



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this
month's lightbulb
winners:

- ▶ John Dreitz
- ▶ Jobe Garrison
- ▶ Connie Hawver
- ▶ Laura Lewis
- ▶ Glinda Weddle

Contact us today for
your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider
and employer.

ANNUAL MEETING URGENT UPDATE

In an abundance of caution, CMS Electric Cooperative board and management are discussing options for our annual meeting due to concerns regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus). Visit our website, Facebook or call our office for more information.



Making Positive Impact on Community, Earth ‘Cooperatively’

On April 22, we mark the 50th anniversary of the original Earth Day event that mobilized 20 million Americans and became a catalyst for individuals and businesses to rethink, reinvent and recycle for the benefit of people and our planet.

Cooperatives across the country have led the electric utility industry in actively expanding their fuel portfolios to include an array of renewable sources while educating their consumer-members on best practices in reducing energy use.

Co-ops have been using clean, renewable hydropower for more than 75 years. In addition to the roughly 10 gigawatts of hydropower purchased from federally-run dams, co-ops have developed an additional 692 megawatts of hydropower with 724 co-ops in 43 states using hydro as a source of power.

Solar's flexible and scalable abilities have prompted co-ops to triple their solar capacity in the last three years. In Kansas alone, both generation and transmission cooperatives that supply power to the 27 distribution cooperatives including CMS Electric, have or will soon have solar included in their power supply mix. Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) began commercial operation of its Prairie Sky Solar Farm in 2017, and Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, at press time, was nearing completion of the Johnson Corner Solar Project. In addition, several electric co-ops serving Kansans have invested in their own solar power.

A drive in either direction of the Sunflower State showcases the expansion of wind energy. In fact, since the beginning of 2008, wind generating capacity in Kansas has more than tripled, making Kansas one of the top five states in the nation. Nationally, wind development has surged in the last 10

years and is now second only to hydro in the co-op's renewable portfolio.

CMS Electric also educates you, our consumer-members, on ways to reduce your energy use, helping you help the environment. There are many ways we can help the environment, and some are easier than you'd think. Here are a few simple actions you can take now to reduce your energy use.

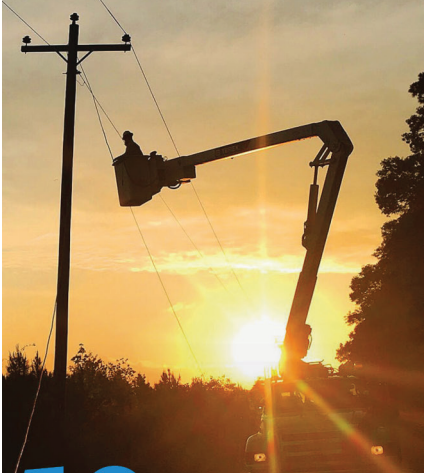
Audit your lightbulbs. Swapping out any remaining incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs can make a big difference in home efficiency, and it's one of the easiest ways to reduce your energy bill.

Maintain your HVAC system. Replace your home air filters to allow your HVAC system to run more efficiently. Air filters prevent dust and allergens from clogging your HVAC system. Changing the filters makes your unit run more efficiently — keeping your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

Examine your smart or programmable thermostat. Make sure it is programmed for the current season and family schedule. This is one of the best tools at your fingertips, however, you can only achieve these efficiencies and savings if it is programmed properly and adjusted periodically to keep pace with changes in household routines.

Seal windows and doors. Seal leaks with weather stripping and caulk to keep cool air indoors during warm months and prevent cold air from penetrating the indoors during colder months. Sealing gaps around piping, dryer vents, fans and outlets also helps to seal the envelope and increase efficiency.

As we celebrate Earth Day this April, let's continue to work together and make a positive impact on our local community, the Sunflower State — and our beautiful planet.



10 REASONS WE APPRECIATE LINEWORKERS

Although we appreciate each and every co-op employee, it takes a special kind of person to be an electric lineworker. Here are the top 10 reasons we appreciate our lineworkers.

- 10 They are specially trained to work on power lines and related equipment.
- 9 They are dedicated to safely and efficiently restoring power following weather or outages.
- 8 They work overtime, many holidays and get up in the middle of the night to help restore power.
- 7 They enjoy serving our communities.
- 6 They aren't afraid of heights.
- 5 They help other electric co-ops with major outages at a moment's notice.
- 4 They lend their talents in many ways, including educating the public about electrical safety.
- 3 They have each other's backs.
- 2 They are trained to work safely on both dead and live power lines.
- 1 We couldn't provide excellent service without them or any of our other dedicated employees.