

VVEC LINE LIFE

JULY 2025 | PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | WWW.VVEC.COM

POWERING THROUGH THE STORM

Crews restore service after Memorial Day Weekend outages



BLOOMS & BRIGHT SMILES



Sometimes the brightest light doesn't come from a power line - it comes from a kind gesture.

VVEC employees delivered some sunshine in the form of new hats and fresh flowers to the residents of North County Nursing and Rehabilitation in Collinsville.



The visit was part of VVEC's ongoing commitment to community outreach and connection - values at the very heart of what it means to be a cooperative.

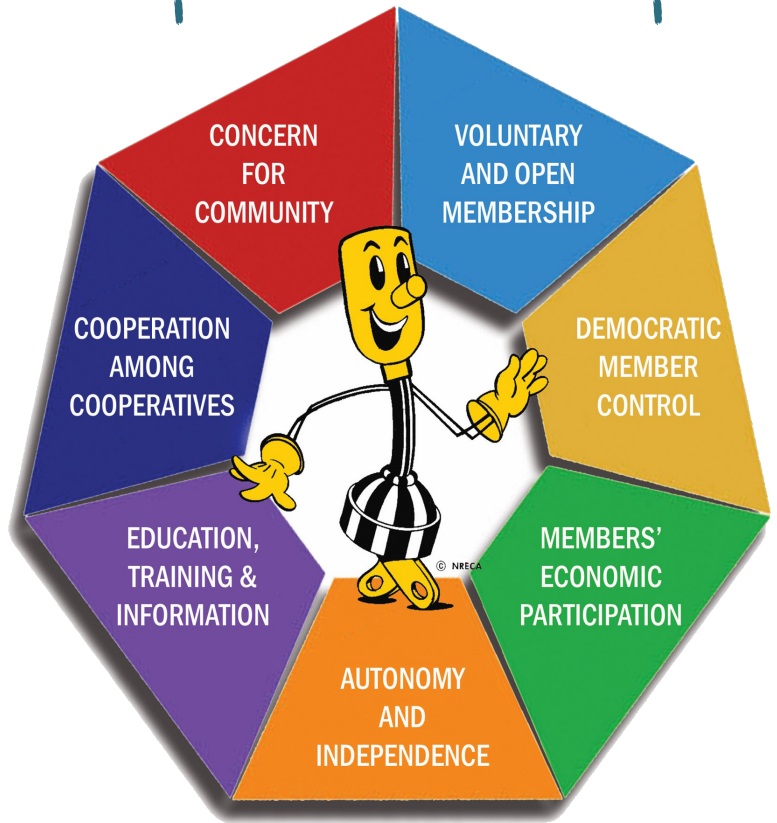
This kind of outreach goes beyond electricity. It's about lighting up lives in other ways -- showing care, building relationships and reminding people they matter.

VVEC plans to continue outreach events like this throughout the year, bringing small acts of kindness to schools, veterans, seniors, and others in need of a little extra light!

We wanted to do something meaningful. Sometimes the smallest gestures leave the biggest impact and we're just getting started.



Cooperative Principles



Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative is proud to partner with "Dolly Parton's Imagination Library" to help ensure the young children in our communities have access to books!

How it works:

- Enroll your child (ages 0-5) online at <http://imaginationlibrary.com/>
- In 8-12 weeks, your child will receive their first book in the mail, "The Little Engine That Could".
- Books arrive in the mail monthly until your child's 5th birthday



For more information, scan the QR code or visit <https://www.vvec.com/dolly-partons-imagination-library>.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

AMANDA WOODSTOCK



Since joining the co-op a year and a half ago, Amanda Woodstock has quickly become a valued asset to the VVEC family as an Office Services representative.

"I truly love the family atmosphere here," Amanda says. "It's rare to look forward to coming to work, but I do. We take care of each other and I feel blessed to be a part of it."

When she's not helping serve our members, Amanda is busy living life to the fullest! Whether she's skydiving, scuba diving, snorkeling or cuddling up with tigers, bears, wolves - or even gators - Amanda's always up for a wild adventure!

She's also a proud red dirt country fan who never misses a good concert and treasures time spent with her family and friends. A self-proclaimed daddy's girl, Amanda's heart belongs to her daughter, Michala, and is looking forward to her upcoming cruise!

Congrats on a job very well done, Amanda!

"Take the trip!"



July Mystery Picture! Do you know where this is? Be the first to correctly guess the location during the month of July and receive a \$50 bill credit! Call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 to submit your guess!

June's Mystery Location:
Red Barn off Road 4230 and 460 in Claremore

Tree crews are working to clear right-of-way on the Elm, Vera, and Ramona substations.

Brush Coordinator:
Chub Brewer
918-586-6208



IS YOUR
ACCOUNT
NUMBER
1721201005?

If so, call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 during the month of July and claim your \$50 bill credit!
CONGRATS!



Our offices will be closed on
FRIDAY, JULY 4TH, 2025
in observance of Independence Day.

We will re-open on
Monday, July 7th, 2025 at 7:30 AM.

POWERING THROUGH THE STORM

Crews restore service after Memorial Day Weekend outages

While many spent Memorial Day weekend with family and friends, honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country, Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative linemen and staff spent the holiday in the field - working around the clock to restore power after severe storms swept across our service territory.

High winds, heavy rain and lightning cause widespread outages Saturday through Monday, knocking down trees, snapping poles and damaging power lines across multiple counties. At the peak, nearly 12,000 were without service.

VVEC is always prepared for severe weather but when storms strike during a holiday weekend, it magnifies the unwavering dedication of the cooperative's employees. The response of the Memorial Day weekend storms was a clear reflection of that commitment. Men and women selflessly left their families to restore power for members, acting without hesitation and embodying the true spirit of service.



Crews were dispatched and damages were assessed, prioritizing repairs to critical infrastructure. Alongside mutual aid from Indian Electric Cooperative, Oklahoma Electric Cooperative and Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative as well as contract crews from Fusion Power, VVEC worked throughout the weekend to restore service as quickly and safely as possible.

Restoration isn't just about turning the lights back on - it's about safety, coordination, and constant communication. VVEC follows a strategic process: restoring substations and main feeder lines first, then working out to individual service lines.

Throughout the storm response, members showed an outpouring of support and patience. Social media was flooded with encouraging comments and many brought water and words of thanks to our crews in the field. The community's appreciation means the world to our team and reminds us why we do what we do.

This storm served as a reminder of the unpredictable nature of Oklahoma weather and the critical importance of being prepared. We encourage all members to have an emergency kit, sign up for outage alerts and keep contact information updated.

While we hope our services are never needed on a holiday, if the need arises, our team will be there - because that's the cooperative way.

To update your account information, please call 918-371-2584 and speak to an Office Services representative.





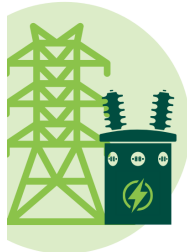
ONCE THE POWER IS OUT HOW IS IT SAFELY RESTORED?

When conditions are favorable for a storm, severe weather can take down power lines or disrupt your electric service in several ways.

It can happen when wind causes trees or branches to fall into power lines or when ice buildup on wires causes the lines to sway and "gallop." When lightning strikes, transformers and other electric equipment can be affected.

Slick road conditions can also play a role when vehicles strike a power pole or pad-mounted transformer and cause a disruption in service.

Please know that when the power does go out, we are doing all we can to safely and efficiently restore power. Here are the steps we take in the assessment and restoration process:



STEP 1: ASSESS THE DAMAGE

We assess the damage to utility equipment and power lines across the service area



STEP 2: ADDRESS SAFETY RISKS

We address immediate safety risks, including downed power lines



STEP 3: RESTORE ESSENTIAL SERVICES

We ensure that public health and safety facilities are operational

STEP 4: PRIORITIZE REPAIRS

We repair (usually in this order): transmission towers and lines, substations, distribution lines, and then service lines to properties



If you see a downed power line, always assume it is live and deadly.

Learn more at: [SafeElectricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)



BLEND UP *Summer* REFRESHMENT

On a hot summer day, there's nothing more satisfying than sipping a cold, tropical smoothie. But before you plug in your blender and start whipping up that fruity refreshment, it's important to keep electrical safety in mind — especially in the kitchen where water and appliances mix.

Here are some easy but essential electrical safety tips to help you enjoy your summer smoothie safely:

SAFE BLENDING TIPS FOR YOUR KITCHEN

Dry hands before plugging in: Wet hands and electricity don't mix. Always make sure your hands are completely dry before plugging in or operating your blender.

Skip the power strip: Plug high-wattage appliances like blenders directly into wall outlets to avoid overheating or tripping your power strip.

Check for GFCI outlets: Outlets near sinks or water sources should be equipped with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) protection to help prevent electrical shock.

Inspect your cords: If your blender has a frayed, cracked or damaged cord or plug, it's time for a replacement. Using damaged appliances is a major safety risk.

Avoid overfilling: Don't fill your blender to the top. Overflowing ingredients can cause spills that may reach electrical parts and pose hazards.

Unplug before cleaning: Always unplug the blender before trying to remove stuck ingredients or before cleaning. It's a simple step that prevents unexpected starts or shocks.

Keep the base dry: Never submerge the blender base in water. Use a damp cloth to wipe it clean instead.

Whether you're blending up a quick breakfast or a poolside treat, following a few simple electrical safety tips can help prevent accidents and keep your summer safe and sweet.

Tropical Summer Smoothie Recipe

Once your blending setup is safe, it's time to treat yourself! Try this tropical smoothie recipe— it's quick, easy and perfect for hot summer days.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup frozen mango
- 1 banana
- ½ cup coconut water
- ½ cup Greek yogurt
- ½ cup pineapple chunks
- Ice as needed

DIRECTIONS:

- Add mango, banana, coconut water, yogurt, and pineapple to the blender.
- Blend until smooth.
- Add ice and blend again to your desired consistency.
- Pour into glasses and enjoy!

Makes 2 servings.

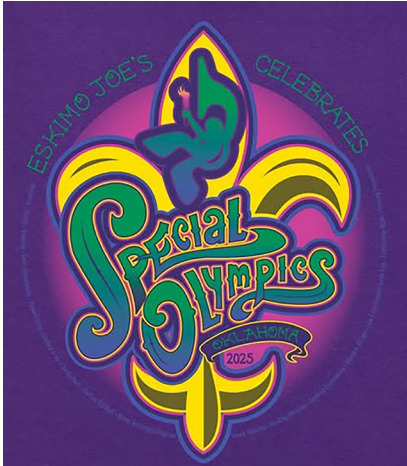


Enjoy!

**Special
Olympics**
Oklahoma



KEEP THE GOOD TIMES ROLLIN'!




The Special Olympics of Oklahoma were held in Stillwater from May 14 - 16, 2025 and VVEC was proud to be among the amazing volunteers from cooperatives across our great state!

It was a week full of fun, excitement and life changing moments that's already got us geared up for next year! Let's keep the good times rollin'!



**Oklahoma Association
of Electric Cooperatives**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partners 



Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.®
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General Manager: Alice Lawson

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Statement of Non-Discrimination

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You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Director: Office of Adjudication
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
Fax: 202-690-7442
Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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CLASSIFIEDS

SUBMIT ADS to classified@vvec.com or send to ATTN: Classified, P.O. Box 219 Collinsville, OK 74021. Ads must be in writing. Your account number, name, address and a phone number is required on all ads. The deadline for all ads is the 1st of the month. Ads submitted by the 1st of the month will run in the following month's newsletter. *Classified ads are a free service to VVEC members only. As many ads as space allows will be included in each issue. VVEC reserves the right to delete or shorten items or descriptions.*

- Professional, personalized dog grooming at your home. Small dogs only. Most dogs only \$40.00. Over 40 years experience. 918-381-1170

- Handyman service to repair and remodel; affordable plumbing and electric. Call or text for free estimate; references available. 918-231-6385

- EKOL Viper 2.5" blank revolver \$75; 918-637-0888

- New England Firearms blank starter .22 model B22 \$75. 918-637-0888

- Marlin 336RC .30 cal lever action with sling \$700. 918-497-6989

- Large prehistoric Native American artifact collection; personal Oklahoma finds. Call or text 918-344-6374

- Portable Mini-cabinet Ultra Violet Gemstone fluorescence detector with field case. \$300. Call or text 918-344-6374

**Dream More,
Learn More,
Care More,
Be More™**



IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

- First, check your fuses or circuit breakers. Every service is different. You may have fuses or circuit breakers in your house, on the side of your house, under your meter, or all three places. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity.

- Then, call the co-op at 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948. Have your account number, name as it appears on the account, and address handy to give to the dispatcher. If you should get a recording, leave your information; every message will be answered.

- Download the SmartHub app at www.smarthubapp.com to report outages from your smartphone.

SUMMER RESIDENTIAL RATES

April through September usage;
May through October billing

Customer Charge | \$40.00

**Energy Charge | 1st 2000 kWh | \$.08279/kWh
| over 2000 kWh | \$.08789/kWh**

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 62.088 mills per kWh.

In addition, a gross receipts tax of 2% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes, if applicable.

