

Automatic Air Filter Deliveries



We ship your exact filter sizes and quantities to your home.



Filters are delivered every 1-3 months, acting as a physical reminder to change them.



Relax and breathe clean air knowing new filters will arrive on time, every time.

Never forget to change your air filters again!



You'll Love The Benefits



Reduce Energy Use
Decrease your energy bill by 5-15%



Save Money
Prevent costly repairs to your heating & cooling system

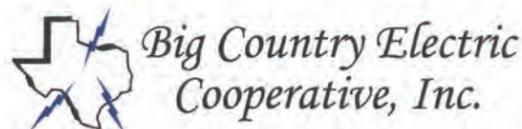


Breathe Cleaner Air
Improve your home's air quality by removing harmful toxins

Get Started!

Receive Your First Set Of Filters FREE

- Visit filtereasy.com/bigcountry
- Enter the number of filters in your home
- Select your filter sizes
- Choose a filter grade
- Provide your billing & shipping information
- Sit back & relax!



Powered by **FilterEasy**

We are excited to offer the benefits of this partnership to EVERYONE!

Visit us at www.bigcountry.coop



Big Country Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

February 2017

MEMBERGRAM

Big Country EC Announces Partnership with **FilterEasy**

You probably hear often the importance of changing air filters in your home, right? It IS very important! If we're honest, we can admit that remembering that is a challenge, and buying air filters isn't on our grocery list every month.

As your trusted energy advisor, we want to make this important step as convenient and affordable for you as possible. Big Country EC has partnered with FilterEasy, a subscription service that delivers the right air filters directly to you when it's time for them to be changed, at a cost that's less than the retail stores. The benefits of using the FilterEasy service are:

- Convenience
We deliver quality American made air filters, at a cost that's less than traditional big box retailers.
We have access to many filters (sizes, custom, etc.) most retailers do not stock.
- Improved overall health
Americans spend 90% of their time indoors, with up to 65% of that time at home.
The US EPA ranks indoor air pollutants as a top 5 environmental risk to public health.
- Reduced annual energy costs
The US Department of Energy estimates, consumers can reduce their annual energy consumption by 5-15% simply by quarterly changing their home's air filters.
- Decrease in avoidable HVAC related repairs, while extending overall system life
HVAC professionals argue the easiest and most efficient way to do this, is by routinely changing your air filters.
- Shipments act as a physical reminder to change air filters

Getting started is easy and your first shipment is FREE! Visit filtereasy.com/bigcountry or bigcountry.coop and click on the FilterEasy icon to get started. Select number and size of air filters, filter grade, payment information then you can breathe easy with FilterEasy and Big Country EC!



See back page for more information!

SAVE THE DATE - BCEC ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017
6:00 pm / ROTAN HIGH SCHOOL



Roby (325)776-2244 • Snyder (325)573-3161 • Stamford (325)773-3684



Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Call Toll Free: 1-888-662-2232

Roby: (325) 776-2244 Stamford: (325) 773-3684

Snyder (325) 573-3161

www.bigcountry.coop

Please call to report all power outages! For outage and safety tips, visit www.bigcountry.coop and click on the Outages icon.

We're mobile!

Access your BCEC account anytime, from anywhere!

www.bigcountry.coop

Click on the Smart Hub icon.

Pay your bill, request service and more!



You can also download the SmartHub app from the App Store or Google play for free!

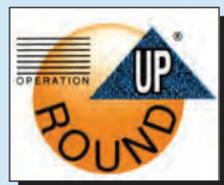


Call 811 at least 2 working days before you dig. Visit www.texas811.org for more information.

Rural Development Assistance Available Through BCEC - Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc. has a limited amount of funds available for low-interest loans to qualified applicants to stimulate rural development. Applicant does not have to be a member of Big Country Electric Cooperative. Please contact Sarah McLen at smclen@bigcountry.coop for details.

Agricultural Tax Exemptions - In order to claim an exemption from Texas sales and use taxes on electricity and other items used in agricultural and timber operations, you are required to provide us with a registration number on Texas Agriculture Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certification Form 01-924. All water wells should be exempt if used for irrigation or watering livestock. The Texas Comptroller's Office issues the registration number and those wanting to claim the exemption must fill out an application. Registration numbers must be renewed every four years. Applicants can request a paper application to mail in by calling 1-800-252-5555 or download a copy from the comptroller's website, www.getreadytexas.org. The generic exemption certificate, Form 01-339, cannot be used to claim the agricultural exemption. Accounts that do not have the new required form on file will be subject to taxation.

Commercial Tax Exemption Records - A completed and signed exemption form is required for each commercial tax exempt account. Accounts that do not have current exemptions on file will be changed to taxable accounts. Any refunds for taxes must be claimed from the State of Texas. Thank you for your help.



For complete information about our Operation Round Up program or to opt out of participation, visit our website and click on the Operation Round Up icon.



Reflecting on Operation Round Up's Success

Thanks to your participation, over \$100,000 has been raised in two years and distributed to charitable organizations and families in need in our local counties. Your small change donation each month has made an immeasurable difference in local people's lives and will continue to do so even more in years to come. And it all stays local.

The mission of Big Country Electric Cooperative Trust is the accumulation and disbursement of funds for charitable purposes in Borden, Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Throckmorton Counties. This shall be accomplished by disbursement of funds to individuals and organizations for food, shelter, clothing, health needs and education. Disbursements annually to individuals are limited to \$2,500 and \$10,000 to organizations.

Over the last two years, Operation Round Up funds have been awarded to 30 organizations and 30 families. From defibrillators and IV pumps for an ambulance to vision screening equipment for a Lions' Club to food banks, senior citizen assistance programs, day care assistance programs, school and non-profit mentoring program support to training area firefighters, Operation Round Up funds reach far and wide to improve the lives of Big Country area residents. In 2016, the following organizations were awarded funds from the Operation Round Up program:

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, Scurry Community Services – Snyder Daycare Center, Stonewall Senior Citizens Center, Garza County Trailblazers, Cornerstone Educational Endeavors, Texas Cowboy Reunion Old Timer's Association, Stamford EMS, Scurry County Museum, The S.H.O.P. – Sweetwater House of Peace, Scurry County Ministerial Alliance, Scurry County United Way, Jones County Child Protective Board, and for GED tutoring and testing services.

This program is supported by members who voluntarily "round up" their electric bill to the nearest dollar. For example, if your electric bill is \$51.22, your bill would be rounded to \$52.00 and the change – never any more than 99 cents a month – would go into the Big Country Electric Cooperative trust fund for distribution of funds to individuals and organizations for charitable purposes only in the counties we serve which are listed above. The contribution averages about \$6 per year per meter. If you contribute to Operation Round Up, your contribution appears as pictured in the example below. If you have requested to opt out of Operation Round Up, you will not see this item on your bill.

Account Number	Outdoor Light Number	Amount	Rate	Mult	Previous Reading	Present Reading	KWH Used	KWH Used 1 Year Ago	Energy Charge	TOTALS
Service Address	Days In Billing	Meter Number	Service From:	Service To:	Power Cost Adjustment	Demand Charge	Facilities Charge			
1	13.00	RESAE	1.0		92401	93565	1164	1829	116.01	\$129.01
ALL ELECTRIC & LIGHT REGULAR	30				11/01/16	12/01/16	3.94-		21.50	\$17.56
		ROUND-UP AMT								\$0.43
		POWER COST ADJ								
		TOTAL DUE THIS ACCOUNT								\$147.00
YTD ROUNDUP TOTAL		\$6.23								

Applications are evaluated quarterly and funds disbursed by the Trust's Board of Directors – your peers and neighbors, who volunteer their time, hearts and consideration to making decisions that will positively impact lives in our communities. Food needs and food banks, shelter, health needs and rescue organizations, educational projects, child care programs and other special needs are just a few of the ways your small donation can strengthen our communities. All funds are kept and administered separately from the cooperative, your contributions are tax-deductible, and applications will be handled with the utmost confidence and respect. Every penny will stay right here at home; in the counties we serve.

Thank you for committing your change to change lives!

Two Long-time Big Country EC Employees Retire

Dalvin Alexander and Cindy Lewis both retired January 10, 2017 with 43 and 15 years of service, respectively.

Dalvin began his career with co-ops in 1973 at Dickens County Electric Cooperative in Spur before coming to Midwest Electric Cooperative in 1981. He spent many years at our Snyder office before his career took him from a beginning lineman to Vice President of Operations, overseeing our entire system. He was everybody's go-to guy for answers about anything co-op related, and about life in general. Dalvin is a big guy with a big heart, and an even bigger list of shenanigans! He has plans to travel with his wife, Belinda, and to spend time with their crew of rowdy grandkids. *Photo by Sarah McLen*



Cindy came to work at Big Country Electric Cooperative in 2001 as a Bookkeeper and, throughout the years, became an expert on the complex ins and outs of co-op accounting. We're pretty sure that she won't miss tracking folks down to turn in receipts, and we may have to call her from time to time, just for grins, to say, "Cindy! I need a check!" Her hearty laugh will be missed, but we expect visits especially when she is in a baking mood! Cindy and her husband, Mike, have a cute red-headed granddaughter, Avery, who is sure to get even more of their undivided attention. *Photo by Rosa Sanchez*



Thank you to Dalvin and Cindy for your dedicated service to our members, your co-workers and friends!

At our annual Christmas party, we recognize employees and directors for their years of service to electric cooperatives. BCEC is grateful to these individuals for their dedicated work to accomplish these service milestones!



5 years

Robert Bohall, Roby
James Claxton, Roby
Brian Hinkle, Snyder
Colton Smith, Stamford
John VanMater, Snyder
Chris Estes - Director

10 years

Alfred Robles, Stamford
Steve Moore – Director

15 years

Joe Garza, Snyder
Cindy Lewis, Roby
Eddy McIlwain, Roby
Bryan Snow, Stamford

25 years

Robert Scott, Stamford

