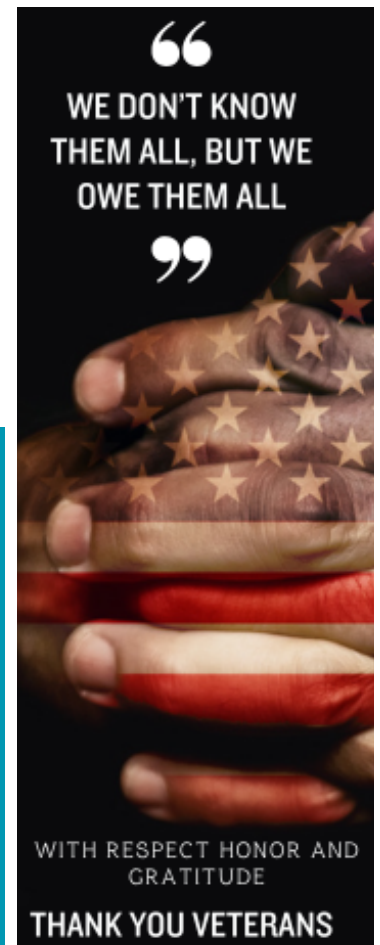
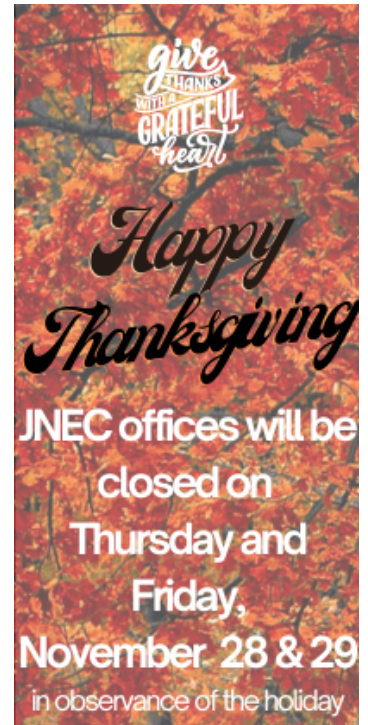
4. Use window treatments

Close window treatments on south-facing windows in summer to keep out solar heat during the day. In the winter, open curtains or drapes during the day to let in the warmth of the sun; close them at night to retain heat.

5. Seal air leaks

Do you have old, broken caulk around the outside of your windows or gaps around exterior doors? Seal those leaks by caulking windows and placing weatherstripping around the inside of door frames. See [Air Sealing Your Home](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy for more information.

Looking to save more? Hire a qualified professional to perform an energy audit or assessment of your home. Your auditor will find areas in your home where you're wasting energy and suggest measures you can take to save money and improve comfort.



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NEW PAYMENT SYSTEM!

Get ready to explore all the new options you'll have available for paying your electric bill online. Along with JNEC's current convenient payment solutions, members will have the opportunity to use Pay-By-Text, Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, and Venmo.

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane Season is June 1- Nov. 30.

Preparedness Checklist:

- ✓ **Make an Evacuation Plan.** Find activated evacuation routes here: [DriveTexas.org](https://www.drivetexas.org) or by dialing (800) 452-9292. Call **2-1-1** to find out if you live in an evacuation zone.
- ✓ **Sign-Up for Emergency Alerts.** Make sure your device is enabled to receive Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs).
- ✓ **Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit.** Learn how to build an emergency kit here: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✓ **Review Your Home Insurance Policy.**
- ✓ **Register with State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> or by dialing **2-1-1** if you live in evacuation zone and:
 - have a disability or medical needs and do not have a car or other vehicle to use in an evacuation.
 - have a disability or medical needs and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation. ****STEAR Registry information collected is confidential****

Hurricane Preparedness Online Resources:

Texas Division of Emergency Management Website: www.tdem.texas.gov
Texas Department of State Health Services: www.texasready.gov
American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
U.S. Department of Homeland Security: www.ready.gov
Office of the Texas Governor Greg Abbott: www.gov.texas.gov



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you're heading out of town during the holiday season, remember to set your home to vacation mode. You can save energy while you're away by lowering your thermostat a few degrees or creating an "away" schedule with a smart or programmable thermostat. Newer water heaters include a vacation mode setting to help you save on water heating costs, or you can simply lower the temperature manually.

Small actions can also stack up to energy savings. Unplug devices that consume energy when they're not in use, including phone chargers, toothbrush chargers, TVs and gaming consoles.



Preparación para Huracanes

La temporada de huracanes es del 1 de Junio al 30 de Noviembre.

Lista de verificación de preparación:

- ✓ **Haga un Plan de Evacuación.** Encuentre rutas de evacuación activadas aquí: [DriveTexas.org](https://www.drivetexas.org) o marcando (800) 452-9292. Llame **2-1-1** para averiguar si usted vive en una zona de evacuación.
- ✓ **Regístrese para recibir alertas de emergencia.** Asegúrese de que su dispositivo esté habilitado para recibir Alertas de Emergencia Inalámbricas (AEI).
- ✓ **Prepare un estuche de Suministros de Emergencia.** Aprenda cómo construir un estuche de emergencia aquí: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✓ **Revise su póliza de seguro de hogar.**
- ✓ **Regístrese en el Registro de Asistencia de Emergencia del Estado de Texas (RAEET):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> o marcando el **2-1-1** si vive en una zona de evacuación y:
 - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene un automóvil u otro vehículo para usar en una evacuación
 - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene amigos o familiares para ayudar en una evacuación. **** La información recolectada del Registro RAEET es confidencial ****

Recursos en línea para la preparación en caso de huracanes:

Sitio web de la División de Administración de Emergencias de Texas: www.tdem.texas.gov
Departamento de Servicios de Salud del Estado: www.texasready.gov
Cruz Roja Americana: www.redcross.org
Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los Estados Unidos: www.ready.gov
Oficina del Gobernador de Texas Greg Abbott: www.gov.texas.gov

