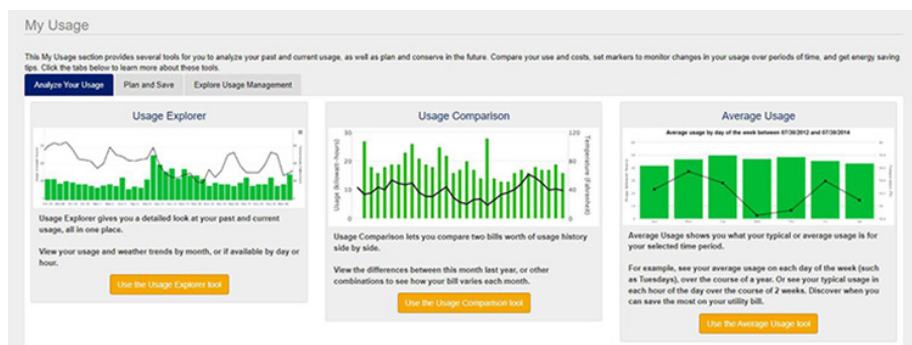


THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

July 2025

Energy-smart summer: 10 tips to stay cool and save



As temperatures rise across the state, many Coloradans are looking for ways to reduce energy costs. By taking small actions to limit daily energy usage, you can lower your monthly energy bills. Here are our top 10 tips to help you be more energy-efficient:

1. Replace any light bulbs — especially those that are highly used — with light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs.
2. Close shades and drapes during the day to keep out heat, and open windows in the morning and evening to let in cool air.
3. Use power strips to turn off electronic devices during vacations or while not in use.
4. Put weather stripping around your windows and apply “low-e” coatings to help reduce cooling loss.
5. Change your HVAC filters monthly.
6. Cook on a gas grill, which uses

less energy than a conventional stove or oven.

7. Install a programmable thermostat to save on cooling. If you don't have a programmable thermostat, adjust the temperature when you leave your house.
 8. Set your water heater no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
 9. Stagger power consumption as much as possible during the on-peak period of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Limit the use of “power-hungry” appliances at the same time.
 10. Get a detailed look at your past and current power use through the My Usage features on SmartHub, CORE's account management platform. Learn how by visiting www.CORE.coop > **My Account** > **My Usage**. [See sidebar.]
- For more tips on how you can be energy-efficient, or to request an energy efficiency consultation, visit www.CORE.coop > **News and Resources** > **Energy Efficiency**.

Your guide to energy control

SmartHub's comprehensive suite of tools and features can help you analyze and make informed decisions on your energy usage.

Learn more about your energy consumption with our Usage Explorer and Usage Comparison tools. Gain insights, compare usage over different periods, and find ways to optimize your energy habits and save money.

Create planning markers for specific times or windows in your energy usage history to track and visualize the actions you've taken. You can see your planning markers directly on the graph.

You can also take your commitment to renewable energy to the next level by enrolling in our CLEAN Power Choice program.

Stay informed with personalized notifications for billing, planned outages, promotions, and more. For more information on how you can take control of your account, visit www.CORE.coop > **My Account** > **CORE Control**.

CORE Apprentice training

Step 1 Lineworker Apprentices completed their week-long training for the second quarter this year, covering topics such as electrical theory and mathematics, knots and splices, rigging techniques, and the various types of tags used for switching. These quarterly trainings are developed and administered by CORE Journeymen Lineworkers who volunteer their time and expertise to mentor our up-and-coming apprentices. This quarter, apprentices focused on climbing, changing out cross-arms and bells, and transformer changeouts.



Fitch affirms CORE's 'AA-' rating

Fitch Ratings has affirmed the Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) of CORE Electric Cooperative (CORE) at 'AA-', with a Stable outlook. 'AA-' is in the highest public rating tier achieved for electric distribution cooperatives rated by Fitch Ratings.

"The 'AA-' IDR reflects CORE's very strong financial profile in the context of a rapidly growing and diverse retail customer base, very strong revenue defensibility characteristics, very low but increasing operating costs, a diverse supply of energy, and a manageable capital plan," Fitch Ratings stated in its report.

Highlights of the report include:

- Strong revenue defensibility with a diverse and economically sound service area

- Very strong rate flexibility with the independent ability to set rates, which Fitch considers very affordable
- Low but growing operating cost burden with diverse power supply resources
- Manageable capital planning and management needs
- Improved liquidity profile from 'weaker' to 'neutral'

The detailed credit rating summary can be found at www.CORE.coop > **News and Resources** > **CORE News** > **Fitch Affirms CORE Electric Cooperative's IDR at 'AA-'; Outlook Stable.**

Payment solutions that work for you

CORE members enjoy greater choice, control and convenience with our flexible payment options.

Advance Pay: Pay on your terms. Decide when, how much, and how you add to your credit balance. No deposits, no monthly bills, and no due dates. Each day at 9 a.m., the cost of your energy usage from the previous 24 hours is deducted from your balance. Stay informed with low-balance alerts and easily add funds any time, anywhere via SmartHub on www.CORE.coop, or through the SmartHub app on iOS or Android.

Budget Billing: Balance out your payments and avoid seasonal spikes by paying a stable, averaged amount each month. Your budget plan balance is displayed on your bill, giving you a clear view of your energy costs.

For more information on our payment options, visit www.CORE.com > **My Account** > **Billing and Payment Options** or scan the QR code below.

