



the **COOPERATOR**

OCTOBER 2023 | For the members of Kay Electric Cooperative
A supplement to Oklahoma Living



Kay Electric helps grow the communities we serve

October is National Co-op Month, and Kay Electric is joining cooperatives across the U.S. to celebrate. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, but they each have a common goal: to provide goods or services for the members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops, including KEC, exist to serve their members. Our priority is to provide affordable, reliable energy to our local communities. This October, as we celebrate Co-op Month, we're focusing on the ways "Co-ops Grow" for their members.


Co-ops Grow Communities: Co-ops help communities grow by promoting economic empowerment, fostering com-

munity engagement and supporting the unique needs of co-op members. "Concern for Community" is one of our core principles—and being community-focused is essential to everything we do. Our K-UP grant program is one of the many ways we give back to the community.

Co-ops Grow Together: Co-ops are all about cooperation, not competition. That's why electric co-ops work together to share lessons learned, successful strategies and better ways to serve our members. We're better when we grow together!

Co-ops Grow Tomorrow's Leaders: Electric co-ops serve as fertile ground

for growing tomorrow's leaders through a variety of youth engagement programs. Whether through school safety demonstrations, Energy Camp, Leadership Camp or the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program, we're committed to providing opportunities for local youth to learn and thrive in our community and beyond.

Co-ops Grow for You: At Kay Electric, your satisfaction is our No. 1 goal. It's why we were formed in 1937 to fulfill a uniquely local purpose. We've come a long way since then, as your needs continue to evolve. That's why we'll never stop growing for you! 



OUR MISSION

Founded in 1937, Kay Electric Cooperative remains focused on our primary mission: to provide safe, affordable and reliable power for our member-owners. Today, our service territory includes 2,269 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. | PO Box 607
Blackwell, OK 74631
www.kayelectric.coop

REPORT AN OUTAGE

Call 800-535-1079 or use Kay Electric's SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.

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EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

- Pay online using SmartHub at www.kayelectric.coop or download the SmartHub app for smartphone or tablet.
- Pay over the phone: 800-535-1079.
- Pay in person at Kay Electric or use our 24-hour payment drop box located at 300 W. Doolin Ave. in Blackwell.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account or major credit card. Sign up for auto-pay online at www.kayelectric.coop.

EFFICIENCY IDEAS

It's sweater weather!

Fall is a great time to save energy at home


It's been weeks since you needed to turn on the air conditioner, but it's not quite time to crank up the heat. In fact, autumn is one of the best times of the year to save energy.

Here are some ideas:

- Layer your clothing. A sweater and a pair of socks can keep you warm enough without turning on the heat, probably for longer than you would expect. 2348600
- Throw extra blankets on the bed.
- Open the curtains during the day when the sun is up and close them at dark to keep cold air outside where it belongs.
- Stop drafts by caulking around windows, doors and holes in exterior walls for cable and phone lines.

Sweater
Weather



- Set a date for turning on the heat for the first time, and pay attention to your family's tolerance. If you need to wear gloves and a hat to stay warm, it might be time to activate the thermostat. 



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know using your dishwasher is more energy efficient than washing a load of dishes by hand? To maximize efficiency, wash full loads in the dishwasher and don't block the arms or other parts that move while the appliance is in use. For additional savings, turn on the "air dry" setting instead of using the "heat dry" setting and use a rinse aid to help dishes dry faster without spotting and streaking.

Source: energy.gov

Spooky season safety

Keep your family safe this Halloween with tips from the Electrical Safety Foundation

SAFETY
TIPS

Halloween is a time when ghosts and goblins are lurking, but what about electrical safety hazards? Here are some tips to help keep your family safe this spooky season:

- Curiosity leads to many things, not all of them safe. Protect children by installing tamper resistant receptacles in your home. This permanent, cost-effective solution prevents injuries and deaths caused by the insertion of foreign objects into outlets.
- Avoid using dried flowers, corn stalks or hay in your festive decorations. These items are highly flammable and could even be ignited by heat from a nearby lightbulb.
- Use only electrical decorations and products that have been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL, Intertek or CSA.
- Inspect all electrical decorations and extension cords before use. Discard any that have cracked, frayed or exposed wiring.
- Outdoor electrical decorations are increasingly popular. To reduce your risk of shocks, Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) should be used wherever water may come into contact with electrical products. Replace traditional receptacles with GFCIs or use a portable one.
- Never use electrical products outdoors that are marked "for indoor use." You could get shocked—or worse!
- Always turn off electrical decorations and extinguish any open flames before leaving home or going to bed.

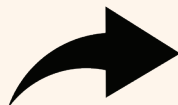
Kay Electric wishes you a safe and spook-tacular Halloween! 🎃



Winter weather is coming. Are you prepared?

Kay Electric offers Generac whole home automatic standby generators. A standby generator provides automatic backup power to protect your home in case of an outage this winter. We can cover the entire install process from start to finish. A variety of generator sizes are available. For more information, call KEC at 580-363-1260 or visit www.kayelectric.coop/generators.

Scan here to
learn more!



GOOD COOKIN'

Pumpkin Pie Muffins

Yields 24

Ingredients:

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin spice
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vegetable oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup whole milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 30 ounces pumpkin pie filling
- 1 cup chopped nuts, optional

Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Spray 24 muffin tins with non-stick baking spray; set aside. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, baking soda, and pumpkin spice. In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, sugars, oil, milk, vanilla and canned pumpkin pie filling. Add the dry mixture into the wet and combine until lump-free. Stir in nuts, if desired. Scoop batter into muffin tins, filling about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way. Bake for 20-25 minutes. The muffins will feel springy when gently pressed, and a tester inserted into the center of the muffin will come out clean.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

BRAD MEADOR

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN

Brad Meador is a journeyman electrician and Generac technician at Kay Electric. Brad has worked as an electrician for 20 years, and has worked at Kay Electric for the last two. Asked what his favorite part of the job is he says, "Knowing that I'm needed and being able to help members in need." Brad grew up in Ponca City, where he currently lives with his wife, Lauren, two sons, Mason, 18, and Braxton, 10, and two dogs. Outside of work, Brad enjoys spending time with friends and family on the river, air boating. He also raises cattle. Brad says he is most proud of being a husband and father and having his family close by. Thank you, Brad, for your service!



ST. LOUIS
CARDINALS FAN



ENJOYS
AIR BOATING



TWO DOGS,
MACK AND VIRGIE

\$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 to claim your prize.

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