

## Thank a lineman this month!

National Lineman Appreciation Day is April 9th

Every April, we take time to thank our extraordinary linemen who dedicate their lives to keeping the lights on in our local communities. Verdigris Valley linemen maintain more than 4,700 miles of line in VVEC's service territory, and without them, our world would be dark.

We depend on our entire staff to keep VVEC running smoothly, but on April 9th, National Lineman Appreciation Day, we honor all linemen who often find themselves in dangerous and challenging situations, so our lives may be a little bit brighter and safer every day. These brave men and women repair damaged lines and maintain critical infrastructure for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time—day or night, weekday or weekend—if the lights go out, so do they.

Perhaps you have seen them raising their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains, or in freezing, icy conditions. They work around the clock near high-voltage power lines until electricity is restored to every member in our co-op community.

In addition to aiding members in our local service territory, linemen are always willing and eager to vol-



VVEC maintenance and construction linemen ensure our local communities have power. Top left: VVEC construction linemen; top right: VVEC maintenance linemen; bottom: VVEC construction and maintenance linemen. Photos by Randy Riddle

“ No matter the **time**—day or night, weekday or weekend—if the **lights** go out, **so do they.** ”

unteer when a neighboring community, county or state is in need after a major outage occurs.

Our linemen are brave, committed and critical to our success. We hope you will join us in thanking the many linemen—both lo-

cally and around the world—that light our lives. Remember, your power works because they do! Use #ThankALineman on social media to show your support.

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**VVEC Headquarters**

8901 E. 146th Street N., Collinsville

**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., Mon.-Fri.

**Editor**

Laura Araujo

**Winter Residential Rates**

October through March usage,  
November through April billing

**Customer Charge** | \$30.00

**Energy Charge** | \$.07772/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 59.87 mills per kWh.

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

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

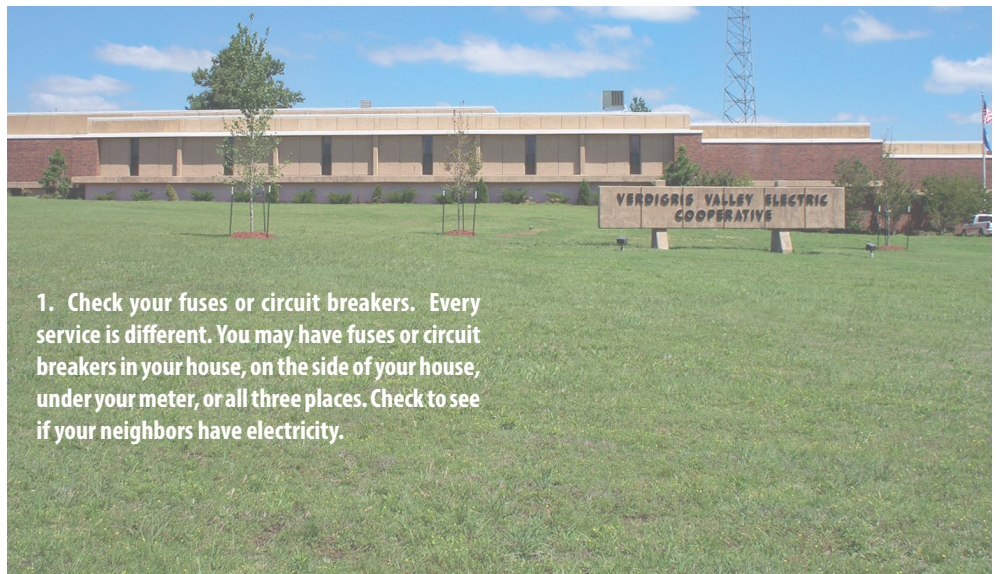
Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight for maximum energy efficiency. Test the seal by closing the door over a piece of paper (so that it's half in and half out). If you can easily pull the piece of paper out, your seal may need to be replaced or the latch may need to be adjusted.

*Source: energy.gov*



Follow Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative on Facebook for outage updates

## 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.**

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## Spring savings with your Co-op Connections Card

### Hit the road!

If you need a place to board your pets on your next family vacation, consider Gracieland Hound Dog Hotel in Collinsville.

"I personally have used Gracieland twice for my three dogs, and I have been very pleased with their services!" says VVEC Member Services Representative Misti Frazier.

Show your Co-op Connections Card for a \$2.00 per night discount.

**Address:**

6210 E. 156th St. N.  
Collinsville, OK 74021

**Phone:**

918-852-0789

**Website:**

[www.gracielanddogboarding.com](http://www.gracielanddogboarding.com)

### Plant a garden!

Evans Nursery in Bartlesville offers a 10 percent discount to Co-op Connections Card holders. Offer valid on all purchases but may not be used with other discounts and does not include labor.

**Address:**

111 Beck Dr.  
Bartlesville, OK 74006

**Phone:**

918-333-3248

**Website:**

[www.evansnurseryok.com](http://www.evansnurseryok.com)

As warmer weather sets in, there are a number of discounts you may want take advantage of by using your Co-op Connections Card at participating area merchants. Need some plants for your garden or someone to help you with home renovations? There may be a discount for that! Visit [www.vvec.com](http://www.vvec.com) or [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop) for a full list of businesses. A few of the merchants are listed here.

Advantage Eye Care of Skiatook: 20 percent off. 918-396-4440; [www.aecofskiatook.com](http://www.aecofskiatook.com).

Bartlesville Tree Service: 10 percent off. 918-440-9198; [www.bartlesvilletreeservice.com](http://www.bartlesvilletreeservice.com).

C & A Roofing & Construction, LLC in Claremore: 10 percent off. 918-637-6634; [www.carooftingconstruction.com](http://www.carooftingconstruction.com)

Cheri's Daylight Donuts, LLC in Collinsville: 15 percent off total. 918-371-9355.

Cowboy Charm Café in Nowata: free Drink with meal purchase. 918-559-5048.

Dorothy's Flowers in Claremore: 10 percent off in-store purchase; excludes antiques. 918-341-0692; [www.dorothysfloweronline.com](http://www.dorothysfloweronline.com).

Ewing's Jewelry in Owasso: 25 percent off. 918-272-7975.

Flying Feather Guide Service, LLC in Copan: 10 percent off total cost of hunt. 918-440-2332; [www.okflyingfeather.com](http://www.okflyingfeather.com).

Harmony Star Marble in Claremore: free upgrade edge or free stainless kitchen sink with full kitchen countertop purchase. 918-695-6840; [www.harmonystarmarble.net](http://www.harmonystarmarble.net).

Kids Academy, LLC in Collinsville:

\$50 off enrollment fee. 918-371-2229; [www.kidsacademycollinsville.com](http://www.kidsacademycollinsville.com).

Medlock Firearms, LLC in Collinsville: \$5 off regular range fee per person/per visit. 918-371-3791; [www.medlockgunrange.com](http://www.medlockgunrange.com).

Owasso Nutrition Plus: 10 percent off any purchase of supplement products. 918-376-2828; [www.fitforherowasso.com](http://www.fitforherowasso.com).

Red Barn Quilting in Barnsdall: 10 percent off merchandise in store (excluding jewelry & machines). 918-847-2544; [www.brendasredbarn.com](http://www.brendasredbarn.com).

The Mens Shop in Claremore: 20 percent off all regular priced merchandise. 918-341-6433.

The Rock Fitness in Collinsville: 20 percent off memberships and 35 percent off personal training. 918-371-6555.

### Connecting you with discounts!



For a full list of discounts available with your Co-op Connections Card, visit [www.vvec.com/content/local-co-op-connections](http://www.vvec.com/content/local-co-op-connections)

## Grant Deadlines Approach

Adopt-A-School and Rural Fire Department grant applications are due Friday, April 27, 2018, by 4 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.vvec.com/content/community-programs](http://www.vvec.com/content/community-programs) or contact Misti Frazier at 918-371-2584 or at [mfrazier@vvec.com](mailto:mfrazier@vvec.com).



## RECIPE

### Slow-Cooked Maple Ham

Serves 10

- 20 ounces pineapple chunks
- 8 pounds smoked ham butt
- 1 cup pure maple syrup
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper

Pour pineapple into large slow cooker. Place ham on top of pineapple, flat-side down.

In small bowl, combine syrup, brown sugar, cinnamon, Dijon mustard and pepper. Pour over ham.

Set slow cooker to low. Cook 4-5 hours.

Remove ham; keep warm. Skim fat off top of remaining liquid in slow cooker.

Pour liquid into small saucepan



Slow-Cooked Maple Ham. Recipe and photo courtesy of Aldi

and bring to boil. Reduce heat to simmer; cook until reduced to desired consistency.

Serve sauce on side or heat oven

to broil and glaze ham. Broil 3-4 minutes for caramelized crust.