

# A BLUEBONNET TIMELINE

In 2024, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative celebrates 85 years of providing safe, reliable and affordable electric service to its fast-growing membership.



**May 11, 1935**

President **Franklin Roosevelt** signs executive order creating Rural Electrification Administration that backs low-cost loans for electric cooperatives, sparking a revolution in agriculture and rural communities

**March 4, 1940**

LCRA acquires power lines from Texas Power and Light Co. and sells them to **rural electric cooperatives** Lower Colorado River and Pedernales



**Sept. 6, 1940**

LCREC builds **646 miles of line**, connects 1,468 members who each pay a \$5 membership fee

*"My kitchen is modern... is yours?"*



**Oct. 1, 1956**

'Live Better Electrically' appliance sales promotion campaign kicked off by LCREC and other rural electric utilities in Central Texas



**Jan. 1, 1965**

LCREC name changed to **Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative**; the co-op reports 16,337 members in 14 counties



**2014**

Bluebonnet celebrates its **75th year** of providing electricity in Central Texas; the co-op has more than 86,000 meters



**2019**

Cooperative celebrates 80th year, reaches **100,000-meter milestone**



**Aug. 2, 1939**

**Lower Colorado River Electric Cooperative** (LCREC, later Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative) receives state charter to provide electricity to residents east of Austin in Washington, Fayette, Burleson, Austin, Colorado, Lee, Milam, Bastrop, Travis, Williamson, Caldwell, Hays, Guadalupe and Gonzales counties



**November 1940**

**New headquarters** building for LCREC opens in downtown Giddings



**June 1958**

Teenagers from the LCREC area travel to Washington, D.C. for the first **Government-in-Action Youth Tour** and meet with U.S. Senate leader Lyndon B. Johnson

**Oct. 24, 1939**

Congressman **Lyndon B. Johnson** attends LCREC Board meeting at temporary headquarters in Giddings



**January 1946**

After near standstill in new power line construction during World War II, REA approves \$250,000 loan to LCREC to construct 300 miles of rural lines

**1977**

Bluebonnet adds the first **underground residential power lines** to its system at Mesa Verde Estates in Cedar Creek



**1989**

Bluebonnet celebrates its **50th anniversary**; the co-op has 45,000 meters

**2005**

Bluebonnet opens its **call center**, where member service representatives answer questions about bills, outages and connecting service



**2007**

Bluebonnet opens new **headquarters** in Bastrop County



**2016**

Bluebonnet hosts its first **renewable energy event** to inform members about connecting solar power to their homes or businesses



**June 2024**

Now in its 85th year, the co-op has nearly **133,000 meters**, which marks an increase of more than 50% in just a decade