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Energy Audits, Rebates Make Energy Efficiency Affordable

Energy audits and rebates go hand-in-hand. Both are designed to help you increase the energy efficiency of your home and offset the cost of some of the appliances and equipment recommended to increase that efficiency.

During an energy audit a trained auditor will come to your home and perform a series of tests to determine the efficiency of your home. The information he gathers helps him determine where you are spending your energy dollars and will help him point out hidden money-wasters. He will then make practical, useful suggestions to help you use electricity more efficiently and save money on your monthly electric bill.

The audit includes:

- * A blower door and infrared camera test locating places of air leakage and energy loss.
- * Inspecting rim joists, windows, doors, recessed lighting, electrical outlets and switches for air leaks.
- * Documenting all air leaks for sealing.
- * Checking the heating system filter.
- * Checking the heating/air conditioning duct work for air leaks if accessible.
- * Checking the temperature setting on the water heater.
- * Providing a water heater wrap.
- * Providing a hot water pipe wrap from the top of the water heater up to 10' if accessible.
- * Providing a low flow shower head.
- * Inspecting attic and wall insulation and determining if any additional insulation is needed.
- * Inspecting crawl space and basement for any energy efficiency opportunities.

We partner with Associated Electric Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier, to provide energy weatherization kits when we perform the audit.

The kit includes a water heater wrap, hot water pipe wrap, 5 CFLs, insulation kits for electrical outlets and wall switches, a low flow shower head, caulk and weather stripping.

Each energy audit has a value of \$400, but we charge only \$100 to have an audit performed.

Rebate Changes Effective July 1

VVEC also offers rebates on electric water heaters, ground-source, air source and dual-fuel heat pumps, clothes washers, dishwashers and room air conditioners.

All appliances need to be Energy Star rated. To qualify for a rebate on the clothes washer and/or dishwasher, you must have an electric water heater.

The rebates are:

Clothes washer –	\$100
Dishwasher –	\$50
Room air conditioner –	\$50

Electric water heaters for new construction or gas conversions are rebated at \$199 if purchased elsewhere, or full price (less taxes) if purchased from VVEC. We also pay \$50 rebates on replacement units when the old unit has less than a .90 efficiency rate and the new unit must be equal to or greater than a .90 efficiency.

Ground-source heat pumps for new construction or gas conversions are rebated at \$300 per ton and must be Energy Star rated with a SEER/EER value of 14.5 or greater. Replacement units will be rebated at \$150 per ton, but must meet the same SEER/EER criteria and be a gain of at least 3 SEER/EER over the old unit. (Replacing an air-to-air or any type of other unit.)

Air-to-air heat pumps (with electric resistance backup) meeting a 14.5 SEER or greater will be rebated at \$150 per ton for new construction or gas conversions only. Dual-fuel heat pumps (using natural gas, propane or fuel oil for supplemental heating) meeting the above listed SEER ratings will be rebated at \$150 per ton for new construction, gas conversions, or replacement units. Certain restrictions apply and can be found on the rebate form.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact our member services department or download a rebate form from our Web site – www.vvec.com. The completed form must be submitted to us within 90 days of purchasing the appliance. Certain restrictions apply and new units are subject to on-site verification. 

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Office hours

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

Editor - Kay Rabbitt-Brower

Summer Residential Rates

April through September usage,
May through October billing

Customer Charge \$20.00

Energy Charge

1st 2,000 kWh \$0.0801/kWh
Over 2,000 kWh \$0.0851/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.

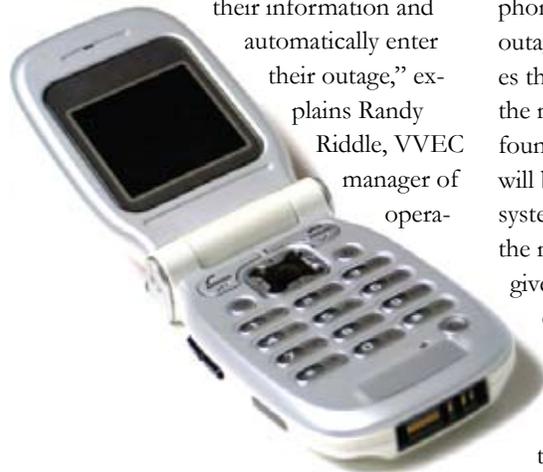
New CallCapture™ Program Streamlines Outage Reporting

Soon, technology will help you tell us you've lost your electric service.

In July we will implement an interactive voice response (IVR) program into our outage management system. This program gathers information based on your phone number, and enters your outage into the outage system.

"When a member calls to report an outage they are transferred to our dispatchers. If the dispatchers are handling a large volume of calls, the system will transfer the call to CallCapture™, which will get

their information and automatically enter their outage," explains Randy Riddle, VVEC manager of opera-



tions and technical services.

"It will also be able to give them information about the outage if our dispatchers have been given information by the line crews. The member will also be able to leave information in the form of a voice mail, if they have pertinent information they would like to leave about the outage."

Riddle goes on to say members will need to provide their phone numbers to the co-op so they can be added to the database.

"We're asking members to give us their phone numbers, both for land lines and cell phones they might use to call us to report outages. The CallCapture™ software searches the database to find the phone number the member is using to call us. Once it's found, the member's pertinent information will be entered into the outage management system. If the software doesn't recognize the number, then the member will have to give us their name, account number, address, etc."

Riddle says members can call the co-op at (918) 371-2584 and give their contact numbers to the customer service representatives.

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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New Free Service Alerts You to Severe Weather

Just in time for Oklahoma's storm and tornado season, VVEC is introducing a free unique weather alerting service.

This service provides weather forecasts and severe weather alerts for your specific area delivered right to your E-mail in-box or cell phone.

Now you can be notified when bad weather is heading your way and can plan accordingly.

Don't get caught unprepared in Oklahoma's unpredictable weather; sign up today.

The free iMapAlert service features include daily 7-day forecast E-mails that are delivered to one E-mail in-box every day before dawn, if you select that option. What better way to start your day than with the most current, up-to-date weather, delivered right to your in-box every morning?

You will also receive emergency alerts from the National Weather Service via E-mail or text message for your specific area 24-hours a day. These are sent to the E-mail address

or cell phone you choose. This tool also serves as a valuable communications tool that allows us to send you emergency and pertinent information if necessary.

For the past year we have offered the 'Beat the Peak' program, using text messages and E-mails



to notify you when electric demand on our system was reaching a high level. We will be converting to the iMapAlert system, and utilizing it to tell you when peak electric usage times occur and when to conserve on your individual energy consumption.

Sign up today to begin participating in this valuable weather-alert-

ing service. It's quick, easy and free. Just go to www.vvec.com, and click on the iMapAlert icon. You will be asked to fill out your name, address, E-mail address or cell phone number, and the name of the co-op that serves you.

Please sign up for the free iMapAlert system if you have previously participated in the 'Beat the Peak' program. We will continue to notify those members until the end of 2010, however, after that date, peak alerts will be sent only through the iMapAlert system.

Also, there is an iMapAlert premium package that is ideal for members who travel frequently. Cost of this package is \$5.95, and details are available on our Web site.

For more information on this program or how to participate, please contact our member services department at (918) 371-2584, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. 

Keep Dad Safe for Father's Day

Years of power tool shopping for Father's Days past have probably yielded the dad in your life a garage or shed full of handy gadgets. This year, give him the tools he needs to use his stockpile safely.

For table saws and other large tools, give your dad a motor safety switch with a large "stop" paddle or switch. It allows him to use his hip or foot to immediately cut power to the tool without removing a hand from the work piece, helping him to keep his work safe and steady. For about \$30, you can buy a switch that easily mounts to most 120-volt machinery.

If he spends full weekend days near his workbench, pick a pair of supportive steel-toed boots to protect his feet from knocked or dropped work gear. Good work boots also will reduce fatigue and keep his knees and back comfortable even after a full day on his feet.

Toss in the classic safety gear: Sporty safety glasses styled like sunglasses offer a snug fit and wrap-around protection in both clear and tinted styles. Choose a snug pair of work gloves with extra gripping strips to help your dad keep a firm hold on his tools and work materials. And don't forget his ears—a simple pair of ear plugs will keep that ringing noise at bay after he works around loud machinery. 



More Benefits from Your Co-op Connections[®] Card

1st Choice Lawn Care, Bartlesville:

\$20.00 off new customer application; 10% off existing customer optional service sale

Andersonville Cottage Bed & Breakfast, Claremore:

15% Discount

Body Blast, LLC, Bartlesville:

One week free with month paid membership

Brown's Shoe Fit, Bartlesville:

10% off any regular priced item

The Daily Grind Sandwich Express, Bartlesville:

Free 12 oz coffee or 16 oz soda with purchase of breakfast or lunch item, OR, 10% off purchase of \$10 or more

Dave's Technology, LLC, Talala:

Free first visit - up to 1-hour

Thomas Kwik Kar, Owasso:

10% off any service

Quality Vision Center, Inc., Bartlesville:

15% off any order for a complete pair of glasses (frame & lenses)

The Village Salon, Claremore:

10% off retail or hair care service

Visit www.VVEC.com for a complete list of participating businesses, discounts and special offers.

Members Owed Capital Credits Listed on Co-op Web Site

A list of members who have not collected their Capital Credits can now be found on our Web site – www.vvec.com.

Frequently, members don't give us a forwarding address when they move off of co-op lines, so we don't know where to send their Capital Credit checks.

If you know a former member, please encourage him or her to visit the Web site to see if their name is on the list. Or call us if you have information on how to reach someone on the list.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!



VVEC offices will be closed Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday. Please call 371-2584 to report an interruption in electric service.



RECIPE

Berry Chicken Salad

- 1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into strips
- 1 cup Catalina or French salad dressing
- 10 oz. pkg. mixed salad greens
- 2 cups sliced strawberries, blueberries, or raspberries

In a large skillet, simmer chicken in 1/4 cup of the salad dressing over medium heat until chicken is no longer pink and is thoroughly cooked.

Toss greens, strawberries and chicken in large bowl with remaining dressing and serve.

YIELD: 6 servings