



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

July 2024

News



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®

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MISSOURI YOUTH TOUR UPDATE

On April 25, 2024, Sac Osage Electric Cooperative completed the final portion of the Missouri Youth Tour competition to select a winner for Youth Tour and a winner for the CYCLE Program.

Five High School Juniors were selected as finalist through an application process. Ryland Brower, Kandon McGuirk, Brett Alexander, Sophia Bryson, and Alexia DeMint then competed in an interview process that took place in front of Sac Osage Electric Board Members and judges from other cooperatives.

Sophia Bryson was selected as the Youth Tour winner to receive a trip to Washington D.C. that took place in June.

Alexia DeMint was selected as the CYCLE winner to receive a trip to the State Capital in Jefferson City.



It's Picnic Time! The 143rd Annual El Dorado Springs Picnic will take place July 18th, 19th, and 20th. Sac Osage Electric Cooperative will have a booth for you to visit again this year.

Members will have an opportunity to sign up in person for Operation Round-Up and Conexon Connect Internet Service.

Information about energy efficiency and rebate programs offered by Sac Osage Electric Cooperative will be available as well.

Be sure to come by and sign up for Operation Round-Up or new service with Conexon Internet to have your name entered into raffles that will be drawn on Saturday evening.



UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. is trying to locate members who are the owners or joint owners of unclaimed capital credit refunds who were mailed checks by the Cooperative for previous years.

Those mailed refund checks were returned to the Cooperative by the U.S. Postal Service as being undeliverable. The list of those members' names and amounts of the unclaimed capital credit refunds may be found on our website at sacosage.com.

If your name appears on the list or if you are the legal representative of a named deceased member, the Cooperative requests that you notify us so these unclaimed capital credit refunds can be paid to the rightful owner.

To submit a claim, visit our website to submit the form online or obtain a printable Unclaimed Capital Credit Refund Information Form. You may also obtain this form from our headquarters located in El Dorado Springs. You may also contact our office directly at 417-876-2721 and speak with our office personnel, who will assist you with this process.

If these unclaimed capital credit refunds are not claimed by the September deadline, by or on behalf of the member, then those funds will be reallocated to the accounts of the current members in accordance with the cooperative's bylaws.



2025 CALENDAR CONTEST

Each year, Sac Osage Electric Cooperative provides free calendars to their members. These calendars are available to be picked up in person while supply lasts at our headquarters in El Dorado Springs.

Members have an opportunity to submit photographs taken in Sac Osage Electric Cooperative territory. If a photograph is selected to be used in the calendar, the member that submitted the photograph will receive \$25 credit on their electric bill.

Members can complete a form and submit their photographs by using our website at sacosage.com.

By submitting the photograph through our website, the member is giving permission to Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. to use the photograph in the calendar and other promotional material.

Members can submit multiple entries, but a new form must be filled out with each entry. Sac Osage Electric encourages members to take photographs in all seasons throughout the year to help increase the chances of being included in the calendar.

Requirements are:

- Photograph must be taken by a member of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative
- Photograph must be taken within the Cooperative's territory
- Photographs must be taken in LANDSCAPE (wider than longer) to fit the calendar

For more information, please contact Chance Cyr by calling 417-876-2721.

COOPERATIVE EASEMENT REMINDER

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative has a general easement along our electric lines of a total of 30 feet (15 feet on each side of the line).

Members are not to plant any trees underneath electric lines. Trees should be planted at least 25 feet away from the electric line as most trees have a 25-foot mature height and 20-foot horizontal spread, such as a Dogwood or Crabapple Tree.

Members are not to place objects under the electric lines such as hunting blinds. Members are also not allowed to attach any objects, such as tree stands or signs for advertisements, to our electric poles. Objects that have been attached to our poles will be removed.

If an object, such as a building or a tree, has been placed within our easement, the object will need to be moved at the owner's expense.

Hunters are not to shoot animals, such as birds, off of the electric line or our new fiber line. This will interrupt service and is punishable by law.

As the farming season begins, we ask farmers to be aware of the size of equipment they have, such as the height and width, when moving from field to field or operating near electric lines.



NET METERING AVAILABILITY

Missouri's Net Metering Act requires retail electric suppliers have net metering available to customers who have their own electric generation units that meet certain criteria, one of which is that the unit is powered by renewable energy resources.

Net metering is where the customer receives credit for the electricity he/she generates in lieu of electricity supplied by the electric utility.

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative has a net-metering agreement for the interconnection of a distributed generation source. Our policy, agreement, and application reflect the standards set by the Net-Metering and Easy Connect Act (ECA). Net metering is available to customers on a first-come, first-served basis until the total rated generating capacity of the net-metering systems equals 5 percent of the utility's single-hour peak load during the previous year. Simple interconnection procedures that standardize interconnection for all Missourians are necessary to promote the use of renewable energy in Missouri.

The ECA makes it easier and more cost-effective for Missourians to connect small renewable energy systems to the grid. Sac Osage Electric Cooperative supports sound renewable energy. We ask that our members consider all factors before spending thousands of dollars to add solar, wind, or any type of renewable energy source to their home.

Members interested in supporting renewable energy, should contact Sac Osage Electric Cooperative. The Cooperative can access renewable energy credits through our power supplier. This allows members to support renewable energy without the large expense of a solar system.



BEAT THE PEAK THIS SUMMER

As temperatures begin to spike, there are steps you can take to save money on energy bills this summer.

According to the Department of Energy, a typical home uses a whopping 48 percent of energy expenditures just on the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC) system. Although a majority of that 48 percent is spent on heating expenses, Americans still spend \$29 billion every year to power their air conditioners.

Aside from replacing your central air conditioner with a newer, higher-efficiency model, there are some things you can do to increase efficiency, which can help reduce your energy bills.

Besides weather stripping and caulking around windows and doors in your home (always a good idea regardless of the time of year), Safe Electricity offers the following:

- Close curtains, blinds and shades during the hottest part of the day. Not only is about one-third of a home's energy lost around windows, but about 76 percent of sunlight that falls on standard double-pane windows enters the home to become heat, according to energy.gov.
- If you don't already have one, install a programmable or smart thermostat. You can save up to 10 percent a year on heating and cooling by adjusting your thermostat 7 to 10 degrees from its normal setting for 8 hours a day, according to Energy.gov.
- Clean the filter and get your unit inspected by a HVAC professional.
- Consider changes to your landscaping. Greenery that includes shade trees and those that insulate the foundation can reduce energy costs.

- Ventilate the attic and check insulation. Adequately sized vents and an attic fan can help hot air from building. If your attic has less than 6 to 8 inches of insulation, consider adding more. By addressing air leaks around your home and adding insulation, homeowners can save around 10 percent annually on energy bills, according to energystar.gov. Get a pre-season checkup by a professional HVAC technician, which could help your air conditioner run more efficiently.
- Make sure your outdoor condenser unit is clean and free from debris. Ideally, the unit should be in the shade. Use your clothes dryer and oven during the cooler parts of the day
- Consider a professional energy audit to reveal where your home is inefficient, including air leaks and exposed duct work. Increased summer electric demand not only affects the monthly budget, but it can also seriously strain your home's electrical system, which can create dangerous shock and fire hazards.

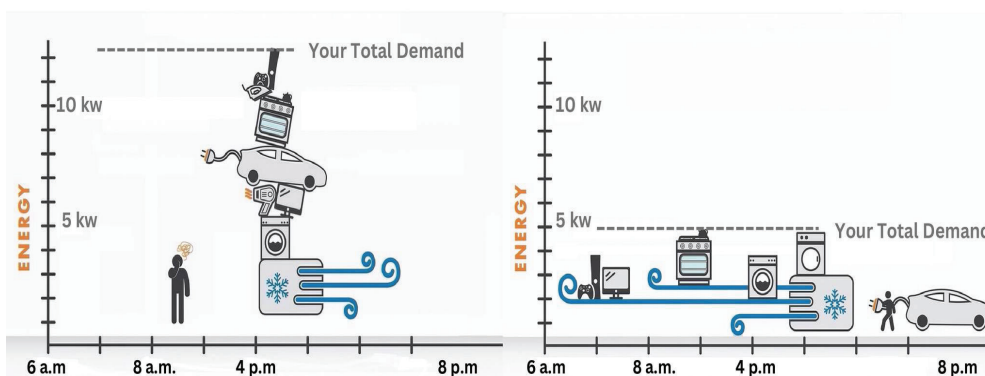
- Flickering or dimming lights or frequent circuit breaker trips are signs of an overloaded electrical system or faulty wiring that should be checked immediately by a qualified electrician.

(<https://safeelectricity.org>)



SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY, JULY 4TH, 2024 IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDANCE DAY

DON'T TOWER YOUR POWER, LEVEL OUT YOUR LOAD



Using multiple electric appliances at the same time or charging electric vehicles during peak hours will increase the TOD Demand Charge on your monthly bill.

Spreading out appliance use during peak hours or waiting till off peak hours for appliance use and electric vehicle charging will reduce the TOD Demand Charge on your monthly bill.

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SCAN ME

