



TIP OF THE MONTH

Straight Talk Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month:

A crackling fire in the hearth warms the house, but don't let it heat up your electric bill! Caulk around the fireplace hearth and keep the damper closed when a fire is not burning.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

DON'T FORGET! SCHOLARSHIPS AND YOUTH TOUR DEADLINES ARE APPROACHING



Scholarship: Don't miss the **March 13, 2017**, deadline for the NOVEC Scholarship Program, which awards \$1,500 to high school seniors in Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Stafford counties as well as the City of Manassas Park – where NOVEC provides electric service. Additionally, a single \$1,500 scholarship is awarded to a home-schooled or private school student.

Visit www.novec.com/scholarships to access the scholarship information and application.



Youth Tour: For high school sophomores and juniors, the deadline to apply for the NOVEC Youth Tour is **February 17, 2017**. If you have a passion for American government and an interest in learning about our nation's capital, apply for NOVEC's Youth Tour program. Five students who receive electric power from NOVEC will be selected for this all-expense-paid, once-in-a-lifetime trip. Visit www.novec.com/youthtour for additional information and to download the application, or e-mail a request to youthtour@novec.com.

USE THE ENERGY RESOURCE CENTER TO SAVE!

NOVEC's online Energy Resource Center is loaded with tools to help members save energy and money on their electric bills. The "Heating Comparison Calculator" performs a quick and easy estimated annual cost comparison of different heating options, while the "Space Heaters" calculator details the monthly cost of operating one, or more, space heaters. Also, the "Setback Heating Calculator" estimates the savings gained by installing and setting a programmable thermostat. These calculators and more are available at

www.novec.com/erc

Holiday Office Closure:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2017
NOVEC offices will be closed for Presidents' Day

The operations center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even on holidays. To report outages, call 703-335-0500 or toll-free 1-888-335-0500.

- Congratulations -

Mr. Dominic Bueno of Aldie, Va., won this quarter's new customer survey drawing and received a \$25 Lowe's gift card.



ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR RENTERS

Approximately one-third of Americans rent their homes. Unfortunately, many lease agreements forbid major alterations to rental properties; however, renters can make a few simple, low-cost changes to improve the efficiency of their homes.

- 1 To increase efficiency, Energy.gov recommends setting the thermostat to 68 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.
- 2 In the winter, take advantage of heat from sunlight whenever possible by opening draperies and shades during the day to allow natural light to heat your home. Remember to close them as the sun goes down and the temperature drops.
- 3 Temper your hot water use and the amount of water you use by installing an energy-efficient, low-flow showerhead in your shower.
- 4 Instead of washing a handful of clothing or dishes at a time, save energy and money by washing full loads. More loads equate to more energy spent and more money out of your pocket.
- 5 Unplug electronic devices when not in use, and use smart power strips to save on energy.
- 6 Replace old incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® -certified LED bulbs.
- 7 Combat air leaks by applying removable rope caulk or shrink-film plastic on drafty windows and doors.

To learn more ways to be energy efficient around the home, visit www.novec.com/save.

Money to Burn?

Natural gas is one of the most efficient methods for heating water, cooking, and warming homes. But just when you need it the most, natural gas prices tend to increase. NOVEC Energy Solutions' PriceOne Plan allows you to **lock in a fixed price for your natural gas supply**. Pay the same low price throughout the year, no matter how volatile prices become. Visit us at www.novecenergysolutions.com or call 703-392-1677 or 1-888-627-SAVE (7283).



average
\$11
credit/month

With life's many ups and downs, down can be a very good direction.

In 2017, the average home's power bill from NOVEC will **go down by nearly \$11 a month**. That's because NOVEC, a not-for-profit electric cooperative, provides wholesale power to its customers at cost. Any changes in that cost are passed along through an annual power cost adjustment on bills.

That makes **down** a very good direction!



NOVEC.com