

WOOD COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EDITION

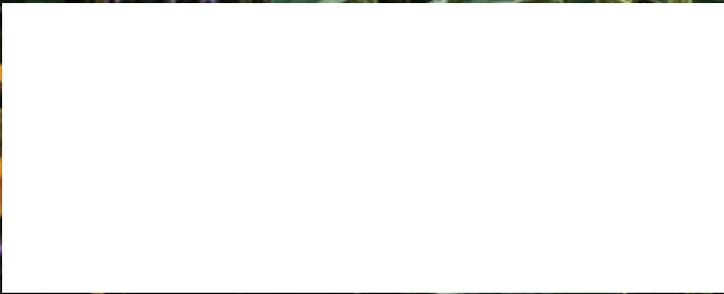


YOU'RE ALREADY A MEMBER
OF YOUR **ELECTRIC CO-OP**



PLUG IN

TO YOUR **ACTION NETWORK**



TEXAS CO-OP POWER

— A NOTE FROM —
DEBBIE ROBINSON



Dear Members,

We at Wood County Electric Cooperative strive to meet your energy needs by providing member-owners of the cooperative with safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Unlike other utility providers, our business is based locally, where our board members, managers and employees—along with our families and friends—live and work. Your cooperative invests in the electrical and community infrastructure needed to provide you with a great quality of life.

Together, fossil fuels and renewable energy sources can produce a power supply that is safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible. Our approach to meeting your energy needs is an “all-of-the-above” strategy, where no option is taken off the table, to produce a cost-effective and reliable power supply that WCEC member-owners can afford.

Laws and regulations from Austin and Washington, D.C., directly affect our ability to meet your energy needs. Flawed mandates can be particularly harmful to member-owned cooperatives like ours.

We ask that you consider joining your Texas Cooperative Action Network. You can stay up to date on pressing state and federal issues affecting your electric bill by completing the information form and returning it with your monthly statement. You may also visit WCECAction.coop to sign up for the network online.

Signing up is free, and we won't send you any excess information. Most important, we'll never share your private information with a third party.

Like a good neighbor, WCEC will keep you informed and suggest opportunities for you to take action through the Texas Cooperative Action Network, when needed, to help protect your quality of life.

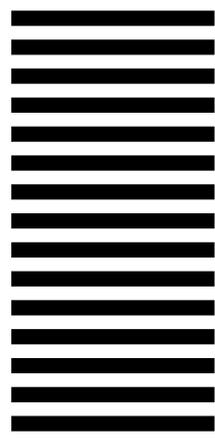
Together, we're stronger.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DEBBIE ROBINSON, CEO/General Manager
Wood County Electric Cooperative



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IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



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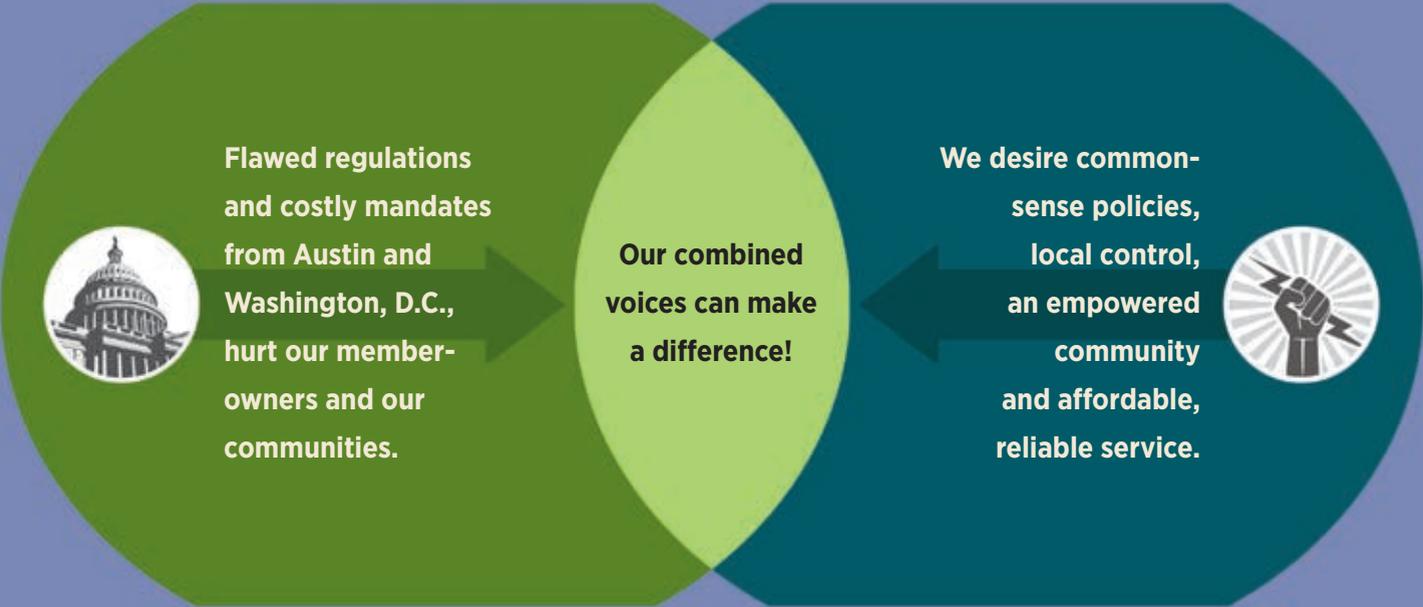
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

WOOD COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
C/O TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
1122 COLORADO ST FL 24
AUSTIN TX 78701-9815



Fill out this card, detach it and return it by mail, OR visit WCECAction.coop to join instantly!

Together, We're Stronger



STAY INFORMED AND STAY INVOLVED

Join thousands of electric cooperative members across the state
in a grassroots effort to fight for safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Fill out this card, detach it and return it by mail,
OR visit WCECAction.coop to join instantly!

FULL NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PREFERRED PHONE NUMBER _____

We respect your privacy. Your personal information will remain confidential and will never be used by or distributed to any third party.



WOOD COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

LOCAL HUMAN CONNECTIONS

A community of proud voices
deserves to be heard!

Join your **Action Network** and
start making a difference today.

Teens: Apply Now With a Video To Win an Action-Packed Trip to DC!

ONE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT from Wood County Electric Cooperative's nine-county service territory can win an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., by applying now! This trip, called the Government-in-Action Youth Tour, is a youth leadership program sponsored by Wood County EC and organized by Texas Electric Cooperatives and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



About 125 high school students and chaperones from across Texas will spend more than a week together immersed in what past participants have called a memorable and life-changing experience. The Texas delegates begin the trip with a full day in Austin, which includes a guided tour of the Texas Capitol, a picnic on the Capitol grounds and a visit to the Bullock Texas State History Museum, followed by viewing the *Star of Destiny* film at the Bullock's Imax theater. Then this group jets off to Washington, D.C., to meet with more than 1,700 fellow delegates from other states for a jam-packed trip of a lifetime!

Highlights of the D.C. visit include meeting congressional leaders, visiting numerous national monuments and

historic sites, touring Smithsonian Institution museums and the National Zoo, taking a riverboat cruise on the Potomac, experiencing a performance at the Kennedy Center, and rallying with other states' delegates for a day of inspirational speakers.

To apply, candidates should first download the official application from wcec.org under the Community tab. Once the application is completed, they should follow the submission instructions and then create a short one- to three-minute video on the topic, "The Next Big Thing: My Cooperative and Our Future Together."

Do a little research, but also be creative and have fun. Rural electrification has come a long way since the 1930s. It powers our lives to include our necessities and our conveniences. In 1938, the founders of WCEC could not have dreamed of the possibilities and comforts that their actions have delivered to our region today through the gift of electricity. Step into those ancestors' shoes and imagine what might be possible 25 years from now in 2042. Be credible, while imagining and dreaming of how our electric cooperative will power the future.

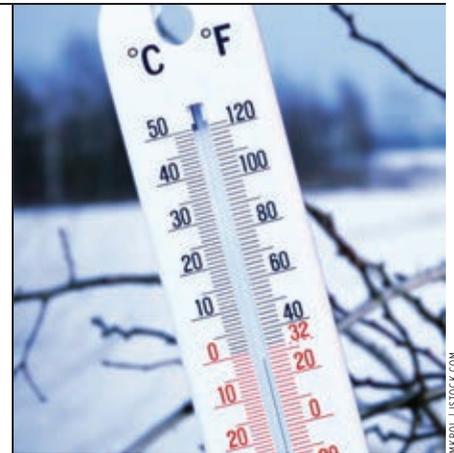
2017 Eligibility

To be eligible, an applicant must:

- ▶ Be an area high school student enrolled as a junior or senior.
- ▶ Be a dependent of a WCEC member.
- ▶ Have permanent resident status in WCEC's service territory.
- ▶ Be a citizen of the United States.

Qualified entries must arrive at WCEC by 11:59 p.m., February 22.

Get the
Official Application
at WCEC.org
Under the
Community Tab



Baby, It's Cold Outside!

COLD WEATHER was celebrated in the 1949 Academy Award-winning song, *Baby, It's Cold Outside*. With such a catchy tune, the song has been recorded by many artists since. But, as far as we know, high winter electricity bills have NEVER been celebrated—in song or otherwise!

At Wood County Electric Cooperative, we don't want any of our members to be singing the cold-weather blues because they are surprised by a high winter electricity bill. But every winter, many do receive shocking electricity bills that can be double or even triple what they are expecting. This can present a big economic challenge.

In the winter, heating costs generally account for the largest percentage of east Texas residential electricity bills. These costs mirror outside temperature extremes.

While a thermostat can be adjusted, it still is set for inside comfort. The greater the temperature difference between the inside and the outside—which can be 30 or 40 degrees in winter—the harder and longer a heating unit works to maintain indoor temperatures.

Eliminate shocking winter bills NOW by selecting a different way to pay your bill and conserving without sacrificing comfort. Learn how by visiting wcec.org then choose: Member Services/Eliminate High Bills.

WCEC Awards \$6,000 to Adult Learners

THE WINNERS HAVE BEEN CHOSEN for Wood County Electric Cooperative's annual scholarships for adult learners pursuing postsecondary education. Member applicants age 21 or older submitted essays describing their educational goals and their future plans. The three winners each receiving a \$2,000 scholarship are: Kamie Bishop of Alba, Pam Gambrel of Winnsboro and Shanna Hayes of Quitman.

Bishop, a mother of three, works in admissions at Christus Trinity Mother Frances Health System, where she is passionate about providing better health care. Bishop volunteers her time to Special Kids' Farm and Ranch Day in Golden and the benefit for the Golden Sweet Potato Festival. She and her husband, Justin, are members of First Baptist Church of Alba. She attends Tyler Junior College and is pursuing a degree in health care administration.

Gambrel is an assistant principal at Winnsboro Elementary School. She and her husband, Eric, are the parents of two college students. Gambrel volunteers her time in support of Camp Deer Run and teaches Bible classes at Winnsboro Church of Christ. She is attending Abilene Christian University, where she is pursuing a doctorate in occupational leadership.

Hayes, a mother of four, is a full-time pre-K paraprofessional at Quitman Elementary School. She is an active member of Myrtle Springs Baptist Church. Hayes is also vice president of the Quitman Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization. She is attending Stephen F. Austin State University in pursuit of an elementary education degree.

"We are so pleased to offer these scholarships to adult members each year," WCEC CEO/General Manager Debbie Robinson said. "All of the applicants are already contributing to our communities in positive ways while furthering their education. They are an inspiration, and this program is a way for us to support their industrious natures."



KAMIE BISHOP



PAM GAMBREL



SHANNA HAYES

Wood County Electric Cooperative

501 S. Main St. • P.O. Box 1827
Quitman, TX 75783

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Debbie Robinson

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Contact Us

CALL US

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OUTAGE HOTLINE

1-866-415-2951

FIND US ON THE WEB

wcec.org

MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES

- Online account access and bill payment
- Paperless E-Bill services
- Free bill-paying app
- Visa, MasterCard, and Discover accepted
- SmartPower prepay electric system
- Scholarships and youth programs
- Safety and energy conservation programs

MOBILE CONVENIENCE CENTER

Monday, First Methodist Church, *Van*
Tuesday, Family Dollar, *Mount Vernon*
Wednesday, City National Bank, *Hawkins*
Thursday, Brookshire's, *Winnsboro*
Friday, Economy Drug, *Grand Saline*