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Tip of the Month

To keep kids safe, install outlet protectors. Many newer homes have tamper-resistant outlets built in, but additional plug-in or slide-cover options are easy to add yourself for extra protection.

What's Current

MARCH 2026

NOVEC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

Applications for NOVEC's college scholarship program are being accepted through April 1. High school seniors attending public, private, or homeschool whose families are served by NOVEC lines in Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Stafford counties and the City of Manassas Park may apply.

The Co-op has increased its awards this year. Scholarship recipients will receive \$2,000 instead of \$1,500; they

will also be automatically eligible for an additional \$5,000 — up from \$3,500 — offered through the J. Manley Garber Scholarship. Anyone who applies for a NOVEC scholarship is automatically eligible for this award, given each year to recognize the most exceptional scholarship winner.

Applicants must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and provide two letters of recommendation. They must be able to show that they have participated

in extracurricular activities that demonstrate community service, work experience, or leadership responsibilities.

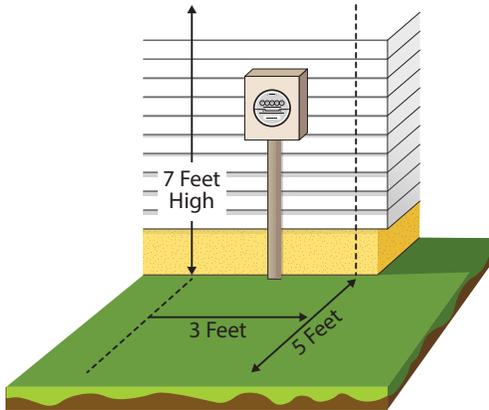
One scholarship will be available for a student planning to attend a college or university identified as one of the U.S. Department of Education's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and one will be awarded to a student attending a vocational or trade school. To apply, visit novec.com/scholarships.



CALL NOVEC BEFORE PLANNING YOUR HOME RENOVATION

If you are planning a home renovation or addition, be sure to call NOVEC early in the process to make sure any changes you are planning don't block or interfere with your electric meter. Whether you are adding or expanding a backyard deck, building a shed, or renovating a basement, any change to the area around the meter could cause a problem.

NOVEC must be able to access meters at all times. In an emergency, when a structure needs to be de-energized, NOVEC field workers need immediate access to the building's meter base.



Talking to NOVEC during the project design phase will help to avoid power interruptions, outage restoration delays, and costly redesigns, so that your project can proceed smoothly and on schedule. Call 703-754-6750 to discuss your plans with a meter expert before you begin your project.

Before you renovate, visit novec.com/callbeforeyourenovate. You'll find important information on building decks or additions, project planning guidelines and checklists, details on how to maintain meter clearance, and some examples of what not to do when planning a renovation. Here you will also find a list of permitting offices for NOVEC's service area.



HELP NOVEC PREVENT POWER OUTAGES

Report any potentially hazardous trees or bushes around power lines to NOVEC's Customer Care department at 703-335-0500.

Homeowners

Be aware of power lines when planting new trees. Refrain from planting trees in NOVEC's maintenance corridors.

Contact

NOVEC's Vegetation Management department at 703-392-1600 or vegetationmgmt@novec.com with questions before you plant.

Spring Maintenance To-Do List

Keep your home running in tiptop shape by inspecting and testing systems, and cleaning and/or replacing appliance parts regularly. Home maintenance not only saves money and energy, but improves home safety.

Spring is the time to:

- ✓ Test fire-extinguisher pressure gauges.
- ✓ Test smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries, sensors, and alarms.
- ✓ Clean sink, tub, and shower drain.
- ✓ Degrease and freshen sink disposal by grinding lemon rinds. Or, fill an ice-cube tray with water and 1 cup vinegar. Freeze. Grind frozen cubes. Clean away the black gunk under the rubber disposal guard drains.
- ✓ Clean the kitchen range hood filter.
- ✓ Clean appliances inside and out according to appliance instructions.
- ✓ Wash and rinse clothes-dryer lint screen.
- ✓ Clean or replace furnace and air-conditioner filters per the manufacturer's recommendations.
- ✓ Clean dust and debris from central air intakes.

