

What is the PCA?

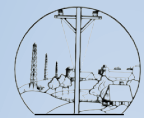
Questions and answers about the power cost adjustment. **PAGE 2**

Watch for Crews

Contract crews are spraying and trimming ECE right of way. **PAGE 3**

Free Booth Space

Vendors, bring your products to the ECE Annual Meeting! **PAGE 4**



country living

JULY 2016

PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS OF EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

East Central Electric Cooperative
PO Box 1178 • 2001 S. Wood Drive
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447-1178
(918) 756-0833
www.ecoec.com

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm.

POWER OUTAGE HOT LINE
(918) 756-0833

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Lowell Hobbs, *President*
Larry Harvey, *Vice President*
Dwight Luther, *Secretary Treasurer*
Max Shoemake, *Asst. Sec. Treasurer*
Ed Kloeckler
Michael Vernnon
Jim Hall
Tim Smith, *General Manager*

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay online at www.ecoec.com using SmartHub, or download the app.
- Pay by phone using VISA, Mastercard or Discover at **866-999-4584**. Available 24 hours a day. Convenience fee associated with payments.
- Pay with cash or credit/debit card at participating Moneygram or Pay Site locations. Convenience fee associated with payments.
- Pay using our drive-through window or lobby, Monday - Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account. Sign up online or download the ebill form for easy automatic payments at www.ecoec.com.

Put Yourself In This Picture.

Win the vacation of your dreams by attending the ECE Annual Meeting on July 28 and registering for prize drawings.

Some people dream of white sand beaches and clear blue water. Others long for the crisp air of the high mountains. Whatever your dream vacation may be, you could make it a reality by attending the ECE Annual Meeting on July 28.

Members who register at the meeting will be eligible for the grand prize— a vacation package valued at up to \$6,000. You decide when and where you want to go and the rest is taken care of.

If the dream vacation prize isn't enough, your registration also makes you eligible for \$2,600 in cash prizes to be given out

at the meeting. There's more: Every ECE member receives a \$20 electric bill credit for registering at the meeting. With those kind of odds, there's no way you can lose!

ECE Annual Meeting registration will open at 5 pm. The business meeting will begin at 7 pm. Plan to arrive early and enjoy the arts and crafts booths and carnival games for kids. Grab a hot dog, visit with friends and stay for the business meeting for updates on your co-op financial standing, programs and more.

The meeting will take place at Covelle Hall on the campus of the OSU Institute of Technology, 1801 E. 4th Street in Okmulgee.

Great Reasons to Attend

- \$20 bill credit for every member who registers
- Grand prize vacation worth up to \$6,000
- \$2,800 in cash prizes
- Arts and crafts booths & games for kids

operation roundup update

Operation Roundup funds support local charitable organizations, civic groups, youth programs, community services, and needy families and individuals. For more information on this voluntary bill roundup program, please visit www.ecoec.com.

Figures to date:

Applications reviewed.....	796
Applications granted.....	556
Applications denied.....	224
Applications tabled.....	16
Scholarships awarded.....	\$169,000

Total Disbursements.....\$1,305,940.61
Average member contribution.....44¢



Country Living is published monthly by East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Inc., 2001 S. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. Second class postage paid at Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 and at additional mailing office. Subscription price: 60 cents /year. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to ECE Country Living, PO Box 1178, Okmulgee, OK 74447.



Remember To Bring Your Registration Form

When your ECE Annual Meeting notice arrives in the mail, please don't toss it. **The notice includes a perforated registration form along the bottom. If you plan to attend the ECE Annual Meeting on July 28, please detach that form and bring it with you.** The form will make it easier and faster for you to register at the meeting.

The meeting notice will arrive in an enclosed envelope that is clearly marked "Annual Meeting Notice." You may have received a District Meeting notice that was printed in the same format and mailed earlier this summer.

Bill Pay Assistance

Hot weather is no time to experience an interruption in your electric service. If you're struggling to pay your monthly electric bill, please contact your co-op *before* your bill is overdue.

East Central Electric billing representatives are happy to connect you with local agencies and charitable organizations that offer help to qualifying families and individuals.

For more details, please contact your co-op at **918-756-0833**.

Connect with East Central Electric on Facebook for updates on power outages and information on member benefits and services, energy saving tips and more. If you like what you see, we'd appreciate your "thumbs up."



Thank you for your support!



What is the PCA fee on my monthly bill and why is it necessary?

The power cost adjustment (PCA) is the most accurate reflection of what it costs to generate electricity and deliver it to your co-op substations. Without the PCA, your co-op would have to 'guesstimate' future generating costs and build that guess into its basic rate. Members would be forced to pay extremely high bills that may or may not be accurate based on the cost of fuels at that time.

When I pay the PCA fee, where is my money going?

The power cost adjustment is paid directly to your co-op's wholesale power suppliers, KAMO Power, and Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC). Your co-op currently purchases 92 percent of its power from KAMO and eight percent from WFEC.

Why does it fluctuate so much?

Generating costs fluctuate daily based on the price of natural gas, coal and other fuels used to generate electricity.

Daily fluctuations in fuel costs make it impossible to predict the exact amount of the PCA.

Why can't the co-op buy electricity from a less expensive supplier?

KAMO is the least expensive power supplier in the region. In fact, KAMO rates are lower than the national average.

Q&A on the PCA

That fee on your electric bill shows the most accurate cost of power

Will power costs continue to go up?

Wholesale power costs actually decreased last year by a small percentage due to the lower price of natural gas. If federal regulations on power plant emissions are enforced, the cost to generate electricity in the future will definitely increase. Programs such as ECE's Community Solar Project aim to control the overall rising wholesale energy prices by providing an alternative source of power. ECE energy audits, rebates, and energy saving tips in your newsletter and on Facebook will also help you balance rising costs.

To visit with your electric co-op about ways to save energy, please call **918-756-0833** or visit us online at **www.ecoec.com**.

Energy Campers

East Central Electric's Energy Camp winners Quinton Story of Henryetta; Malcolm Hushbeck of Okmulgee; and Emma Kranz of Henryetta at YouthPower Energy Camp. The trio participated in the camp May 31-June 3 at Canyon Camp near Hinton, Okla. From all reports, they had a great time.





Officially Solar

East Central Electric Cooperative staff and trustees gathered on June 2 for the ribbon cutting and kickoff of ECE's Community Solar Project. Work is currently underway on the solar array located south of co-op headquarters on Highway 75 in Okmulgee. Each solar panel is capable of producing 315 watts of electricity.

Right-of-Way Work Underway

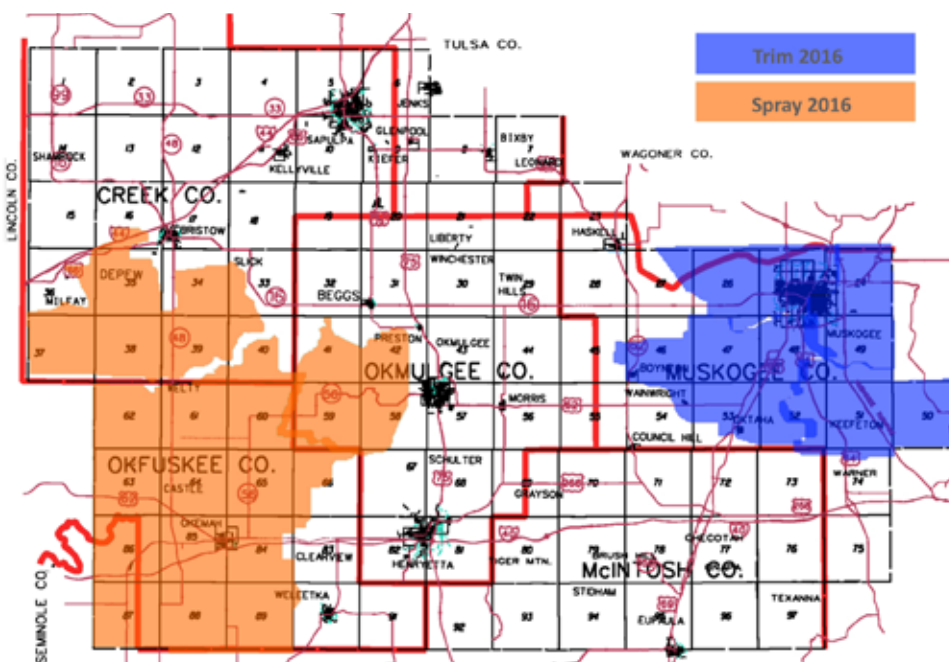
Please watch for right-of-way contractors working in your area

East Central Electric right-of-way crews continue to trim and spray certain areas of the co-op system.

Areas to be trimmed and sprayed are indicated in color in the map below.

Right-of-way maintenance is crucial to ensuring a safe and reliable flow of electricity to your home.

If you have question or concerns, please contact East Central Electric's right-of-way department at **918-756-0833**.



SUPER SERVICES

From Your Electric Co-op

East Central Electric offers a number of beneficial services for members including:

- Community Solar
- Free Energy Audits
- Appliance Rebates
- Exede Internet
- Co-op Connections
- Bill Payment Plans
- Smart Hub Alerts
- Online Services
- Energy Programs
- Safety Programs
- Youth Tour
- Energy Camp



Visit www.ecoec.com, or call **918-756-0833** for complete details on these and other services!



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

Liberty Pass

Finally a service capable of light year

Streaming

Lets you avoid restrictions automatically imposed when you use up your data allowance

exede
INTERNET



ECO Services, LLC

Call Now 918-756-0833

Recipes

Great tastes for members of East Central Electric Cooperative

Lemon Pie Bars

INGREDIENTS

2¼ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup confectioners' sugar
1 cup butter, softened
4 eggs
1½ cups white sugar
½ cup lemon juice
1 tablespoon lemon zest



DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350° F. Mix 2 cups of flour and confectioner's sugar together. Cut in the butter or margarine. Mix well until the dough resembles pie dough consistency. Press the dough into a 9x13 inch baking pan.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

Beat together eggs, sugar, 4 tablespoons flour, lemon juice and lemon rind for at least 1 minute. Pour the mixture over the baked crust.

Bake the bars another 20 minutes, or until the lemon topping has set. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar when cooled. Yield: 32 bars.

FREE BOOTHS at ECE Annual Meeting

If you'd like to market your crafts, tools, quilts, artwork, jewelry or other products, set up a booth at the East Central Electric Annual Meeting! The meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2016 at OSU-IT's Covelle Hall in Okmulgee draws a large crowd—and booth space is free.

Business owners, home-based businesses or non-profit organizations that wish to set up a booth must reserve a space using the booth reservation form to the right. Reservation deadline is July 1, 2016.

If you have questions about vendor booths, please contact Katherine Russell at 918-756-0833.

2016 ECE Annual Meeting Booth Reservation

Thursday, July 28, 2016 • OSU-IT, Covelle Hall

___ Food Space

___ Arts & Crafts Space

(Food vendors are required to submit a food handler's permit per OSU-IT)

Organization _____

Contact Name _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Products to be sold _____

Send reservation form to: East Central Electric Cooperative

Attn: Katherine Russell

PO Box 1178

Okmulgee, OK 74447

Or send via email to: krussell@ecoec.com