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# inside *your* co-op

Published for members of Choctaw Electric Cooperative

■ TOP STORY

## Energy Classes For Local Schools

Ask us about scheduling a program for your classroom!

**R**aising children to be smart about energy is key to reducing energy use, keeping rates affordable, and protecting the environment. Choctaw Electric Cooperative (CEC) hopes to increase energy awareness among elementary, middle school, and high school students by offering free energy education classes.

Four different courses are available. From basic electrical safety to understanding alternative energy, each class is designed to make learning about energy fun. CEC staff provide hands-on instruction, plus course materials. Courses are customized to fit your classroom needs.

■ DANGER RANGER

CEC's Danger Ranger curriculum teaches elementary school students why electrical safety is important and how they can stay safe in their home and neighborhood. Videos, games, and other interactive tools keep students entertained and interested.



CEC's Brad Kendrick explains electrical safety to students from Valliant School.

■ GET POWERED!

Where does electricity come from? How is it delivered to our homes and businesses? Get Powered helps students understand the complex process of power generation and delivery and distribution.

■ WHAT'S UP WITH GREEN?

This course uses experiments and activities to teach middle school students about different forms of energy and how to use it efficiently.

■ GO ECO!

For middle school or high school students, Go Eco reveals the difference between kinetic and mechanical energy and how alternative energy

resources use both to create electricity. A variety of hands-on tools help students understand how electricity is generated, transmitted and delivered. Students also learn about nuclear and bio-mass power. ☼

For more information or to schedule a program for your classroom, please call **800-780-6486**, ext. 241.

**HOLIDAY HOURS**

Choctaw Electric Cooperative will close Friday, **April 19** for Good Friday. To report an outage during this time, please call **800-780-6486**.

*Please have a happy Easter!*

MANAGER'S REPORT

# The Commitment Of A Lineman

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 8th

National studies show that those who install and repair power lines work one of the most dangerous jobs in the country. Laboring high in the air while wearing heavy equipment and working directly with high voltage creates the perfect storm of danger that is rarely forgiving. Fortunately, your co-op linemen are up to the task. Choctaw Electric linemen are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job.

Your co-op linemen are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other family milestones. Beyond the years of specialized training and apprenticeships, it takes a certain internal fortitude and a mission-oriented outlook to be a good lineman. In fact, that service-oriented mentality is a hallmark characteristic. The job requires linemen to set aside personal priorities, often at a moment's notice, to serve Choctaw Electric members.

### Family Support System

To do the job right, lineworkers depend on years of training, experience, and each other to get through their shift safely.

Equally important is their support system at home. A lineworker's family understands and supports their loved one's commitment to the greater community during severe storms and power outages.

Often, this means they may not see one another for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be even more difficult.

### Community Commitment

In Choctaw Electric territory, our lineworkers' mission of helping others often extends beyond their job commitment. Choctaw Electric linemen are often familiar faces that can be found coaching youth sports and volunteering for local charities. Lineman Darren Frazier helped villagers in Guatemala get lights in their homes for the first time.

### Thank You

April 8th is Lineworker Appreciation Day. Given the dedication of your co-op linemen, I hope you'll take a moment to acknowledge the contributions they make. If you see your lineman or their family members out and about in town, offer them a thank you. Their hard work makes a difference for all of us.



BY KOONEY DUNCAN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### Lucky Acct #38851761

**(\$25)** If this account number belongs to you, contact CEC by the 10th of the month to claim your \$25 bill credit. Unclaimed bill credits will roll over each month by \$25 for a maximum credit of \$100. To claim your credit, please call 800-780-6486, ext. 207.

### OFFICIAL MINUTES OF YOUR CEC BOARD MEETING

Scan this code with your smartphone or tablet to read the monthly minutes of your co-op board meeting. Minutes are also available at any CEC location and online at [www.choctawelectric.coop](http://www.choctawelectric.coop).

To scan the code, install a Bar Code Scanner app, available at the App Store.



## Choctaw Electric Cooperative

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

Monday-Friday • 8 am - 5 pm

### HUGO OFFICE

PO Box 758  
Hwy 93 North  
Hugo, Oklahoma 74743  
Toll Free: (800) 780-6486  
Local: (580) 326-6486  
FAX (580) 326-2492

### IDABEL OFFICE

2114 SE Washington  
Idabel, Oklahoma 74745  
Toll Free: (800) 780-6486  
Local: (580) 286-7155

### ANTLERS OFFICE

HC 67 Box 62  
Antlers, Oklahoma 74523  
(One mile east of Antlers)  
Toll Free: (800) 780-6486  
Local: (580) 298-3201

On the Web:

[www.choctawelectric.coop](http://www.choctawelectric.coop)



24 Hour Outage Hotline

**800-780-6486**

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brent Franks, *President*

Joe M. Silk, *Vice President*

Mike Brewer, *Secretary Treasurer*

Stacy Nichols      Bill Woolsey

George Burns      Debbie Cody

Ken Autry      Perry Thompson Jr.

### MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Kooney Duncan, *Chief Executive Officer*

Jennifer Boling, *Executive Assistant*

Jia Johnson, *Director of Public Relations*

Tiffany Hempsted, *Chief Financial Officer*

■ AT YOUR SERVICE

# Help CEC Save Trees—And Money By Choosing Paperless Billing



Every month your electric cooperative spends a significant amount of money mailing thousands of pieces of mail. Member electric bills make up the bulk of this expense.

You can help your co-op pare down its administrative costs by shifting to paperless billing. When you choose CEC’s paperless billing option, you will continue to receive monthly statements via email. How you choose to pay is up to you.

Your electronic statement will include a link to CEC’s SmartHub where you can make a quick online payment. Or, you can choose from any of CEC’s preferred payment methods and payment plans:

- **Budget Billing.** With this option your energy usage is averaged over 12 months, helping you avoid seasonal high bills.
- **Automatic Payment Plan.** Payments are automatically withdrawn from your checking, savings, or credit card account.

Choose paperless billing by **April 30** and receive a **\$5 bill credit**. To go paperless, please call your co-op at **800-780-6486**, or sign up through SmartHub.

- **Pay-By-Phone.** Pay using Visa, Discover, American Express, or Mastercard by calling **800-780-6486**. Remember to have your account number handy when you call.
- **Payment locations.** Use the payment drop box at CEC locations in Hugo, Idabel and Antlers, or use a PaySite kiosk located near you. *For a list of PaySite locations, please see page 4.*

You’re the guest of honor at

## CEC Member Appreciation Days

Taking place at CEC locations in the following communities:

**April 10, Hugo | April 11, Antlers | April 12, Idabel**

10 am until 2 pm

- Free hot dogs, chips, drinks and dessert
- Free health check w/ blood pressure & glucose monitoring
- Bill credits and other prize giveaways
- Electric vehicle display



Please join us!



THE HOME

# Energy DETECTIVE

By Brad Kendrick, CEC Energy Use Specialist

Often the homes I visit are older and have little to no insulation. I also see new homes with little to low R-value insulation or the insulation is incorrectly installed and slips down the wall leaving no protection.

When building or remodeling a home, make sure you add the correct amount of insulation. Without it, your home will use more energy than necessary, especially in the winter and summer. There are different types of insulation available, including spray foam, rolled fiberglass and cellulose. Get the right type for your project, and remember that insulation is only as good as the seal of your home.

Do you have questions for CEC’s energy sleuth? Please call Brad Kendrick, CEC energy use specialist, at **800-780-6486**, or email questions to: [bakendrick@choctawelectric.coop](mailto:bakendrick@choctawelectric.coop).

**OOPS, WE GOOFED!** Last month’s issue of *Inside Your Co-op* included incorrect information on CPR classes. CEC offers CPR classes for the public and nonprofit organizations, but charges \$14 for materials used in the training. We are sorry for the confusion.

**Appliance Loans.**

CEC energy loans make it easier to afford more efficient (and typically more expensive) appliances. For details, visit [www.choctawelectric.coop](http://www.choctawelectric.coop).







# CEC Kilowatt Kid's Camp

Hugo | June 4                      Idabel | June 6

CEC's Kilowatt Kid's Camp offers a fun, educational experience for kids in two age divisions: first through third grade, and fourth through sixth grade. Campers spend the morning making crafts and playing games that teach them valuable lessons about how to stay safe around electricity. Kids also learn why it's important to turn out the lights when they leave a room and practice other energy wise behaviors.

CEC is currently enrolling students for our half-day camps in Hugo and Idabel. The camp is free and includes all snacks and camp activities. To enroll, please fill out the form below and return it CEC by May 31, 2019. For more information, please call Jia Johnson or Brad Kendrick at **800-780-6486**, ext. 241.

### 2019 KILOWATT KID'S CAMP ENROLLMENT FORM

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tele: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Tele: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size (Circle): Youth XS (4-6) | Youth S (6-8) | Youth M (8-10)  
 Youth L (10-12) | Adult S | Adult M | Adult L

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tele: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp (Please circle):

|                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Hugo Camp   June 4</u>       | <u>Idabel Camp   June 6</u>     |
| 1st-3rd grade: 8:30 am to 11 am | 1st-3rd grade: 8:30 am to 11 am |
| 4th-6th grade: 1 pm -3 pm       | 4th-6th grade: 1 pm -3 pm       |

Mail enrollment form by May 31, 2019 to:  
 Jia Johnson or Brad Kendrick/ CEC/ PO Box 758/Hugo, OK 74743



## Too Much Chocolate Cake

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 (18.25 oz) package devil's food cake mix
- 1 (5.9 oz) package instant chocolate pudding mix
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup warm water
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350° F. In a large bowl, mix together the cake and pudding mixes, sour cream, oil, beaten eggs and water. Stir in chocolate chips and pour batter into a well greased 12-cup bundt pan.

Bake for 50 to 55 minutes, or until top is springy to the touch and a wooden toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool cake in pan at least an hour and a half before inverting onto a plate. Dust cake with powdered sugar.

Source: allrecipes.com

## Pay Your Electric Bill Using A PaySite Kiosk Near You



PaySite kiosks are ready to accept your electric bill payment at the following locations; or use the kiosk locator at <http://paysitekiosklocator.com/> to locate a kiosk near you.

### Save A Lot Grocery, Hugo.

OPEN SUNDAY, 9 AM - 8 PM.  
 MON-SAT, 7:30 AM - 9 PM

### Country Market, Clayton.

OPEN 6 AM -10 PM, 7 DAYS/ WK

### Choctaw Travel Plazas in Atoka, Antlers, Broken Bow, and Idabel.

OPEN 24 HRS.

### CJ's Corner Store, Smithville

OPEN MON - FRI, 6 AM-7 PM;  
 SAT, 6:30 AM-7 PM; SUN, 9 AM-5 PM