

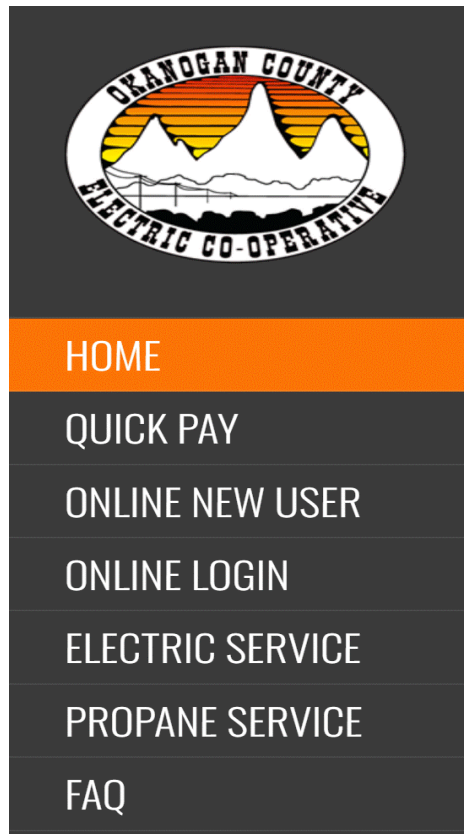


November 2022

Newsletter

New Online Web Tool!

OCEC now offers a link on our home page under Member Services for you to retrieve your monthly usage and billing information for each of your accounts. Historical information will be available back to 2019 and will be updated quarterly for you to download.



- [Broadband Survey Q & A PDF](#)



- [Quick Pay](#)
- [Online NEW USER](#)
- [Online Login](#)
- [Outage Texting Signup](#)
- [Rates PDF / Calculator](#)
- [Data Retrieval Tool: Offsite LINK](#)
- [Rebates & Assistance Programs](#)

'Round Up' to Help Your Neighbors

Did you know that you can "Round Up" your electric bill to help fellow OCEC members in need? OCEC supports The Cove food bank by offering a "Round Up" program. Sign up and we'll round up your electric bill to the next dollar. This means that each member who signs up will never contribute more than \$12 per year. While this might not seem like much money, the pooling effect every month from coop members who join the program provides a significant impact. The Cove uses these funds to assist local families who need help paying their electric bills. Call the office during business hours to sign up for the Round Up program.

Our mailing address is: PO Box 69, Winthrop, WA. 98862
Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Contact us: Toll Free: (888) 710-2228 | Local: (509) 996-2228
Email: info@ocec.coop | Web: www.ocec.coop

Five Ways to Fight the Winter Chill and Save Energy

Here are five tips to help increase your home's energy efficiency this winter:

1. **Mind the thermostat.** This is one of the easiest ways to manage your home energy use. When you're sleeping or away for an extended period of time, try setting it between 58 and 62 degrees; there's no need to heat your home when you're away or sleeping and less active. We recommend setting your thermostat to 68 degrees (or lower) when you're home.

2. **Button up your home.** The Department of Energy estimates that air leaks account for 24% to 40% of the energy used for heating and cooling a home. Caulking and weather stripping around windows and doors is another simple, cost-effective way to increase comfort and save energy. If you can feel drafts while standing near a window or door, it likely needs to be sealed.

3. **Use window coverings wisely.** Open blinds, drapes or other window coverings during the day to allow natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to keep the cold, drafty air out. If you feel cold air around windows, consider hanging curtains or drapes in a thicker material; heavier window coverings can make a significant difference in blocking cold outdoor air.

4. **Consider your approach to appliance use.** When combined, appliances and electronics account for a significant chunk of our home energy use, so assess how efficiently you're using them. For example, if you're running the dishwasher or clothes washer, only wash full loads. Look for electronic devices that consume energy even when they're not in use, like phone chargers or game consoles. Every little bit helps, so unplug them to save energy.

5. **Think outside the box.** If you're still feeling chilly at home, think of other ways to warm up — beyond dialing up the thermostat. Add layers of clothing, wear thick socks and bundle up under blankets. You can even add layers to your home! If you have hard-surface flooring, consider purchasing an area rug to block cold air that leaks in through the floor.

Winter months often bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. By being proactive about saving energy, you can increase the comfort of your home and reduce monthly bills.

Winter Office Hours began October 24th

The OCEC office has switched to Winter Hours as of October 24th. The office is now open to members from 8:00AM - 4:00PM Monday through Friday.

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