

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

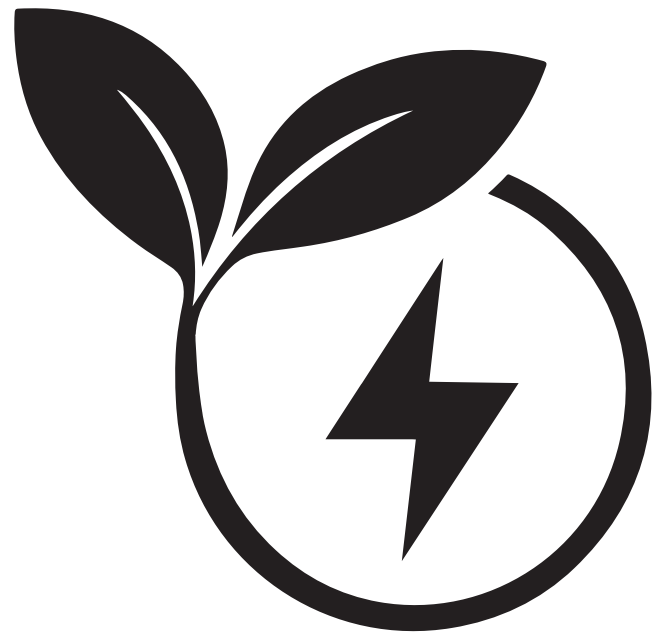
Energy Efficiency: Discover various ways to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle. Check out the tips below for some practical ideas.

In Your Home

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Use natural light by opening blinds during the day.
- Take shorter showers.
- Unplug unused appliances.
- Lower your water heater temperature.
- Replace old windows with energy-efficient ones.
- Seal around pipe penetrations.
- Check for holes behind cornices on bookshelves.
- Ensure attic access stairways are tightly sealed and weather-stripped.
- Tighten weather stripping around doors and windows.
- Remove and insulate unused whole-house fans.
- Clean and ensure the outside dryer vent door closes properly.
- Avoid overfilling your washer.
- Add solar screening to west-facing windows.
- Upgrade to energy-efficient appliances and fixtures.
- Use LED lightbulbs.
- Install energy-efficient ventilation fans.
- Hire an energy auditor for customized recommendations.

Around Your Home

- Plant shade trees to reduce cooling costs.
- Start a compost bin for rich soil additives.
- Set up a rain barrel to save water.
- Air dry clothes to cut dryer costs.
- Use landscaping to cool your home with trees, vines, shrubs, and hedges.
- Use solar panels.
- Maintain your HVAC system with regular check-ups.



Solar Power

Solar power is a great way to harness the energy of the sun to power every day items including your home. Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative (WREC) is investing in solar energy. We started our solar journey in 2009 when we installed a 3.15 kW(AC) ground mounted array with a single Sunny Boy Direct Current(DC) to Alternating Current(AC) inverter, using 18 Sun Power 175 Watt panels at the Billy E. Brown Corporate Center in Dade City. It was commissioned in October of that year. We have since expanded our solar resources with the addition of a 121.8 kW(DC) ground mounted array that uses modern EnPhase C250 micro-inverters for the DC to AC conversion, and 348 Mission Solar 350 Watt panels at our Crystal River District Office. It was commissioned on April 11, 2018.

A Photovoltaic(PV) system converts sunlight directly into DC electricity. The solar system's inverter converts the DC current from the solar panels to AC power that is used by the member's home or business.

The net meter installed on the Member's home or business measures the amount of energy the member uses, just like a standard utility meter, but it also has the capability to measure and record the amount of energy the member's solar system sends back to WREC's electrical grid. If the Member generates more energy than they use over the course of a year. WREC will purchase any excess energy at WREC's wholesale power provider, Seminole Electric Cooperative's, avoided cost.

WREC does not install or supply PV systems, but only provides an interconnection to the electric utility grid. A good resource for solar energy questions is the Florida Solar Energy Center, located in Cocoa Beach Florida (www.fsec.ucf.edu).

For Smart Shopping Tips for Solar visit [Smart Shopping Tips for Solar | Department of Energy](#).

For more resources and information regarding solar
<https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/smart-shopping-tips-solar>