



inside your co-op

For members of Choctaw Electric Cooperative | AUGUST 2025



Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

CEC sends students on a journey of history, leadership and connection

Each summer, Electric Cooperative Youth Tour gives high school juniors from rural communities a front-row seat to history and a hands-on introduction to leadership. From June 13-19, three outstanding young Oklahomans—Chloe Farley, Brooke Burrage and Ella Herron—represented Choctaw Electric Cooperative on this unforgettable journey to Washington, D.C.

Joined by more than 1,700 students from 45 states, the group explored iconic landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Capitol. One of the most powerful experiences was Capitol Hill Day, where students had the chance to meet with members of Oklahoma's

congressional delegation and learn how government decisions shape everyday life.

Youth Tour is about more than sightseeing. It's designed to help students grow into informed, engaged citizens. Through leadership workshops and speakers who shared the cooperative story, participants were encouraged to think about how they can make a difference—at home and beyond.

Thanks to the support of local electric cooperatives, students like Chloe, Brooke and Ella return not only with great memories, but with a deeper understanding of democracy, public service and the power of rural voices.

Left: Choctaw Electric Cooperative 2025 Youth Tour delegates Chloe Farley, Brooke Burrage and Ella Herron pose in front of the U.S. Capitol.

Below: Oklahoma Youth Tour delegates tour historical sites including the Arlington National Cemetery and the Jefferson Memorial.



Choctaw Electric Cooperative

Serving members in Choctaw, Pushmataha, Atoka, McCurtain, Bryan and LeFlore counties.

CONNECT WITH US

Monday-Friday | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

24 Hour Outage Line

(800) 780-6486

Hugo Office

PO Box 758
1033 N. 4250 Rd.
Hugo, OK 74743

Toll free: (800) 780-6486
Local: (580) 326-6486
Fax: (580) 326-2492

Idabel Office

2114 SE Washington
Idabel, OK 74745

Toll free: (800) 780-6486

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Giving Back to Our Members

Choctaw Electric Cooperative returns \$2.3 million to members

I'm pleased to share some exciting news this month: Choctaw Electric Cooperative is retiring capital credits from the years 1999 through 2003. This retirement reflects both our strong financial position and our ongoing commitment to you, our members.

Capital credits are one of the most tangible benefits of co-op membership. Because CEC operates as a not-for-profit, any margins we earn are allocated back to our members based on electricity use. In our early years, these excess funds were reinvested to build and strengthen the cooperative. Today, thanks to a solid financial foundation and diversified revenue streams, we're able to return surplus margins to our members.

This year, we are retiring a total of \$2,307,360.98 in capital credits. Of that amount, \$1,960,986.08 remains unretired and will be distributed as checks to eligible members. The remainder was previously issued

through estate payments, honoring our pledge to serve members' families in a timely manner.



CEO Kooney Duncan

Approximately 16,674 checks will be mailed out, with an average check amount of \$117.60—nearly the value of a full month's electric bill for many members. This underscores the strength of your cooperative and the value of membership.

This capital credit retirement is possible thanks to careful financial planning and responsible governance by our board of trustees. Each year, they work to ensure that returning margins to our members remains a top priority.

Eligible members can expect checks to arrive in September. We hope you'll also join us for Choctaw Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on Sept. 27. It's a great opportunity to stay informed, get involved and connect with your co-op community. We look forward to seeing you there!

How do capital credits work?

Because CEC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits.

At the end of the year, CEC completes financial matters and determines whether there are excess revenues, called margins.



CEC allocates the margins to members as capital credits based upon their use of electricity during the year.

When CEC's financial condition permits, the board of trustees decides to retire, or pay, the capital credits.



CEC mails capital credits checks, with the amount based on a member's kWh of electricity used in the years being retired.



CEC Member Services Representative Brad Kendrick (right) works with Idabel Middle School students as part of the Co-opcation program.

Preparing Students for Real Life

CEC launches 'Co-opcation' program

Choctaw Electric Cooperative is excited to introduce Co-opcation, an engaging and age-adaptable program designed for students from fourth grade through high school. This hands-on curriculum gives students a glimpse into real-world responsibilities by helping them navigate budgets, make financial decisions and

balance needs versus wants. Using careers within the co-op as a framework, students explore life's financial challenges and opportunities in a fun, interactive way. From housing and transportation to unexpected expenses, Co-opcation equips youth with practical knowledge to become confident, capable adults.

Buddy Ball Returns for Season Two

Grab your glove and meet us on the diamond this fall—Buddy Ball returns October 18, 2025! This free, non-competitive game is designed for children through adults with physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities.

This year, CEC will welcome several new volunteer partners to serve as buddies and provide photos and entertainment. Contact Jia Johnson or Brad Kendrick at 800-780-6486, ext. 241, for more information or to volunteer. Let's play ball!



The inaugural Buddy Ball game took place Sept 14, 2024.

Office Closure

Choctaw Electric Cooperative's offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 1, in honor of Labor Day.

Summer Peak Hours

A summer peak alert may be called between June 20 and Sept. 9, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. We will announce peak alerts on our Facebook page, via the SmartHub app and on the radio. Please help us reduce electricity use during peak hours, as it helps keep our costs stable.

Go Paperless!

Sign up for paperless billing via the SmartHub app or call Choctaw Electric Cooperative at 800-780-6486. One lucky member will win two CEC T-shirts and two CEC caps.

Help Us Preserve Our Legacy

CEC is celebrating 85 years of service! We're marking this milestone with a special project to preserve the co-op's rich history. The project will gather, organize and digitize a collection of photos and memorabilia that tell the story of CEC and the communities we serve. To contribute stories, photos, recipes or other memorabilia, please contact Jia Johnson at 800-780-6486, ext. 241.

Call 811 Before You Dig

August 11 is National 811 Day—a reminder that before you dig, you must call 811. Whether you're planting a tree, building a fence, installing a mailbox or starting any digging project, calling 811 first ensures underground utility lines are marked so you stay safe.

Lucky Acct #35354400

If this is your account number, please contact CEC at 800-780-6486, ext. 241 by the 5th of the month to claim your \$25 bill credit. Unclaimed bill credits roll over each month by \$25 for a maximum credit of \$100.



Left: Kilowatt Kids Campers visit the Museum of the Red River. Above: Megawatt Kids Campers tour Western Farmers Electric Cooperative.

CEC Camps Spark Summer Learning

In June, Choctaw Electric Cooperative energized young minds through two exciting youth programs—Kilowatt Kids Camp and Megawatt Kids Camp. These hands-on, age-specific camps focused on fun, safety and learning in a co-op setting.

Kilowatt Kids Camp

Students in kindergarten through third grade enjoyed Kilowatt Kids Camp, a day camp with an outdoor safety theme. The Hugo camp visited Growler Pines Tiger Preserve, where Ryan and his team gave a tour of the facility and its animals. The Idabel camp traveled to the Museum of the Red River, where Vickie Smith guided them through engaging exhibits and educational

displays. The day wrapped up with a picnic in the museum park—special thanks to Toadally Kool for providing the delicious lunches!

Megawatt Kids Camp

Aimed at students in fourth through sixth grades, Megawatt Kids Camp featured a behind-the-scenes tour of Western Farmers Electric Cooperative. Campers got a firsthand look at how electricity is generated while learning about electrical safety and careers in energy.

At Choctaw Electric Cooperative, we're proud to support the next generation with programs that spark curiosity and empower our youth.

2025 Annual Meeting Vendor Booth Reservation Form

Saturday, September 27, 2025 | Pushmataha County Fairgrounds

Organization: _____

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Products to be displayed/sold: _____

Number of booth spaces: _____

Booth spaces are available first come, first serve. Vendors must bring their own tables, chairs and electrical cords. Deadline to reserve booth: September 19, 2025.

Send reservation form to: Jia Johnson
Choctaw Electric Cooperative | PO Box 758, Hugo, OK 74743

Save
T.H.E
DATE

Please save the date for

Choctaw Electric Cooperative's 2025 Annual Meeting

September 27 | 8 a.m.

Pushmataha County Fairgrounds in Antlers

OTHER NOTABLE DATES

August 28-September 2

Mail-in ballots delivered to members

September 2-17

Notification by mail of Annual Meeting

