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 (Salem Office closed from
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Mission Statement

To safely provide our member-owners with reliable electric service, superior customer service, and practical energy solutions, all at reasonable prices.

Electrical Safety is Everyone's Responsibility



Marcia Scott
General Manager

May is National Electrical Safety Month and Tri-County Electric Cooperative is joining the annual effort to raise awareness of potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) states, "Extension cord misuse and overloaded receptacles are two of the main causes of home electrical fires. It is important to be aware of these common and preventable hazards, as well as other safety measures you can take to ensure that your home is electrically safe."

The National Fire Protection Association estimates 47,700 home structure fires reported to U.S. fire departments each year involve some type of electrical failure or malfunction as a factor contributing to ignition. Awareness and education are critical to reduce the incidence of electrical fires.

At Tri-County Electric Cooperative, we believe one of our most important roles in the community

is to educate our members and neighbors about what to do in order to stay safe around electricity. Our website (www.tricountycoop.com) offers a wealth of information. From our home page, click on "Safety Sense", where you'll find tips to help keep you and your family safe at home, outdoors and even around our cooperative substations, facilities and equipment.

Educating our cooperative members doesn't just take place online. Our employees conduct Live Line demonstrations throughout the year for schools and organizations throughout the community as well.

Electrical safety awareness and education among consumers, families, employees and communities will prevent electrical fires, injuries and fatalities. Your cooperative's job is to bring you safe and reliable electricity, but electrical safety is everyone's responsibility. For more information about electrical safety visit: www.safeelectricity.org

MAY 2019

National Electrical Safety Month

 Safe Electricity.org





Phyllis Kane Retires after 22 Years of Service

If you have stopped in the Mt. Vernon Tri-County Electric Cooperative office, you have undoubtedly met the smiling face of Cashier Phyllis Kane.

Phyllis began her career at the cooperative in 1997. She said, "I have loved working here. I really have. I will miss the members, my coworkers, and the culture here."



Even though there are many things she will miss, Phyllis is looking forward to traveling with her husband, visiting family, and spending more time with her grandchildren.

We wish Phyllis and her husband Bob the very best as she embarks on her new adventure into a well-deserved retirement. Thank you for your dedication and loyalty to Tri-County Electric Cooperative and its members.

Charles Johnson Retires after 37 Years of Service

Charles (Chuck) Johnson began his career at the cooperative in 1982, as an Apprentice Lineman. He has held positions in both Marion County and Jefferson County, including: Journeyman Lineman, Serviceman, Crew Foreman, Foreman, and Lead Lineman.



Chuck finished out his career as a Jefferson County Serviceman. In addition to his 37 years in linework, he also teaches classes through the Local IBEW 702.

We wish Chuck the very best for a healthy and wonderful retirement. He is looking forward to relaxing, spending more time with family and friends, and golfing. Thank you for your dedication and loyalty to Tri-County Electric Cooperative and its members.

Welcome Jodi Schierbaum

It is a pleasure to announce to you our newest addition to the cooperative family. Jodi Schierbaum began her career at Tri-County Electric Cooperative as your newest Customer Service Representative on March 25, 2019.



Jodi is a Bluford resident and comes to your cooperative with over 6 years of experience in banking and customer service. She is looking forward to serving the members of the cooperative.

Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.



Teach Kids about Electrical Safety

Home should be a place of comfort for you and your family. That comfort includes family, familiarity, and safety. Safety requires some work and education, especially with kids in the house. To help protect your family, Safe Electricity encourages you to educate children at a young age about electrical safety.

Some of the important lessons that Safe Electricity recommends sharing with your kids are:

- Let them know that water and electricity are a dangerous mix. Never sit, stand, or attempt to walk through water that is in contact with an electric appliance or toy.

- Emphasize that electronics and their accessories have to be handled with care. Encourage younger children to ask for help when they want to use an electronic device.

- Electrical cords and outlets can be of interest to curious young minds, but should be left alone. Never put fingers or objects such as forks or knives into electrical outlets.

- Also, never stick fingers or objects into toasters or any other electrical appliance.

When you have toddlers around the house, take precautions to childproof your home. Safe Electricity has the following tips to help you keep your family safe and prevent electrical accidents in your home:

- Child proof outlets. One way to do this is to use tamper resistant receptacles. Small fingers can easily fit into sockets, and curious children may poke objects into outlets. A tamper resistant outlet has a shutter system that only accepts electric plugs. Another option is to use simple outlet plugs.

- Leave cords out of sight so that children are not tempted to play with them. Holders, spools, and clips can help you do this.

- Never leave chargers or extension cords plugged in. A curious child may put a cord into his or her mouth and suffer an electric burn.

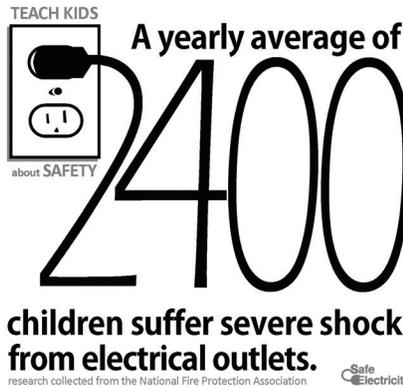
- Supervise children closely when they play with electronic toys.

- Repair or dispose of damaged electronics and cords.

- Use ground fault circuit

interrupter (GFCI) protection to prevent shocks. GFCIs detect and prevent dangerous situations where an electric shock could occur. You should have GFCIs anywhere that water and electricity may meet—such as bathrooms, kitchens, and basements.

On the back, you will find an electrical safety activity to share with your favorite young ones. To learn more about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.



Beef Potato Bake

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 c. cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 1 c. cream of celery soup, undiluted
- 1 1/2 tsp. dried parsley
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 (32 oz.) pkg. frozen hashbrown potatoes, thawed
- 4 c. shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1 c. mushrooms, drained

Directions:

Brown ground beef and drain. In a large bowl combine cream of mushroom and cream of celery soup, parsley, onion, and pepper. Add potatoes, 2 cups cheese, and mushrooms. Then, stir in beef. Transfer to

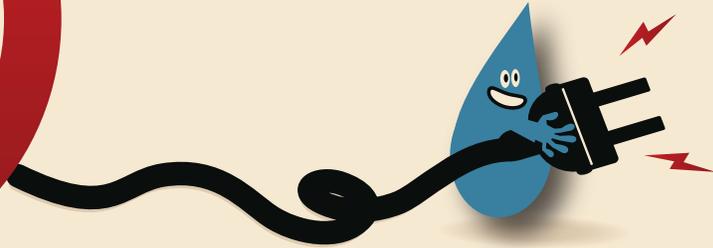
a 9x13-in. greased baking dish. Sprinkle with 2 cups cheese. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. Uncover and bake for 5-10 minutes or until cheese is melted.

This month's recipe was submitted by your friendly Customer Service Representative, Dana Flota. Dana has served your cooperative for 8 years.





SAFETY AGENT



Safe Electricity is looking for good recruits like you to become Junior Safety Agents!

Here is the problem: electricity and water make a dangerous combination. Safe Electricity wants you to learn how to stay safe from electrical dangers and help keep others safe as well.

Complete the sentences below. Then, put the underlined letters in the decoder. When you have finished all the sentences, the clues will come together to form a secret message!

1. This is the place to go if you need to get clean. However, electronics should never be near or in the .
2. Water and never mix.
3. Never play outside in thunder .
4. Never use an electronic or appliance in a or wet area.
5. Never splash, spray, or squirt onto an electronic.
6. When you get out of the pool or tub, before handling electronics.
7. "When roars, go indoors."
8. Only electric go in outlets. Not water, toys, or other knick knacks.
9. Do not let sniff, lick, or play with electronics and their cords.
10. The kitchen is full of treats but also has electrical dangers. Ask an for help with kitchen activities.
11. Stay far from electronics if you are wet.
12. Wash your hands in the , but keep electronics far away.
13. safety tips with friends to help keep everyone safe.
14. Never play in waters.
15. After a storm, stay far away from damaged poles.

DECODER: _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _

Congratulations! You are a Junior Safety Agent! Share what you know about electrical safety to keep your friends and family safe. Learn more at:

