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Gary Miller

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- Randy Trimble
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- Nick Cook
- Shawndra Curry
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- Clay Lindstrom
- Gary Massey

City of Bryan

- Kean Register, City Manager
- Katherine Tapscott, Chief Financial Officer

Important Numbers**Billing/Collections/Connects**
(979) 821-5700**Electrical Outage/Lines Down**
(979) 822-3777**Line Design**
(979) 821-5770**Social Media**

- BryanTexasUtilities
- BTU_BryanTX
- cityofbryan

Regular Board of Directors MEETING NOTES | October 14, 2024

Renewal of an Easement with the Texas A&M University System

The Board approved a renewal of an electrical easement for a ten-year term on the West Campus of Texas A&M University for BTU 138kV underground transmission infrastructure.

Four Easements with Wellborn Special Utility District

The Board approved four (4) easements on BTU property for a new water line to serve Wellborn Special Utility District customers.

PowerShare Program Update

Mr. Doug Lyles, Executive Director of Customer Operations, presented an update regarding BTU's voluntary customer assistance program, PowerShare. BTU's partner, Catholic Charities of Central Texas, administers the collected funds and has assisted 36 households as of September, 2024.

2022 Electric Utility Uncollectible Debt Write-Off

Mr. Doug Lyles presented the 2022 uncollectible debt write-off amount (to be recorded in 2024), which amounts to less than 1% of retail revenues.

Addendum to the TEC Warehouse Alliance Agreement

The Board approved an amendment to a contract with TEC Warehouse Alliance to clarify insurance liability for materials on property.

Contract for FY25 Capital Improvement Projects

The Board approved a contract with Sterling Global Industries for Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Improvement Projects.

Mutual Assistance for Hurricane Helene

Gary Miller, General Manager, reported that BTU released seven contractors to assist with recovery efforts due to damage from Hurricane Helene.



BTU KIOSKS

Pay using cash, card or check at any one of our three convenient locations by entering your account number, listed on either your bill or your reminder letter, or by scanning a keycard provided by BTU. Keycards can be requested in the BTU main office.

KIOSK LOCATIONS

- BTU Drive Thru – open 24 hours
- HEB at Texas Ave. & Hwy 21 – open 6am-12am
- HEB in the Tejas Center – open 6am-12am



2025 Government-in-Action

YOUTH TOUR

Applications are
NOW OPEN!

The When

Applications are currently being accepted through February 3, 2025.

The trip will take place June 15-22, 2025.

The Where

Students from Texas travel by chartered flight to Washington D.C. for a week of fun-filled days touring attractions and historical sites.

The Who

Three local high school students will be chosen as winners for the trip. To be eligible students must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in high school and either live in or attend school in the BTU service territory.

All applicants must apply online at: btutilities.com/youthtour

Candidates will be judged on their responses to an essay question, their extracurricular activities, and academic and civic leadership.

The Why

The idea to send students to Washington D.C. came from President Lyndon B. Johnson, a Texan who advocated for rural electrification and youth development. In 1957, when he was still a U.S. senator, Johnson suggested "sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

This notion evolved in the 1960s into a nationwide effort to send young people on organized, fun and educational trips to the nation's capital. Today, electric utilities from nearly every state send more than 1,500 youths to Washington, D.C. each June. Since 1965, more than 50,000 students have toured the capital thanks to their local utilities.

Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) is committed to powering and empowering the community we serve, and that means providing more than electricity. BTU also works to improve quality of life in the Brazos Valley, which includes investing in the area's young people.

We are working to shape tomorrow's leaders by proudly sponsoring three local high school students to attend the Government-in-Action Youth Tour.

Apply online today at btutilities.com/youthtour



Joe's

JOE'S PLACE:

A Local Favorite That Supports the Community



In the wake of Hurricane Beryl, when many homes in Bryan and surrounding areas lost power, Bryan Texas Utilities' linemen were some of the first responders, working tirelessly to restore electricity. Crews spent long hours in the Texas heat repairing damaged infrastructure. Joe's Place, a local favorite bar and restaurant in Wixon Valley, decided to give back to linemen who had given so much for the community.

Owned by siblings, Jason and Brooke Seymour, Joe's Place is more than just a restaurant; it's a beloved institution with deep roots in the community. Originally opened by the Seymour's great-grandparents as a general store on one side and a bar on the other, Joe's has grown into a destination for those in the area. Recognized by Texas Monthly in 2017 as one of the Top 50 burger joints in the state, Joe's Place is known for its mouthwatering burgers, rustic atmosphere, and seasonal crawfish boils. On October 4, 2024, Joe's Place celebrated its 84th anniversary, a testament to the support of its loyal customers.



But for Joe's, it's not just about serving great food—it's about being a part of the community. After Hurricane Beryl, the restaurant immediately saw an opportunity to give back. The brother-sister duo and their team decided to offer burger baskets to BTU linemen at a reduced rate; a gesture of thanks to those braving the elements to get the power back on.

"We've always had a soft spot for the linemen," Brooke explained. "They're out there doing dangerous and difficult work, often behind the scenes, and we wanted to make sure they knew how much we appreciate them."

Once the community heard about Joe's effort to support the linemen, the spirit of generosity took on a life of its own. Local businesses and residents quickly stepped up to ensure the meals were completely free. Thanks to JBG Plumbing, Tuck's Tavern, and others, all 43 linemen working on the storm recovery received burger baskets on the house.

"As a second-generation plumber, I understand the dedication and long hours it takes to keep things running smoothly, often without recognition. Supporting the linemen after Hurricane Beryl was our way of showing appreciation for their hard work and commitment to getting power back to the community," Bradley Gause, Director of Commercial Operations at JBG Plumbing said.

Hurricane Beryl was not the first time Joe's Place has gone out of its way to support linemen. After the brutal Winter Storm Uri in 2021, which left Texas in a deep freeze and millions without power, Joe's hosted a crawfish boil for the linemen who worked tirelessly to keep the power grid up and running. It's clear that when the going gets tough, the Seymour siblings are ready to roll up their sleeves and give back. As Tuck's Tavern Ownership suggests, the best way to support these businesses who in turn support the community is to shop, eat, and play locally.

"It was really heartwarming," Brooke said. "I've always known we have a special community, but seeing everyone come together like that—it was incredible. People just wanted to show their appreciation, and it turned into something much bigger than we imagined."

"We're all about taking care of each other here," Brooke shared. "It's just what we do."

Whether it's their famous burgers or a steaming pile of crawfish when the season's right, Joe's Place is more than just a meal—it's a slice of Texas tradition. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, and for breakfast on Sundays, there's always a good reason to stop by. But perhaps the most important thing Joe's serves is community spirit.





2025 BTU Kids Calendar

ELECTRICAL SAFETY - INDOORS AND OUT

NOW AVAILABLE!



For over 25 years, Bryan Texas Utilities has collaborated with the art instructors at 16 elementary schools in our service area to produce the annual BTU Kids Calendar Contest. The theme of the 2025 Bryan Texas Utilities Kids Calendar is **Safety Indoors and Out**. We asked kindergarten through fourth grade students who live and go to school in the BTU service area to create artwork that focuses on how we can use electricity safely while avoiding electrical hazards.

This year's response was outstanding, as art instructors at the participating schools submitted hundreds of art entries for the calendar. Our judges had a difficult time narrowing down their choices for placement in this year's calendar. BTU would like to thank and applaud all of the participating elementary art teachers and their students for the nearly overwhelming number of entries in this year's contest.

BTU would like to thank the following schools for their participation in the 2025 BTU Calendar!

Allen Academy
Bonham Elementary
Bowen Elementary
Branch Elementary
Crockett Elementary
Fannin Elementary

Henderson Elementary
Houston Elementary
Johnson Elementary
Jones Elementary
Kemp-Carver Elementary
Mitchell Elementary

Navarro Elementary
Neal Elementary
Ross Elementary
Snook Elementary

BTU Kids' Calendars are distributed to all elementary schools in the BTU service area, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis in the lobby of the BTU Administration Building, located at 205 East 28th Street in Bryan.





BTU's Partnership with KBTX and Climavision Brings Clarity to Weather in the Brazos Valley

As a municipally-owned utility, Bryan Texas Utilities' strives for community safety and reliable service. In its latest effort to further these commitments, BTU has partnered with local media station, KBTX, and Climavision, a radar services company, to bring a cutting-edge weather radar system to the region. The new radar, installed through this innovative partnership, sits atop the David G. Eller Oceanography & Meteorology Building on Texas A&M University's main campus.

The system is designed to fill critical gaps in weather data, providing more accurate and timely information for residents and local businesses. Previously, local meteorologists relied on data from radar systems located nearly 60 miles from Bryan/College Station. At that distance, monitoring equipment struggles to capture weather events at lower altitudes. The Climavision radar is equipped with advanced technology that offers detailed, real-time data on storms, rainfall, and other weather phenomena in the local area.

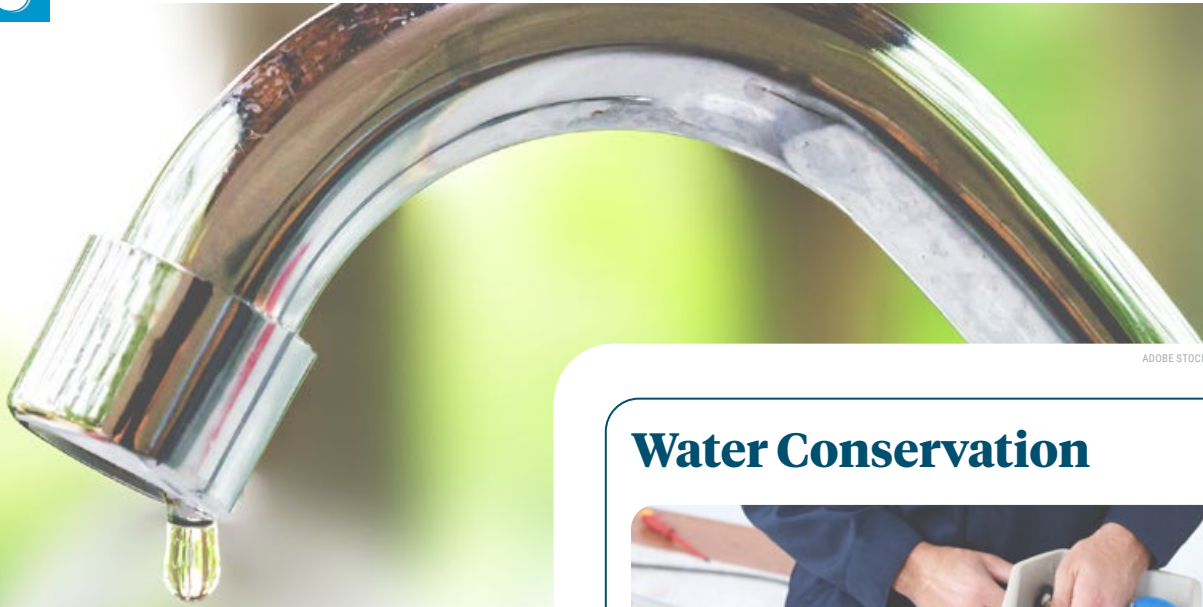
KBTX meteorologist Max Crawford has expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership and the new radar system. "This new radar is going to be a game-changer for the Brazos Valley," Crawford said. "We're filling in gaps that were previously difficult to monitor with precision, and that's crucial when it comes to severe weather events. Residents can expect faster, more accurate forecasts, and BTU's involvement means we're forecasting the weather and helping the community prepare for it."

For BTU, the enhanced data will assist with preparing for severe weather events like thunderstorms and hurricanes, allowing for quicker response times and more efficient power restoration efforts. This means greater reliability and faster service for BTU customers during critical moments.

"This radar will give us the ability to track storms with unprecedented detail," Crawford explained. "The sooner we can spot a storm cell forming, the more time people have to take shelter. It's about more than predicting the weather—it's about protecting lives."

BTU's collaboration with KBTX and Climavision is part of the utility's broader mission to improve the quality of life and provide reliable, essential services to the community. Partnering with trusted local media and a leader in weather intelligence ensures that residents have access to cutting-edge tools to stay informed and safe.

BTU's investment in this project underscores its commitment to keeping the community prepared and resilient, while continuing to provide reliable service. The new radar is a testament to the power of local public/private partnerships, demonstrating how collaboration can drive improvements for the greater good of Bryan-College Station.



ADOBE STOCK ©

Conserve Water and Protect Your Home This Season

It's time to prepare for winter while also keeping an eye on your water usage. By conserving water now and preparing your home for colder weather, you can save money, reduce water waste, and help keep your water systems in good shape all season long. Here are some simple but effective tips:



ADOBE STOCK ©

Water Conservation



ADOBE STOCK ©

- **Fix leaks:**
Check faucets, toilets, and pipes for any leaks and repair them as soon as possible. Even small leaks can add up.
- **Shorten showers:**
Cutting your shower time by just a couple of minutes can save gallons of water.
- **Turn off the tap:**
Don't leave the water running while brushing your teeth or washing dishes. If you use a water hose outside, make sure it has a shut off nozzle.
- **Use appliances efficiently:**
Only run full loads of laundry and dishes to maximize water use.
- **Monitor usage:**
Track hourly water usage through your btutilities.com account. Be aware of unusual spikes.
- **Reduce refills:**
Cover pools and spas to reduce the need to refill.



Lawn Irrigation

- **Sign up for weekly Brazos Valley WaterSmart emails:**

This free program provides customized watering recommendations based on data from weather stations and rain gauges throughout our area.

Visit bvwatersmart.tamu.edu to learn more.

- **Reduce evaporation:**

Water early in the morning or later in the evening to avoid water loss due to evaporation during the heat of the day.



- **Check the system:**

Regularly inspect your irrigation system for leaks and broken heads, and make sure you're not watering concrete.

- **Prevent runoff:**

Use low-output sprinkler heads, bubblers, and drip irrigation to reduce runoff. Practice the cycle and soak method by watering in shorter intervals to allow the soil to absorb water more effectively.

Freeze Preparedness

Winter freezes can lead to broken pipes, causing water loss and costly repairs.

- **Wrap exposed pipes:**

Use foam pipe insulation, heat tape, or other insulating materials to cover exposed outdoor pipes, including those in attics, crawl spaces, or garages.

- **Cover outdoor faucets:**

Install faucet covers or use foam insulation to protect exterior faucets from freezing.

- **Disconnect outdoor hoses:**

Remove and store garden hoses before the first freeze to prevent damage to your faucet and pipes.

- **Drip, don't run:**

Only drip faucets in areas where pipes are more exposed to freezing, like those along exterior walls or in unheated garages or attics. Turn the faucet on just enough for water to drip once every few seconds, not a stream. For single-handle faucets, leave it in the "warm" position to keep both hot and cold water flowing. For two-handle faucets, open both sides slightly.

- **Capture the drip:**

Place a container under the dripping faucet to save water for other purposes.

- **Locate your water shutoff valve:**

Know where your shutoff valve is in case a pipe bursts, so you can quickly stop the water flow.

- **Inspect for leaks promptly:**

After a freeze, check for leaks both indoors and outdoors. A quick repair can prevent further water loss and damage.

If you ever have any questions about City of Bryan's Water Services, call 979-209-5900.