



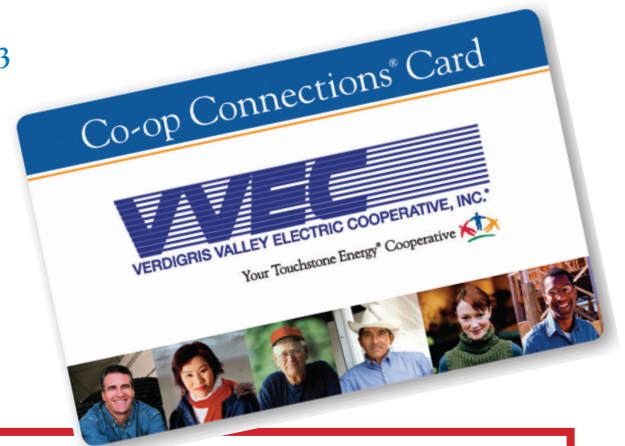
# POWER CIRCUIT

Visit us on the Internet at: [www.vvec.com](http://www.vvec.com)  
DECEMBER 2014

Published for the members of Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative  
A Supplement to Oklahoma Living.

*Agencies Offering Assistance with Electric Bills p. 3*


## Make the Holidays Easier with Your Co-op Connections® Card



It's the most festive time of the year! But it can easily be the most hectic also. By using your Co-op Connections® Card, you can save money and time, and make your holidays less stressful.

The Co-op Connections Card program is a free membership discount card available to members of participating electric cooperatives across the country. The card provides VVEC members with discounts and special offers on products and services at local and national businesses, and online.

Participating businesses determine the discounts and specials they offer, and those can change throughout the year. So it is a good idea to visit our Web site - [www.vvec.com](http://www.vvec.com) - to learn what discounts are available. Select Co-op Connections Card under the Community Programs heading.

Close to 70 area businesses are currently participating in the Co-op Connections Card program. The card is accepted at locations across the country, so take it with you if you are traveling this holiday season. 

Visit these area businesses for your Holiday gifts:

**Callie's Cache**, Collinsville, 10% off

**Cheryl's Digital Keepsakes**, Bartlesville, 2 free copies - any complete project

**Dorothy's Flowers**, Claremore, 10% off local delivery orders & in-store purchases (Not good with other coupons or offers)

**Ewing's Fine Jewelry**, Owasso, 20% off jewelry repair

**Flowerland**, Bartlesville, 5% off any order \$20 or more (Excludes wire service orders)

**The Men's Shop**, Claremore, 20% off in-stock merchandise at regular price

**Trummel Drug & Gifts**, Oologah, 10% off gifts (gift dept. only)

**Waterfront Frame & Art**, Claremore, 10% off custom framing

**Windel's Rock & Jewelry**, Bartlesville, 15% off regularly-priced merchandise (excludes coins & class rings)

Have family coming for Christmas? Check out these deals:

**Andersonville Cottage Bed & Breakfast**, Claremore, Get 1 night free with the purchase of 1 night (plus tax)

**Quality Inn**, Bartlesville, \$62.99 per night (single or double)

Make sure your cards and gifts arrive in time!

**Mail This, Copy That!**, Owasso, 10% off any order (Excludes USPS)

*Businesses not currently participating in the program can learn about its benefits by calling VVEC at 918-371-2584, and asking for Misti Frazier.*



**VVEC Board of Trustees**

- District 1 - **Jim Brackett, 720-4531**
- District 2 - **Jack Bogart, 371-9587**
- District 3 - **Vernon Lewis, 341-5225**
- District 4 - **John Hibdon, 847-2320**
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- District 6 - **Dennis Lenox, 289-5961**
- District 7 - **Charles Huerter, 333-3107**
- District 8 - **Ken Howard, 724-9965**
- District 9 - **Buddy McCarty, 272-5134 or 272-5364**

**General Manager** - Alice Houston

**VVEC Headquarters**

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**Mailing address**

P.O. Box 219, Collinsville, OK 74021

**Phone number**

(918) 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948

**Office hours**

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,  
Monday through Friday

**Editor** - Kay Rabbitt-Brower

**VVEC offices will close at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 24, and be closed Dec. 25 and 26 for Christmas, and Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. Please call 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948 to report an outage.**

**Winter Residential Rates**

October through March usage,  
November through April billing

Customer Charge                    \$25.00

**Energy Charge**

1st 1,000 kWh                    \$0.0738/kWh

Over 1,000 kWh                    \$0.0678/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 55.993 mills per kWh.

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

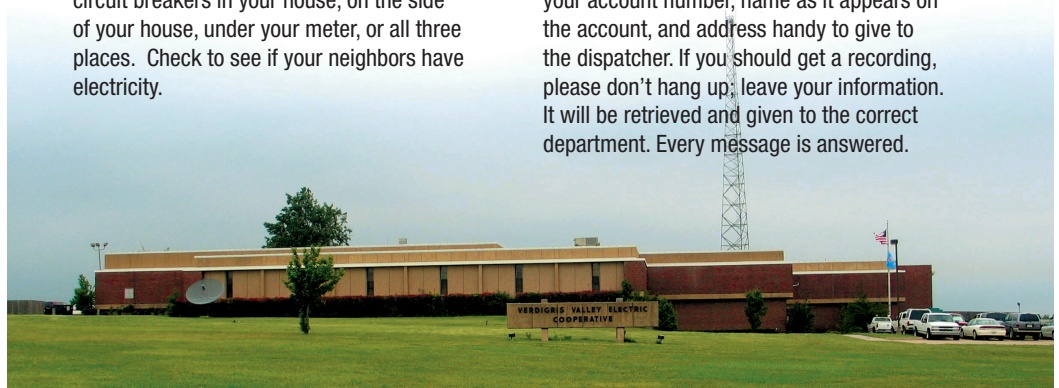


VVEC Trustee John Hibdon (left) congratulates members Gail and Sonny Rose, rural Owasso, for winning the grand prize at VVEC's 76th Annual Meeting. The prize – a \$500 electric bill credit – was award-

ed at the conclusion of the meeting, which was held Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Robson Performing Arts Center on the campus of Claremore High School.

**What to do if Your Power Goes Off**

1. 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.
2. Call the Co-op at 371-2584, or 1-800-870-5948 if the call is long distance for you. 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, please don't hang up; leave your information. It will be retrieved and given to the correct department. Every message is answered.



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# Paying Bill Promptly Prevents Interruptions in Electric Service

Interrupting electric service for non-payment is a job we don't like. It has never been our intention to disconnect service in this manner, but to be fair to those members who pay their bills, and to keep down bad debt, we must adhere to established policies for non-payment.

We make an extra effort to work with members so disconnecting service isn't necessary, but sometimes members fail to respond to the disconnect notice on their bills, or don't contact us to make payment arrangements.

When you realize you may have difficulty paying your electric bill, please contact our consumer service representatives as soon as possible. We can possibly work with you to make payment arrangements. If you abide by the terms of those arrangements, then your electric service will not be disconnected.

There are government agencies, and charitable and religious organizations who offer energy assistance; some of them are listed here. Although the assistance is certainly helpful, it rarely pays the entire amount a member owes. In that case, members need to call us so we can help bring the account up to date.

If a life-threatening situation exists in your home, you need to provide us a certificate completed by a licensed medical doctor or osteopathic doctor, indicating the nature of the life-threatening situation. Although the certificate can remain on file as long as it applies to your situation, it can only be used to suspend service disconnection for 30 days.

The co-op is not required to furnish service beyond a total of 30 days for a life-threatening condition, without full payment of the account or acceptable payment arrangements on

any unpaid balance.

The only way we can know about a health situation is if members notify us in advance of being disconnected.

Elderly and/or consumers with disabilities have the option of having either condition noted on their account. Any consumer requesting such notation needs to notify us in writing. Consumers who qualify are those who have a permanent impairment which substantially limits the disabled consumer's ability to pay for utility service, or are 65 years old or older.


Before we schedule your service to be disconnected, we provide a cut-off notice on your electric bill, and an automated phone call advising you the delinquent bill needs to be paid

within 24 hours.

You can avoid additional charges by paying your bill on time, or adhering to payment arrangements.

**Meters disconnected by a lineman for non-payment will not be reset on weekends, holidays, or after 7 p.m. on weekdays.**

**If a lineman is sent to disconnect your service, he can accept payment at that time to prevent the interruption.**

**Please note there is a \$50 collection fee, and a \$50 fee to reconnect service, for a total of \$100. The total fee increases to \$150 if service is restored after 3 p.m. **

**You can pay your bill at the PaySite™ kiosks, or by calling 918-371-2584, option 4, or visiting [www.wvec.com](http://www.wvec.com).**

*Your account number is required when using these methods to pay your bill.*

## Agencies Offering Assistance with Electric Bills

SEAC	Avant, Sperry, Skiatook	396-4108
Community Action	Nowata County	273-2868
DHS	Nowata County	273-2327
DHS	Osage County	287-5800
DHS	Rogers County	283-8300
Community Action	Rogers County	341-5000
DHS	Tulsa County	581-2401
		581-2689
Helping Hand	Tulsa County	584-6923
Salvation Army	Tulsa County	582-7201
Owasso Comm. Res.	Tulsa/Rogers Counties	272-4969
Community Action	Washington County	333-8115
Concern	Washington County	336-4693
DHS	Washington County	338-5700



System Mapping Technician Gary Yarbrough points to a grid experiencing an outage to Dispatcher Jan White. The new map provides both street-level and aerial views of VVEC’s service territory.

# New Outage Map is More User-Friendly

The new outage map on VVEC’s Web site - [www.vvec.com](http://www.vvec.com) - makes it easier for members to monitor outages in their area.

The map is updated every 10 minutes, and members have the choice of viewing a particular area at a street-level view or an aerial view.

Colored blocks indicate the number of meters without electric service in any three-mile by three-mile grid on the map. There is a legend to explain the number of outages represented by each color.

“The map now has a better look and is more user-friendly,” says VVEC System Mapping Technician Gary Yarbrough. “It is easy to find, too. Members just need to click on the green outage map button at the top of our Web site’s home page.” 

## *Come See Us at the Farm Show!*

Stop by the Green Country Electric Co-ops booth at the 2014 Tulsa Farm Show! Oklahoma’s premier agricultural and ranching event is at the River Spirit Expo Center Thursday, Dec. 11 through Saturday, Dec. 13.

VVEC Member Services Representative Chub Brewer will be there from 1 to 5 pm. Friday, Dec. 12.



### RECIPE

## Eggnog French Toast

- 2 eggs, beaten slightly**
- 1 & 1/2 cups eggnog**
- 1 & 1/2 Tbsp. ground cinnamon**
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice**
- 12 slices French bread**

Whisk the eggs, eggnog, cinnamon, and pumpkin pie spice together in a mixing bowl until well blended. Pour the mixture into a shallow dish.

Preheat an electric skillet to 300-degrees. Lightly grease the skillet.

Dip one slice of bread at a time into the eggnog mixture, being sure to coat each side of the bread thoroughly.

Place the prepared bread slices onto the pre-heated skillet, and cook, turning once, until golden brown on each side. Place cooked slices on a serving plate and cover with foil to keep warm until all French toast is cooked.

Serve immediately.