



GENERAL  
MANAGER  
  
ERIC  
HALFMANN

## Why We Encourage Conservation

**YOU MAY WONDER** why we encourage you to conserve energy. After all, we're in the business of selling electricity. Why would we encourage our members to use less of it?

Your cooperative isn't in business to make a profit; it's in business to serve you in the most efficient, reliable and cost-effective way possible. Karnes Electric Cooperative is owned by the people it serves and shares its members' interest in keeping costs down.

We strongly encourage energy conservation for a number of reasons. First, it's good common sense. Although fossil fuels are still relatively abundant, their quantity is finite. Depleting these natural resources means there will be less fuel for future generations.

Conserving energy also saves you money in two ways: Less power simply makes for a lower bill, and when many consumers lower their usage, it saves your cooperative money as well.

You see, Karnes EC must keep enough power (capacity) reserved to supply all members' highest usage. If that energy peak can be flattened, the co-op pays less for power. New power sources may not have to be tapped as soon as they would otherwise, and the construction of costly new generating plants can be postponed.

Here at your cooperative, we're working to keep your electricity affordable by automating operations where possible and by setting reasonable budgets that do not sacrifice reliability and service. We have no control, however, over the market price of fuels needed to generate electricity.

We'll continue to offer tips for conserving electricity, even though we're in the business of selling it. You can count on Karnes EC to continue looking out for you.

Just remember that we all need to conserve energy of all types—from gasoline to natural gas to propane. Many types of fuel make up our nation's energy picture and affect our pocketbooks. You can help us keep costs affordable by conserving all types of energy, not just electricity. ■



MILAN MARKOVIC | ISTOCK.COM

## Using Less Energy To Keep Things Clean

**YOUR ENERGY STAR** clothes washer or dishwasher operates very efficiently. That's likely one of the reasons you bought it.

But there are simple ways to further reduce how much electricity each of these appliances consumes. Selecting a lower water level or temperature on your washing machine will save even more.

Some Energy Star clothes washers even boast extra energy-cutting features such as presoak and suds saver.

Up to 80% of the energy used by your dishwasher goes to heating water. An Energy Star-qualified dishwasher with a booster heater allows you to set the temperature on your home's water heater at a lower 120 degrees.

In addition, many Energy Star dishwashers offer efficiency settings, such as energy-saving and short-wash cycles that shave energy and water consumption. Most models come equipped with an air-drying option that helps lower electric bills.

While your Energy Star appliances will save money overall, taking advantage of their special energy-saving features can help save even more. ■