



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

**SEDGWICK COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

currentnews

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

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FROM THE MANAGER

The Power of Preparation



Scott Ayres

With severe weather events occurring more frequently, now more than ever, it makes sense to be prepared. During a prolonged power outage or other emergency, this

means having enough food, water and supplies to last at least a few days.

In honor of National Preparedness Month in September, I want to remind community members about the power of preparation. While you don't have to achieve a "doomsday prepper" level of preparedness, there are several practical steps you can take to keep you and your family safe.

Even at a modest level, preparation can help reduce stress, anxiety and lessen the impact of an emergency event. We recommend starting with the basics.

Here are general guidelines recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- ▶ Assemble a grab-and-go disaster kit. Include items like nonperishable food, water (one gallon per person, per day), diapers, batteries, flashlights, prescription medications, first-aid kit, battery-powered radio, and phone chargers.

- ▶ Develop a plan for communicating with family and friends (i.e., via text, social media, third party, etc.).
- ▶ Have some extra cash available; during a power outage, electronic card readers and ATMs may not work.
- ▶ Store important documents (birth certificates, property deed, etc.) in safe place away from home (for example, a bank safe deposit box).
- ▶ Keep neighbors and coworkers apprised of your emergency plans.
- ▶ Fill your car with gas.
- ▶ Organize your supplies so they are together in an easily accessible location that family members know about.

Caring for Vulnerable Family Members

If you have older family members or those with special needs, make sure they have enough medication and supplies for a few days. If they don't live with you, arrange for a neighbor to check in on them. If a severe weather event is expected, consider having your relative stay with you if feasible, otherwise call them daily. If you have an infant or young children, make certain you have ample formula, diapers, medication, and other supplies on hand to weather an outage lasting several days or more.

Continued on page 12B ▶

Listen for Peak Alerts and Save

This month, we are asking members to participate in Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's Peak Control program. This voluntary program helps you save on your summer energy bills and can also help the co-op hold down wholesale power costs in the last eight months during our off-peak period.

A major portion of our annual wholesale power bill is based on power consumed during the 3 to 6 p.m. demand time frame during the summer months. The price of electricity is at a premium during that three-hour window due to the "high demand" for energy production during those hot, summer hours.

What is Peak Control?

Peak control is a voluntary program in which our members can participate to hold down electricity cost.

How Can I Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by monitoring your use of electric appliances and equipment that require larger amounts of electricity during peak hours. Any steps you can take to lower your energy use from 3 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday will help control costs.

When Should I Participate in Peak Control?

Participate when "Peak Alerts" are issued, typically during the hours of 3 to 6 p.m. weekdays from June 1 through Sept. 30. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to receive peak alerts.

The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. Special emphasis is placed during July and August, as the peak electricity demand registered by the co-op during those two months drives the demand billing for the following "off peak" eight months. Be aware of days when temperatures are forecast to be above 95 degrees. These are the type of days when peak demand can occur.

What are the Benefits of Peak Control?

Reducing electric usage between 3 and 6 p.m. will help reduce our peak load. Each kilowatt shaved or shifted during peak load is a cost savings for cooperative members.

5 Easy Ways to Exercise Your Civic Duty

America's electric cooperatives, including Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative, understand the value of building relationships with elected officials at all levels of government. There are many important policy issues that directly impact electric utilities and ultimately, you, the consumer-members we proudly serve. Strengthening our relationships with elected leaders positions us to advocate for our local community.

While Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative is a member-owned cooperative, we're part of a larger network of electric co-ops. Through our non-partisan grassroots program known as "Co-ops Vote," we're working to enhance the political strength of electric co-ops and boost voter turnout. There's power in numbers, and when we all show up at the polls, we can voice the issues that matter most to our community.

National Voter Registration Day is Sept. 20, and midterm elections are right around the corner. If you're looking to get involved or simply make sure you're ready to vote, here are five easy ways you can exercise your civic duty.

1 DON'T ASSUME YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION STATUS IS UP TO DATE. Visit www.vote.coop, then

click "Election Resources" to verify your status.

2 GET INFORMED. In addition to ensuring your registration is up to date, learning about local policy issues and candidates is one of the best ways you can prepare to vote.

3 GET ACTIVE ON SOCIAL MEDIA. Follow @coopsvote on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and let others know you're a #coopvoter and #VoteReady; encourage your friends and family to do the same.

4 HELP OTHERS PREPARE TO VOTE. Work a National Voter Registration Day event (visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/events), volunteer to be a poll worker during midterm elections or offer to drive others to their polling places.

5 VOTE! It's the easiest — and most important — way you can exercise your civic duty.

Voting is a form of personal empowerment that gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the issues that matter most to you. Make a plan to vote and help others in our community get #VoteReady.

We encourage everyone, regardless of political beliefs, to vote, stand up for our local community and make a collective impact.

The Power of Preparation *Continued from page 12A* ▶

Keeping Four-Legged Family Members Safe

For families with pets, having a plan in place in the event of a prolonged outage or an emergency will help reduce worry and stress especially during an emergency.

- ▶ Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm or other emergency. Pets can become disoriented and frightened during severe weather and may wander off during an emergency.
- ▶ Microchip your pet and ensure the contact information is up to date.

▶ Store pet medical records on a USB drive or in an easy-to-remember location.

▶ Create an emergency kit for pets (include shelf-safe food, bottled water, medications, and other supplies).

At Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative, we care about your safety. Planning for an emergency today can give you more confidence to deal with severe weather and potential outages in the future.

Help us Locate the Following Co-op Members

The former members listed below have a capital credit refund due to them, but we are unable to locate them. If you have information that would help us contact any individual or business listed below, please call the office at 316-542-3131 or 866-542-4732.

Ronald D & Patricia A Albright	Cody & Melissa Courter	Chrast Hardyway	Tony Kruse	Larry E & Marlys J Robbins	Anthony R Wartenbe
Carolyn J Alger	Robert W & Carole A Curtright	Brian & Jeanie Hartman	Denise Lagaly	Terry J & Jennifer L Russell	Rita J & Ronald Wear
Michael J & Doreen Anderson	Charles B Daniels	Patrick & Margaret Healy	J C Lane	Lawrence B Saffer	Robert D & Belitha Weve
Kenny Bacon	Walter R & Sandra K Davis	Brian C c/o Wayne Heim Heim	W E Leatherman	David Schifflbein	Gerald L & Mary S Whisler JR
Brad & Melanie Barkley	Mark A Demoura	William J & Toyia Hill Bulla Hill	Leonard Ledoux	Mary C Schwartz	David & Rita White
Craig A Baxter	Jeff Dickson	Darrel D & Christin Hornbaker	H D Lubbers JR	Donald & Marrita Schwind	Glenn & Beverly White
Jerry & Tamara Bayless	Timothy R Ehrlich	Jennie R Jerome	Adrian & Billie McNutt	WM O Scranton	George R & Sandra Y Whiteside
Wendy Becker	Robert D Everett	Tim Johaneck	Floyd V Moore	Charles & Sheryl Sheils	Mark A Wilcox
Larry & Mary Beth Beebe	Bryan Fiscus	Doug Johnson	James T Morris	Jeffrey Skammehorn	David H & Kim G Wilkinson
Aaron W Bell II	David & Kary Fisher	David Jolly	Frankie Lee Morris	Laura Skuya	Grant E Williams
Leon Bergkamp	David Fisher	Leatha M Jones	Chris Norris	WM M Souders	Merresa L Williams
Annette Berry	Randy Ford	Donald G & Betty J Jones	Victor Oliver	Steven R Souza	Kenneth S Willis
Terry & Joni Boshell	Robert W & Darlene Frost	James A Keeter	Troy Palmer	Glen & Cathy M Steele	Bobby F Witt
Pete V Brier	Charles R & Anna M Fryar	Barry & Ada M Kelsey	Joela R Parsons	Shirley Tatman	Linda Wong
Janet Brunson	Sherri E Gibbs	Don B (Reverend) Kennedy	Caroline C/O Eugene Pelz Pelz C/O Eugene Pelz	Jill Tibemann	Brian & Sandra Wood
Dr. Gary Butler C/O Ferris Summer	Jason & Cristy Goodwin	David Kesler	Curt Perry	Georgia Topper	Gary & Rhonda L Workman
Mike & Mary Caffrey	Danny J Goolsby	Frederick M King	Mike Peterson	Jodi Tull	John D & Bonnie M Wyckoff
Alton Chiles	Louie Gott	John M Klassen	Jeannie Pfanenstiel	Halie Turner	
Marie E Colgan/Estate	Timothy Gowing	Kevin Korce	W R & Barbara Quinn	Robert & Christine VanEchaute	
Bruce & Debbie S Converse	Fredrick Grant	William J Krenning C/O Bonnie Krenning	Linda L Rangel	Don E Vaughn	
Ronald B Cook	Bobby J Green		Michael M Rausch	Matthew M & Elizabeth Voegeli	
	Wanda Gurley		Debra S c/o Doris Webster Reinhart		

Line Crew Returns to 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours

Each summer, the Line Department for Sedgwick County Electric Co-op works from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to complete the day's work before the major heat of the day arrives.

Summer hours began May 1 and continue through Sept. 30. If you have any questions or would like to report an outage, please contact us at 316-542-3131 or toll-free 866-543-4732.

Right: Sedgwick's Line Department includes (top row from left) Kade Wahlers, Josh Wood, Chris Fair, Victor Ayala and Tommy Hill; (bottom row from left) Scott Leis, Ean Anders, Andy Riggs, Robert Lacy, Tim Rosenhagen, Kyle Pipkin and Mark Hansen.



151 Participated in Co-op-Sponsored Pedal Pull

This year 151 children participated in the pedal tractor pull at the Sedgwick County Fair with the top three winners in each age group qualifying to compete at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson on Sept. 11.

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative would like to thank everyone who watched or participated. We would also like to thank Border States Electric and Killco Appliance Repair for their prize donations.

Congratulations to the 2022 pedal tractor pull winners!



Emery Hynes participated in the 4-year-old age bracket.



Brant Hansen participated in the 10-year-old age bracket.



Keagan Kampling participated in the 5-year-old age bracket.



Knox Hillman participated in the 4-year-old age bracket.



Levi Hill participated in the 4-year-old age bracket.