



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

October 2025

News



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®



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MACKENZIE LEE REPRESENTS SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IN JEFFERSON CITY



Mackenzie Lee, a student at Northeast Vernon County High School, was one of 96 high school students from across Missouri who took part in the Missouri Electric Cooperative's CYCLE (Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience) program.

The conference was held July 15-18, 2025, in Jefferson City. Mackenzie represented Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, chosen during the Youth Tour competition earlier this year.

Each year, these action-filled four days provide high school students with opportunities to learn what it is like to be involved in politics, the cooperative form of business and being a leader. The program included nationally known speakers and time at the Missouri State Capitol learning how a bill goes through the process to become a law. To learn more about electric cooperatives, the group was

divided up into teams that competed in various events such as the "build a cooperative" game.

Another highlight was hearing from the Rachel's Challenge Organization. The presentation details the story of Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine school shootings. Rachel's family and friends speak to youth around the world about her legacy of being a positive role model to everyone she met in life.

Students toured the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City. They also saw a live powerline demonstration and learned all about electric vehicles at Central Electric Power Cooperative's headquarters.

The learning didn't end in Jefferson City. Students took a day trip to St. Louis to tour the City Museum and St. Louis Arch. They also enjoyed an evening of food and games at Dave & Buster's.

The CYCLE program is in its 22nd year and is a recipient of the National Community Youth Service award for the top youth program among all electric cooperatives in the country.

Thank you, Mackenzie, for representing Sac Osage Electric Cooperative this year at CYCLE.





ALWAYS ASSUME A DOWNED POWER LINE IS DEADLY

If a line is down, always assume it is energized and dangerous, even if the power is out in your area. Touching or getting near a live power line injures and kills many every year.

Never approach an accident scene where a line is down or damaged. If you run toward the accident to help, you too could become a victim by entering the energized area.

Power lines can come down or sag close to the ground for a few reasons: severe weather or damage due to a car accident, for instance. And a downed line isn't always visible. After severe weather, lines can lurk underneath water or debris.

Stay clear of all types of utility lines. Even if you think lines might be designated for telephone or cable service, they may have contact with damaged and energized power lines nearby.

Follow these safety reminders:

Call 9-1-1 to report fallen or damaged power lines.

Power lines do not have to be arcing or sparking or making a humming noise to be live.

Do not attempt to move a downed line or anything it is touching with another object such as a stick or pole. Even materials that don't normally conduct electricity can do so if they are slightly wet.

Do not step in water or walk in debris near a downed power line.

Stay at least 10 feet away from the downed power line.

Do not attempt to drive over a downed power line.

If a power line falls on your vehicle while driving, do not attempt to drive away or get out. Call for help and **STAY INSIDE THE VEHICLE** until utility crews say it is safe to get out. If there is a fire or you smell gasoline, hop out without touching the vehicle at the same time and **DO NOT WALK**, but hop away to safety keeping your feet together.

Line properties can change: Any power line that is dead could become energized at any moment due to power restoration or back feed from backup generators.

Always consider all lines, regardless of the type, energized at deadly voltages.

For more information about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

October is Fire Prevention Month; a timely reminder of the potential dangers associated with bonfires.

As the temperatures drop and the fall season arrives, the crisp weather often invites us to gather around the warmth of a bonfire.

When planning your evening bonfire, ensure it is set up well away from overhead power lines, poles, and utility equipment. Heat, smoke, and sparks can pose significant risks, potentially leading to dangerous situations.

Stay safe and enjoy bonfires responsibly.



BONFIRES AND POWER LINES!

Happy Retirement

Congratulations Scott!



38 Years of Service



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News

NEW OPPORTUNITIES ARISE!



Ronnie Simmons
Line Superintendent



Brian Fugate
Crew Foreman



Randy Ridgway
Purchasing Agent



Tysen Saylor
Service Truck

SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WELCOME NEW LINEMEN



Brenden Fast
1st Year Lineman



Dayton Austin
1st Year Lineman

Happy Anniversary to our September Employee!



Garrett Mays - 8 years

Happy Anniversary to our October Employees!



Troy Lasley - 33 years



Robbie Jones - 4 years



Chance Cyr - 3 years



Christie Hull - 3 years



Morgan Hackleman - 2 years



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