

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Never use water on an electrical fire. Use a fire extinguisher rated for electrical fires instead.



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What's That Hissing Sound?

IF YOU HEAR A HISSING SOUND BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A CAT, CHECK YOUR ELECTRICITY.

Damaged wires and outlets can hiss when something's wrong—just like a cat. But hissing electricity is much more dangerous than an angry feline. It can signal the potential for a deadly shock or an electrical fire.

National Fire Prevention Week, October 8–14 this year, is a perfect time to check your cords and outlets to prevent an electrical accident. Here are some tips to follow for keeping your home safe:

1. When electrical cords are damaged, worn, cracked or corroded, the chances of fire or power surges increase significantly. Check for loose or improper connections, cracked wire insulation, chewed electrical wiring, or frayed appliance or electrical cords. Call a licensed electrician to fix wiring problems; electricity is not a do-it-yourself project.

2. It's common sense: Avoid plugging anything into an electrical outlet that is too near a water source. Did you know that even plugging a cellphone into a charger too close to water can create a hazard? If it falls into a tub or sink, and you stick your hand in to retrieve it, you could get shocked.

3. Do you have a fire extinguisher in your home? To douse electrical fires, which usually start because of faulty wires or outlets, you need one—and it needs to be the right one, the kind rated to put out electrical fires. Never throw water onto an electrical fire; it can electrocute you.

4. Childproof all electrical outlets within the reach of small children. Insert outlet covers where the prongs of an appliance go. That will prevent toddlers from sticking fingers and other objects into the sockets.

5. Cramping too many plugs into a power strip and plugging it into an outlet that's not equipped for the load can cause the outlet to overheat and the circuit to trip. If you need more outlets, hire a licensed electrician to solve your problem.

Grandma's Gingerbread

- ½ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons shortening
- 1 egg
- ½ teaspoon ginger
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ cup molasses
- 1 heaping cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¾ cup boiling water
- Pinch salt

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Mix all ingredients together. Pour batter into in 8-by-8-inch or 9-by-9-inch pan.
3. Bake about 20 minutes. Insert toothpick in center to check for doneness.
4. Cool and cut into 12 slices. Serve with whipped cream, if desired.

Find this and more delicious recipes online at **TEXASCOOPPOWER.COM**

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Doxo Not Recommended for Payments

IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT SOME NAVARRO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE members have been paying their bills through the online bill-payment service Doxo. Please be advised that your cooperative has **NO** affiliation or agreement with Doxo, and we recommend that members **DO NOT** use this link: doxo.com/info/navarro-county-electric-coop.

Instead, **members should go to the Navarro County EC website, navarroec.com, and click on the Pay My Bill tab** to be directed to our SmartHub service. Through SmartHub, you can sign up or log in to access bill-pay links, member support and other NCEC services.

Look Up, Stay Safe

OBJECTS CAN ALMOST FADE FROM VIEW WHEN WE SEE THEM EVERY DAY, BUT FAILURE to notice high-voltage power lines can be a deadly oversight. Your electric cooperative wants to raise awareness about the dangers of overhead power lines and encourages you to follow these guidelines:

Look up and around you. Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long metal tools such as ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles. Lower long equipment when you are moving it. Carry ladders and other long items horizontally whenever possible.

Be careful when working on the roof, installing antennas and satellite dishes, doing repair work or cleaning gutters. Never go up on the roof in bad weather.

Never trim trees near power lines—leave that to the professionals. Never use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines. Contact a professional maintenance contractor instead.

Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines aren't touching the tree, they could touch when more weight is added to the branch.

If your projects include digging, such as building a deck or planting a tree, call a local underground utility locator before you begin. This service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted and can help you avoid serious injury.



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*Operating in Ellis, Freestone, Hill,
Limestone and Navarro counties*

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

CONVENIENT WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

navarroec.com

smarthubapp.com

1-855-385-9975 to pay by phone

We no longer take payments over the phone at the office.