

THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

June 2026

Earn bill credits with your smart thermostat!

Earn a \$25 enrollment bonus, plus additional credits based on your level of participation, by enrolling in CORE's new Cool Credits smart thermostat program.

Cool Credits **rewards you for being more flexible with your smart thermostat schedule**, and helps CORE make energy more reliable and cost-effective for all members.

Here's how it works: On extremely hot days, energy demand can spike so much that delivering power to everyone who needs it can be inefficient and expensive. On days we anticipate there will be high demand for energy, CORE will schedule a Cool Credits event, during which we will shift some energy use out of the hours when demand is highest. We'll do this by working with your smart thermostat to keep your home comfortable, while being more flexible about when your thermostat cools it. You will be notified the day before each Cool Credits event. If you decide you don't want to participate in the event, you are free to opt out by changing the temperature on your thermostat at any point during the event.

In addition to the \$25 enrollment bonus, you will receive credit on your CORE bill based on your level of participation:

- \$5 credit for participation in 25% to 49% of scheduled events
- \$15 credit for participation in 50% to 79% of scheduled events
- \$25 credit for participation in at least 80% of scheduled events



Participation credits will be awarded at the end of each CORE Cool Credits season, which runs from June 1 to Sept. 30. To join CORE Cool Credits, you must:

- Have an eligible ecobee or Honeywell smart thermostat connected to a reliable Wi-Fi network. (See the full list of smart thermostats at www.CORE.coop/cool-credits).
- Use your smart thermostat to control your air conditioner, heat pump or evaporative cooling system.
- Be a CORE residential member or a commercial member with single-phase service.

Visit www.CORE.coop/cool-credits for more information and to enroll.



2025 Annual Report

CORE Electric Cooperative has released its 2025 Annual Report. For more information or to view the 2025 Annual Report in its entirety, visit www.CORE.coop > **My Cooperative** > **2025 Year in Review** or the scan the QR code.



CORE announces additions to leadership team



CORE recently welcomed two leaders into key roles that support reliable power, long-term planning and service to members.

As CORE's Chief Legal Officer, **Anne Zellner Sherwood** leads CORE's legal work, helping ensure the cooperative can continue providing safe, reliable electricity as the energy industry evolves. She works closely with regulators, industry partners and CORE's leadership team to address legal and operational matters that affect members — including wildfire mitigation efforts that help protect communities and the electric system. Before joining CORE, Sherwood held senior legal and wildfire mitigation leadership roles at Xcel Energy. She brings extensive experience in utility law, public policy, and regulatory strategy, and holds a law degree from Northwestern University and a bachelor's degree from Wheaton College.



Chris Hildred, CORE's Chief Energy Supply Officer, oversees how CORE plans for and secures the electricity that powers members' homes and businesses. His work focuses on keeping power reliable and affordable today, while planning ahead for the cooperative's future energy needs. Hildred leads CORE's efforts in energy markets, power supply planning and regulatory compliance. He most recently served as CORE's Power Supply Director, and helped guide CORE's transition to independent market participation and built partnerships to support long-term energy resources. Before joining CORE, he worked at Holy Cross Energy. He holds an engineering degree from the Colorado School of Mines.

Together, these leadership roles help ensure CORE remains well-positioned to serve members.

Practical tips to help you be more energy-efficient

As temperatures rise across Colorado, many members are looking for ways to manage their energy use and keep monthly bills in check. CORE is committed to helping you take control of your energy use. Here are five practical tips to help you be more energy efficient in your home.

- **Track your energy use.** Review your past and current usage through Energy Analytics in SmartHub, CORE's account management platform. Visit www.CORE.coop > My Account > Energy Analytics to learn more.

- **Block out heat during the day.** Close shades and drapes to keep heat out, and open windows in the morning and evening to let in cooler air.

- **Use power strips.** Turn off electronics when they're not in use or when you're away on vacation to avoid "phantom" energy use.

- **Adjust your thermostat.** Programmable or smart thermostats can help save on cooling costs. If you don't have one, increase the temperature when you leave home.

- **Spread out energy use during peak hours.** Reduce demand between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. by avoiding the simultaneous use of power-hungry appliances.

In addition to daily habits, it's helpful to take a closer look at your home's energy performance:

- **Maintain your heating and cooling system.** Make sure ducts,



pipes, and attics are properly insulated, and schedule regular HVAC maintenance.

- **Improve insulation.** Seal gaps around windows and doors with caulk or weatherstripping, and consider thermal curtains or blinds to keep heat out in summer and in during winter.

For more energy saving tips visit www.CORE.coop > **News and Resources > Energy Efficiency.**