



# the COOPERATOR

**MARCH 2025** | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative  
A supplement to Oklahoma Living




## Protecting Pollinators Kay Electric Supports Monarch Migration

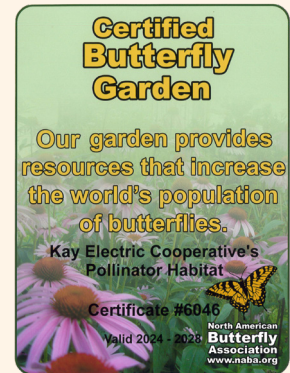
Every year, millions of monarch butterflies take to the skies on a 3,000-mile migration, passing through Oklahoma on their way to central Mexico. But even the strongest travelers need a place to rest and refuel. That's why Kay Electric Cooperative has created a monarch waystation at our headquarters—giving these winged visitors a safe place to land. 892608

Monarch butterflies, with their striking orange and black wings, rely on specific plants to survive. Along their migration route, they need milkweed for egg-laying and nectar-rich flowers for nourishment. With habitat loss making their journey more difficult, waystations like the one at Kay Electric help monarchs continue

their incredible journey.

Monarch waystations are more than flower beds—they provide essential resources at every stage of the butterfly's life cycle, from caterpillar to adult. Kay Electric's waystation is designed to attract and sustain these travelers while adding beauty and movement to our local landscape.

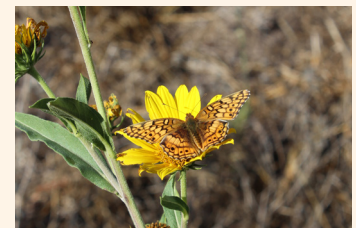
The monarch migration is a symbol of strength, resilience and connection—qualities that define both our cooperative and the people we serve. This waystation is one more way Kay Electric Cooperative stays plugged into the needs of our community, providing not just reliable, affordable electricity but also a place for something truly special to take flight. 



### Help the Butterflies!

Supporting monarch butterflies and their migration is a collective effort. Here are some ways you can contribute.

- Create a waystation: Plant native milkweed and create a waystation at home to support monarchs.
- Plant for pollinators: Grow a variety of pollinator-friendly plants and flowers.
- Educate others: Raise awareness about the importance of monarch butterflies and the challenges they face.



*Pictured above is KEC's Monarch Waystation. Photos by KEC Marketing Intern Madison Quillin.*



### OUR MISSION

Founded in 1937, Kay Electric Co-operative remains focused on our primary mission: to provide safe, affordable and reliable power for our member-owners. Today, our service territory includes 2,263 miles of line and more than 5,900 meters located in Kay, Grant, Noble, Osage and Garfield counties.

### CONTACT US

Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
580-363-1260 | 800-535-1079  
300 W. Doolin Ave.  
Blackwell, OK 74631  
www.kayelectric.coop

### REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or report via SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1 - Jake Olsen  
District 2 - Chad Otto  
District 3 - Sec./Treas. Ron Shoffner  
District 4 - President Max Hohmann  
District 5 - Mike Lebeda  
District 6 - Brady Hostetler  
District 7 - Bart Cardwell  
District 8 - Dr. Tim Blanton  
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General Manager/CEO - Jason Boesch

### EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

- Pay online using SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app.
- Pay by phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your bank account or credit card. Sign up at www.kayelectric.coop.

# BEST OF KAY COUNTY

## Kay Electric was honored to be named 2024 Best Place to Work in Kay County!



## You're invited to KAY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S 2025 DRIVE-THRU ANNUAL MEETING

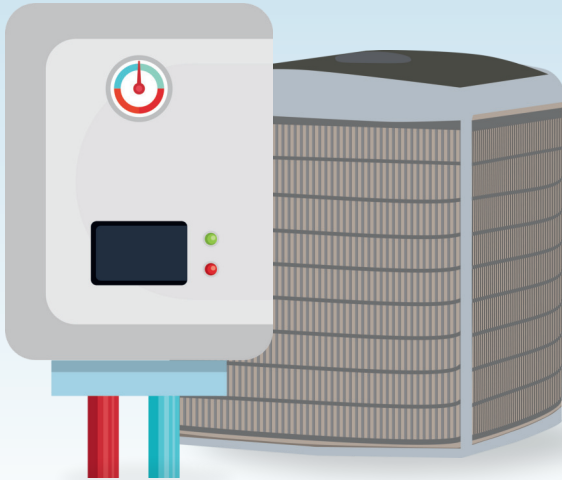
FRIDAY, APRIL 4 | 3-7 P.M.  
KAY ELECTRIC HEADQUARTERS  
300 W. DOOLIN, BLACKWELL

All members who register will receive a **\$25 cash gift** and a chance to win one of these **grand prizes**: John Deere Gator, John Deere zero turn mower, Milwaukee M18 fuel string trimmer set, Milwaukee M18 leaf blower set, and Milwaukee M18 wet/dry vacuum.

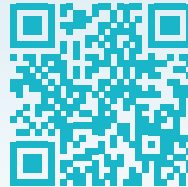


# We offer rebates!

Did you know Kay Electric offers rebates on hot water tanks, heat pumps and attic insulation? For more information visit [www.kayelectric.coop/rebates](http://www.kayelectric.coop/rebates) or call 580-363-1260.



Scan here to learn about our rebates!



# LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS




## Apply Now for K-UP

Applications for second quarter K-UP grants are due April 7. Apply at [www.kayelectric.coop/k](http://www.kayelectric.coop/k).



## Employees Earn Key Accounts Certification

Congratulations to Kay Electric Cooperative Director of Communications Desiree Masterson-Whitehead and Staking Technician Payden Day for earning the NRECA Certified Key Accounts Executive certification. This achievement demonstrates their expertise in key account management, helping strengthen relationships with commercial and industrial members. 



Scan here to nominate a teacher!



## Teachers apply now!

We know there are teachers in our community who go above and beyond for students, and we want them to be recognized! Oklahoma's electric cooperatives and the K20 Center need your help to nominate an outstanding educator for the 2025 SKIE awards. Nominate them at <https://k20center.ou.edu/skie> by March 14. If your nominee is awarded, you will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card.

## GOOD COOKIN'

### Mississippi Mud Cake

Serves 10-12

#### Ingredients

- 15-ounce chocolate cake mix
- 1 1/4 cups water
- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 16-ounce bag miniature marshmallows
- 16-ounce can chocolate fudge frosting
- 1 cup chopped pecans

#### Instructions

Heat oven to 350°F. Grease a 13-by-9-inch baking pan. In large bowl, using electric mixer on low speed, combine cake mix, water, oil, peanut butter and eggs. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour into prepared pan. Bake 30-35 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Pour marshmallows over top of cake. Return to oven and bake 2-3 minutes, or until marshmallows are somewhat melted. In microwave-safe bowl, melt fudge frosting in microwave. Drizzle frosting over melted marshmallows. Sprinkle pecan pieces over frosting. Allow cake to cool completely before serving.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

March is an ideal time to service your home cooling system, ensuring it runs efficiently when the heat of summer arrives. Routine maintenance, like cleaning or replacing filters, checking refrigerant levels and inspecting parts, can improve your system's energy efficiency and lower your energy bills. By addressing potential issues early, you can avoid costly emergency repairs and extend the lifespan of your unit. Scheduling service in the spring helps you beat the peak-season rush, giving you faster access to qualified technicians. A well-maintained cooling system can save energy and keep your home comfortable all summer long.

## \$25 is hiding in this issue!

If you spot your account number hidden in these pages, please contact Kay Electric to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill. If no account numbers are claimed, the prize money will carry over to the next month for a maximum bill credit of \$50. Call 800-535-1079 or email [contact@kayelectric.coop](mailto:contact@kayelectric.coop) to claim your prize.

## FOLLOW US!



for community highlights, contests, outage restoration updates and more

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