

Supporting the Community

Grants Awarded for Adopt-A-School & Rural Fire Department Programs

As a concerned partner in the development of the local community, VVEC's primary objective is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members. VVEC proudly demonstrates our commitment to the communities we serve through our sponsoring of Adopt-A School and Rural Fire Department grant programs. Each year, area fire departments and school systems submit an application for equipment and supplies. The grants are used to improve the classroom experience for students and to help protect residents' lives and property from fire damage. This year 8 recipients were selected for the Adopt-A-School: Barnsdall Elementary, Caney Valley Middle School, Catalayah Elementary,

Claremore High School, Collinsville Janice K Pollard Early Center, Oklahoma Union Elementary, Prue Public Schools, Sequoyah Lower Elementary. There were also 10 recipients for the Rural Fire Department grant program: Boulanger Rural Fire Department, Collinsville Rural Fire Department, Delaware Volunteer Fire Department, Lenapah Fire Department, Ochelata Volunteer Fire, Oglesby C.D. Volunteer F.D., Osage Hills Rural Firefighters Assoc., Owen's and Company Fire Dept., Pershing Volunteer Fire Department, Sperry Fire Department. Congratulations to all recipients, VVEC appreciates your work in our communities!





Supporting the Community Continued...

VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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or 272-5364

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Coop Principle

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Concern for Community

"Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies supported by the membership"



Beat the Peak:

Strategic power use leads to summer energy savings

By Derrill Holly



As warmer weather sets in, our thoughts on keeping the house comfortable switch from heating to cooling. But as temperatures rise and air conditioners are switched on, looking for ways to improve energy efficiency at home can help you and Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative reduce demand, saving energy and money.

Making small adjustments in when, where and how you use electricity won't only help control your energy costs, but it can also help keep temperatures in your home more pleasant on sultry days.

Housework Hiatus

Avoiding peak energy costs is a good reason to put some chores on hold, at least until power demand dips. Consider some of the jobs one kilowatt hour (kwh) of electricity can do before you use it:

- Wash three loads of laundry
- Complete one dryer cycle
- Vacuum rugs in two average homes
- Iron five shirts
- Run three cycles in a loaded dishwasher

All of these activities can be done outside of peak demand periods, also known as peak hours.

Love 78

Your heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system or heat pump can play a huge part in controlling your energy use year-round, even if family comfort is a top priority.

At 78 degrees, most people are comfortable outside, so why not indoors? Most people aren't sensitive enough to notice much of a difference in the air temperature whether the thermostat is set at 73 or raised to 78. But the closer your air conditioner or heat pump setting is to the outdoor temperature, the less your unit will run.

Each degree of temperature difference represents a percentage of the total cooling load. That means that when temperatures are in the high 80s, you could reduce your cooling demand by 10 to 15 percent for each degree above 75 degrees.

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Change Habits to BEAT THE PEAK

You can beat the peak (and save money!) by decreasing your power use when energy demand and prices are at their highest. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

Laundry for Less:

Full loads mean fewer cycles, and washers and dryers run in the late evenings add less heat and humidity to the home.



Cool Off/Calm Down:

Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat, resist the urge to turn down the thermostat and remember, lower fan settings use less energy.

Intramural Competition: Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display, gaming console and internet connection gets pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.



Countertop Convenience:

Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, Crock-Pot® and toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

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Fans offer an economical alternative to air conditioning on mild days and they can pitch in for comfort as temperatures climb. The key is evaporative cooling. At lower settings, a little air blowing across a room helps bring down humidity levels.

When used in conjunction with your cooling system, set ceiling fans to blow air downward instead of pulling warmer air upward to get the most value in your cooling zone. Table and ceiling fans will offer more comfort if used to circulate air through areas where you are most active. You'll get a wind chill effect that will make you feel just a little cooler.

Central air conditioning can use as much as one kwh of electricity for each 12 minute cycle of cooling. A ceiling fan can operate for about 13 hours on the same amount of electricity, while a floor or table fan, depending on the size, might run for 10 hours per kwh of power. Turn off fans when you leave a room, because they cool people, not space.

Kitchen Comfort

When it comes to heat and humidity, changing your kitchen activities presents a wellspring of opportunities to reduce your household energy demand throughout the day. Your stove represents the modern hearth, and all the things that make the kitchen a favorite gathering place in winter can help send your electric meter into overdrive from late spring through early fall. According to researchers at

North Carolina State University, in Raleigh, cooking dinner for a family of four on an electric range releases about 20 ounces of water vapor into the air, and that amount can triple with a gas range.

Appliances on your countertops or stashed in your pantry could keep you cooler and use less energy. Microwaves use about 60 percent as much energy as full size ovens, and a toaster oven or induction cooker consumes about half as much power. Because they are generally designed to heat food more efficiently in less space, the surface areas available for heating are smaller reducing waste heat surfaces and keeping kitchens cooler.

Share the Space

In simpler times, families spent more time together in the same room even as they pursued different interests. Some members might read books or magazines under the light of a shared lamp, while others watched television or played board games.

Today it's common for everyone to retreat to separate spaces, turn on their electronics, adjust their ceiling fans or window unit air conditioners and close their doors to cocoon in their own environments.

Getting control of your energy use to reduce your home's overall demand can be really challenging when you have to consider the entire home, so bring back family time to beat the peak.

LCD televisions generally use 60 percent as much electricity as comparably sized plasma models.

One laptop computer uses about 20 percent as much power as a desktop computer and monitor. Today's home assistant devices can play music using about 17 percent of the energy on a component stereo system.

Video game console consumes about 200 watts of power. One system pressed into service for spirited intramural competition between family members in one room uses about a third of the power of 3 players engaged in online games around the house.

Finish the space with energy efficient LED fixtures for lighting, a couple sets of headphones, and a few rechargeable power boosters for the family's handheld devices. You'll have a cool and fun place to spend a few hours with the family.

Derrill Holly writes on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.



Prevent Deadly Shocks— Check Your Boats and Docks



If you own a boat and/or a dock, Safe Electricity reminds you to take steps to prevent deadly shocks, also known as Electric Shock Drowning (ESD).

Past accidents involving stray electricity and water include:

- A 26-year-old woman who was swimming with family in the Lake of the Ozarks was electrocuted when she touched an energized dock ladder.
- Also at Lake of the Ozarks, a 13-year-old girl and her 8-year-old brother received fatal electrical shocks while swimming near a private dock; officials cited an improperly grounded circuit as the cause.
- In Tennessee, two boys, ages 10 and 11, lost their lives as they were shocked while swimming between houseboats on Cherokee Lake, a result of electricity entering the water apparently through frayed wires beneath the boat.

An important step in helping prevent such tragedies is to ensure proper installation and maintenance of electrical equipment on docks and on boats. Take the time to inspect all electrical systems on or near the water.

Safe Electricity, with the American Boat and Yacht Council and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers/National

Electrical Contractors Association, recommends adhering to these steps to improve water recreation safety and accident prevention:

- All electrical installations should be performed by a professional electrical contractor familiar with marine codes and standards, and inspected at least once a year.
- Docks should have ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) breakers on the circuits feeding electricity to the dock.
- The metal frame of docks should be bonded to connect all metal parts to the alternating current (AC) safety ground at the power source. That will ensure any part of the metal dock that becomes energized because of electrical malfunction will trip the circuit breaker.
- Neighboring docks can also present a shock hazard. Make your neighbors aware of the need for safety inspections and maintenance. Marinas should comply with NFPA and NEC codes.

Here are a few additional tips to remember for your boat's electrical system, particularly those with AC systems:

- Regardless of the size of boat, maintenance of the electrical system should be done by a professional familiar with marine electrical codes.
- Have your boat's electrical system

checked at least once a year. Boats should also be checked when something is added to or removed from their systems.

- Boats with AC systems should have isolation transformers or equipment leakage circuit interrupter (ELCI) protection, comply with ABYC standards, and be serviced by an ABYC Certified® Technician.

If you are in the water and feel electric current:

- Shout to let others know. Tuck your legs up to make yourself smaller.
- Try to go away from anything that could be energized.
- Do not head to boat or dock ladders to get out.

If you are on the dock or shore when a swimmer feels electrical current:

- Do not jump in.
- Throw them a flotation device.
- Unplug or turn off the source of electricity as quickly as possible.
- Then call for help.

Source: Safe Electricity





June Calendar of Events



2nd - Owasso Gathering on Main, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Redbud Festival Park, 109 North Main Street, Owasso.

4th - Redbud Farmer's Market, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Redbud Festival Park, 109 North Main Street, Owasso.

9th - Summerfest 2022, 6:00 PM, Collinsville City Plaza (12th & Main).

10th - A Night of Country, 5:00 PM, Food Trucks, Concerts, and Fireworks. Tickets available for purchase. Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve, Bartlesville.

11th - Hogs 'N' Hot Rods, All day event, Downtown Collinsville.

16th - Third Thursday in the Park, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Skiatook Central Park.

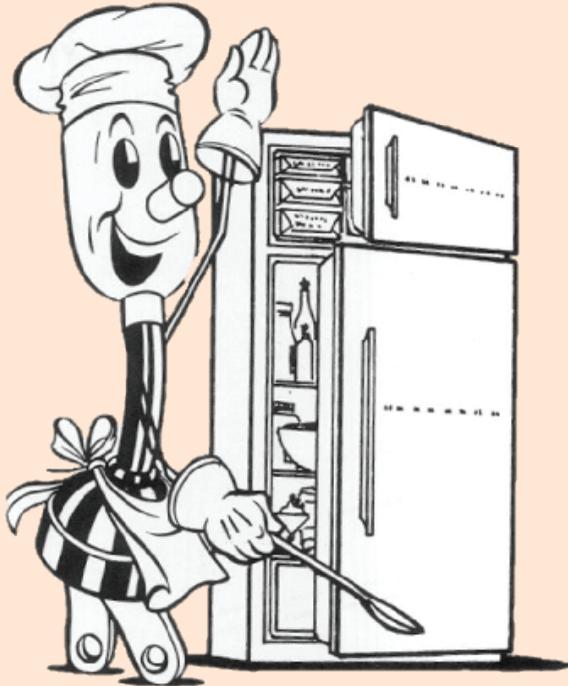
23rd - Lilac Festival, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, downtown Claremore. Food trucks and shopping event.

24th - Movie Night: Route 66 An American Odyssey, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, 1720 W. Will Rogers Blvd, Claremore.

25th - Hillside Farmer's Market, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM, 206 E 184th St. N, Skiatook.

Willie's Throwback Recipe

Strawberry Pie



- 2 cups water
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 package strawberry gelatin
- 1 quart fresh strawberries, halved
- 1 (9 inch) baked pie shell

Mix water, sugar, cornstarch and cook until thick. Add gelatin. Remove from heat. Mix in strawberries gently. May add red food coloring, if desired. Pour into 9 inch baked pie shell. (Makes 2 pies) Chill and serve with whipped topping or ice cream.

Submitted by: Dorthea Baker of Barnsdall,
Published in The Servin' Spoon II

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.



- 14" x 16" portable Samsung TV with remote & rabbit ears. \$50.00 Contact 918-381-1170
- Portable JVC boombox with radio and CD player. \$20.00 Contact 918-381-1170
- 8040 Vemeer Disc Mower 10ft. 5410 Stoney Point Caddie, field ready. \$9,750.00 Contact 918-694-0166
- Billy Goat lawn vacuum with hose attachment. \$650.00 or trade for riding mower of equal value/condition. Contact 918-637-3314
- Yamaha electric golf cart with fold down rear seat. \$3,000.00 Contact 918-637-3314
- Honda self propelled lawn mower with bag. \$100.00 Contact 918-637-3314
- Youth Saddle, \$150.00, Assorted tack (list and prices available upon request) Contact 918-406-8742

- Professional personalized dog grooming at your home. Over 40 years experience, most dogs \$40.00. 918-381-1170
- Native Bluestem Prarie Hay, no chemicals. SQ. Baled. \$8.00 Contact 918-504-6264
- 3-point Quick Hitch by Haul Master, with 3 pairs of adapters for Cat 2. Like new, \$150.00 Contact 918-766-2986
- Aluminum hoop house 20x60x10'. \$3,000.00 Contact 918-504-6264
- Memorial Park Cemetery- 2 burial plots with 2 lawn crypts. Requirements for purchasing in this section 1. Veteran 2. A family member who is currently buried or owns a plot in this section. Contact 918-636-9983

VVEC offices will be closed on Monday, July 4, 2022 in observance for Independence Day. Offices will resume regular hours on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 7:30 AM. Service personnel will be on duty throughout the holiday weekend. If you should experience an interruption in your electric service, please call 918-371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948. You can also report outages using the SmartHub app on your smart phone or tablet.





development in other areas that focus on urban agriculture such as welding, horticulture, speech, agricultural communications, food sciences and land judging. VVEC member services representatives, Misti Frazier and Regina Morris were excited to be part of the convention and in association with OAEC, they worked the OAEC booth presenting trivia questions regarding electric cooperatives giving the students a great opportunity to learn about Oklahoma's electric cooperatives. A terrific day was had by all!

A Fun Filled Day with FFA

The first week of May, thousands of Oklahoma High School students gathered for the State FFA convention. It marked the first time in the 96 - year history of the program for the convention to be held in Tulsa. More than 300 FFA chapters were represented at the BOK center for the state convention. FFA is not just for those students wanting to become production farmers, FFA is also known for preparing today's youth for premier leadership, personal growth and



SUMMER RESIDENTIAL RATES

April through September usage;
May through October billing

Customer Charge | \$30.00

Energy Charge

1st 2,000 kWh | \$.08272/kWh

Over 2,000 kWh | \$.08782/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% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes if applicable.

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.



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