



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE PATH TO EFFICIENCY INDEPENDENCE

While fireworks and Independence Day parades are synonymous with the Fourth of July, no such fanfare comes to mind when discussing energy efficiency. Perhaps it should.

If you think about it, energy efficiency not only benefits individuals and families, but also the country as a whole. Energy efficiency, combined with energy conservation and technological advances in the utility industry, ultimately help our country on a path toward greater energy independence. And that's worth celebrating.

Benefits of efficiency

At its essence, greater efficiency means less energy is used for the production of goods and services.

For individual consumers, a reduction in energy use usually translates to a tangible financial benefit — more money in your wallet at the end of the month. On a national level, energy efficiency, sometimes called the “fifth fuel,” has a more profound impact. It can potentially boost the economy by allowing consumers and businesses to invest in other areas. Greater energy efficiency may also slow the rate at which domestic energy

is depleted, and therefore reduce or diminish the need for foreign energy.

Strike up the band

There's no need to wait for the first burst of fireworks in the sky to start your energy efficiency efforts. Every American can take charge of his or her own energy use. Small steps can lead to a big difference for you and your neighbors, whether across the road or across the country.

Energy efficiency can generally be achieved two ways. The first is with mechanical change, such as replacing an older HVAC unit or less efficient appliance with a new ENERGY STAR® model or upgrading to new, insulated windows. Less expensive actions include improving the seal of your home's “envelope” by caulking exterior windows and doors and sealing openings where pipes and ductwork meet the outside. Swapping out the incandescent bulbs (inside and outside) with LEDs also makes a noticeable difference.

Smart control

The second way to improve energy efficiency is through smarter management of your energy use. Leveraging smart thermostat technology is a good place to start. Most smart thermostats contain an app allowing remote control by mobile phone or tablet. Program your thermostat to reflect your family's schedule. Many thermostat programs allow you to view and edit your thermostat schedule and monitor the amount of energy used. Sometimes, however, energy efficiency is simply a matter of changing old habits, such as washing clothes in cold water instead of hot water.

Regardless of the path you take on the road to energy efficiency and independence, Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative can help you on the journey. For information about energy efficiency programs, contact us toll-free at 866-764-1055, or visit our website at www.hwecoop.com.



Glenn W. Miller
President/CEO

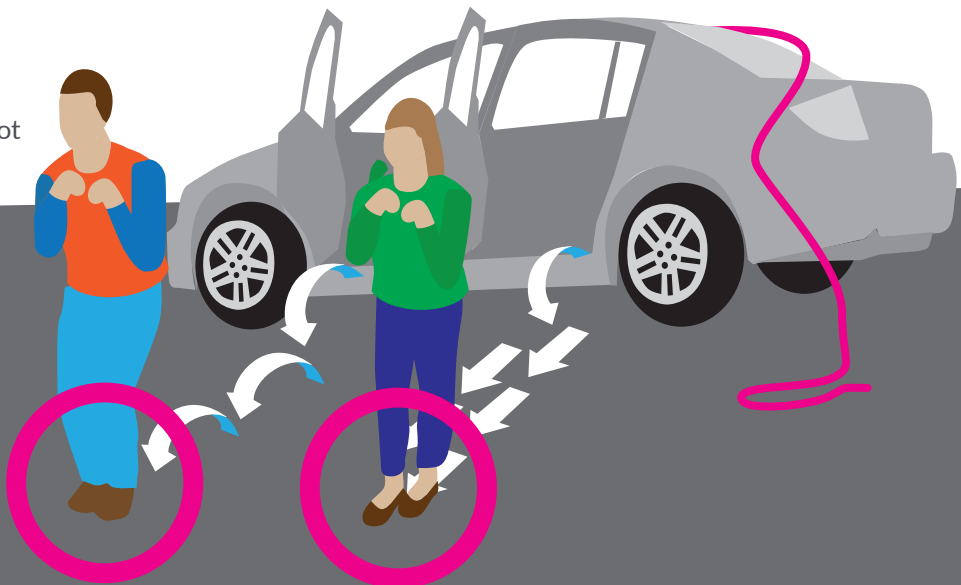
On a national level, energy efficiency is sometimes referred to as the “fifth fuel” because its impacts can be so profound.



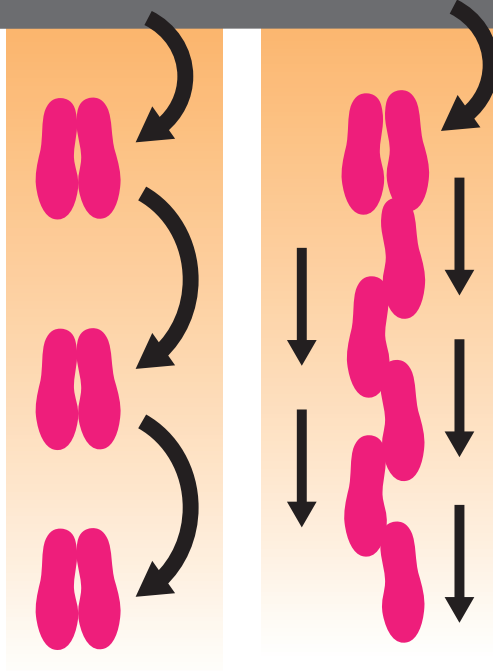
SAFETY

What to do if a power line is on or near your car

- 1** If you can drive in reverse away from the area, do so cautiously. Do not drive over downed power lines. Always assume that power lines are energized.
- 2** If you can't drive away, call 911. Let emergency responders know where you are and what has happened. The safest thing to do is stay in your car until emergency crews arrive to assist you.
- 3** Honk your horn to alert passers-by. Roll down the window and warn people not to touch the car or the line.
- 4** If you must exit, open the vehicle door all the way. Ensure that you use the handle and that you do not touch any other part of the door.
- 5** Prepare to jump. Stand up with elbows tucked into your stomach and hands held close to your chest.



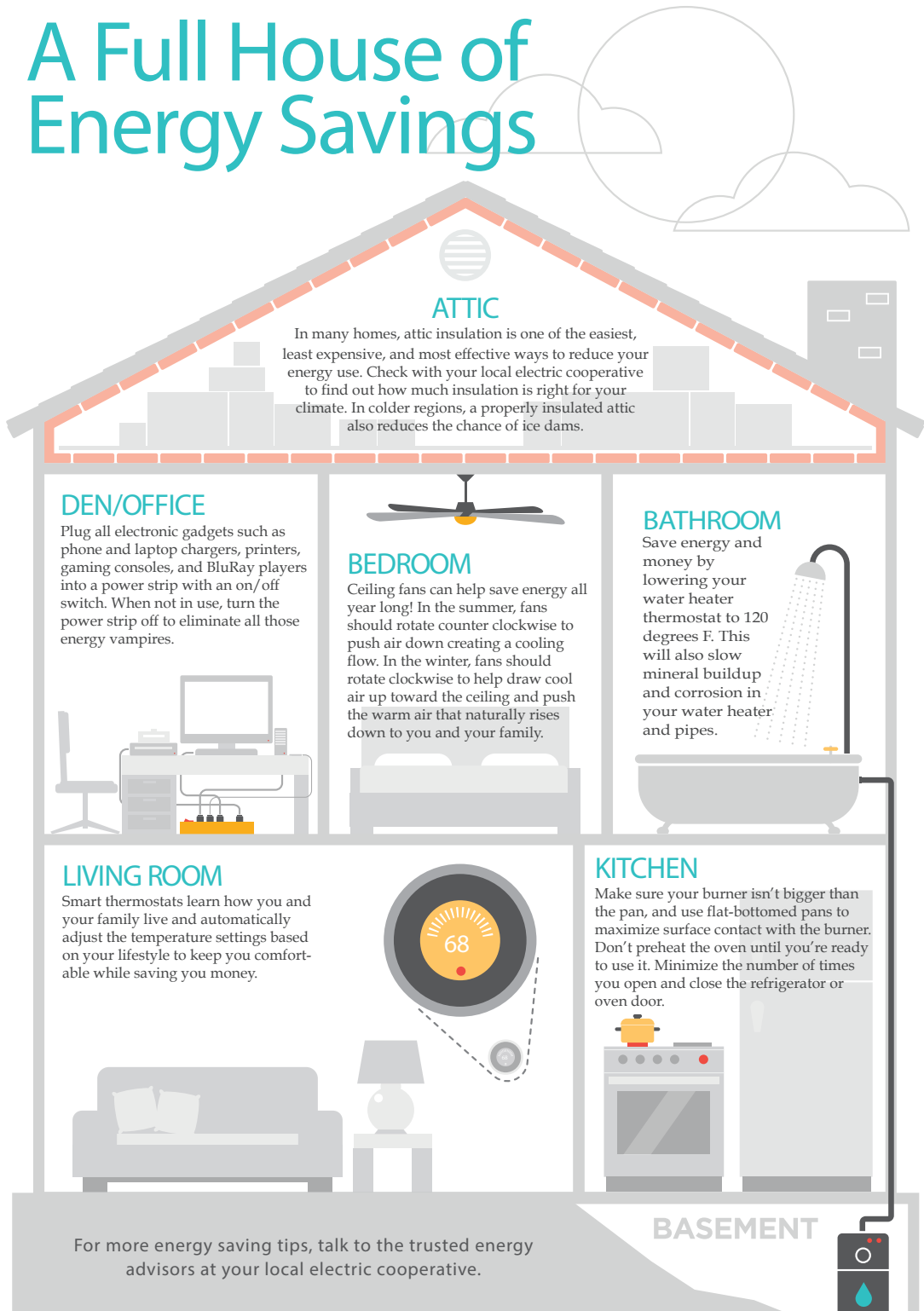
- 6** Jump out of your vehicle. Do your best to land as far as possible from your vehicle, with your feet together, and without stumbling. You must **never** be in contact with both your vehicle and the ground at the same time.
- 7** Shuffle-walk or hop until you have reached a safe area at least 33 feet from the downed power line or electricity source. As you shuffle or hop, keep your feet touching one another at all times.



- 8** Different parts of the ground could be energized at different voltages. If your feet are each in different voltage areas, electricity could run from one area to the other through you. This is why it is important to shuffle or hop and always keep your feet together.
- 9** Once you are in a safe area at least 33 feet from the power source, wait for emergency crews.



A Full House of Energy Savings





EVENTS

Cardinal plant tour

Thursday, Sept. 14
7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is your opportunity to tour the power plant that generates your electricity, located on the Ohio River in Brilliant, Ohio.

If you are an HWEC member who is interested in participating in this educational day to learn where your power comes from, please contact HWEC at 866-674-1055.

The deadline to register is Aug. 10.

Did you know that isn't smoke? It's actually water vapor from the cooling tower.

Guidelines for Cardinal tour

Participants must be at least 12 years old. Please note there is a considerable amount of walking, including stair climbing. The walking tour is about one hour.



**Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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