

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