

# THE CIRCUIT!

April 2018

*A publication for our Members  
in Atoka•Bryan•Choctaw  
Coal•Johnston Counties*



## Your Co-op Is Here For You!

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At Southeastern Electric, we pride ourselves on helping our Member-Owners. From providing multiple ways to conveniently pay your bill to having the ability of hearing a real voice when you call into the office, we want to have you covered!



Have you recently purchased a new heating or air system for your home? We may have a rebate for you! We want to help you be as energy efficient as possible and save the most on your electric bill. Check out our website today and visit the Rebates tab or call 580-745-9463.

## We Invite You To Our Website

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Our website, [www.se-coop.com](http://www.se-coop.com), holds a plethora of information for our Members! If you have a question, you may be able to get an immediate, simple answer from visiting our website.

We have posted our rates, membership forms, documents, rebate applications, bill payment options, directions to our facility and

Is your security light not working properly? We can fix it! From a flickering light to a burned out bulb, give our office a call so that we can send out a lineman to promptly fix the problem.

We have a knowledgeable billing department that is dedicated to helping our Members understand their bill. If you are needing to check your eligibility for a payment arrangement, give our billing department a call today, 580-924-2170, to see what they can do for you!

One of the seven cooperative principles is commitment to the communities we serve. Each year we participate in area events such as basketball tournaments, junior livestock shows and the special olympics.

If you would like more information on how your Cooperative is here for you, give us a call Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. or visit our website at [www.Se-Coop.com](http://www.Se-Coop.com)!\*\*\*

contact information for our staff.

Needing to make a quick payment on your PrePaid account or take care of that bill while you are sitting at your computer? That can all be done on our website as well!

Have a few minutes to spare? Use them to hop over to [www.Se-Coop.com](http://www.Se-Coop.com) now and check out what all we have to offer!\*\*\*



High bills are never a good surprise. Now, you can get an alert sent to you on a daily schedule to make you aware of when you have used a higher than normal amount of kilowatts during a 24 hour period.

You can receive a text, e-mail or voice alert when a day occurs where you reach your threshold, or what you consider to be an excessive amount of kWh usage for your residence. We suggest setting that threshold at \$5 since any amount over that per day would be considered “above average” usage.

Your meter is read daily and the alerts will generally come between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. They will reflect what was used the previous day if you went over your set threshold. This can give you a heads-up that you may want to monitor and lessen your energy consumption by adjusting the thermostat or turning down space heaters on days where the outside temperature is similar.

This is a FREE alert system offered to you by your Cooperative. We hope that this will help Members who experience high bills save during the colder and warmer months! To sign up, please call the office at 580-924-2170 today!



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A HUGE shout-out to **Southwest Rural Electric Cooperative** and **Choctaw Electric Cooperative** for their help during the February ice storm.

Due to nearly an inch of ice on power lines, we experienced severe damage to our infrastructure. Without the help from our neighboring Co-ops and their mutual-aid crews, the process to restore power would not have gone as quickly and efficiently as it did.

Also, THANK YOU to all of our understanding Members who baked the linemen cakes and cookies and constantly reminded everyone how good of a job they were doing. \*\*\*

## Have You Asked About PrePay?



Are you facing a large deposit to have your electricity turned on? Are you wanting to monitor your energy usage more closely? Did you put up a deposit when you became a Member? If you answered “yes” to any of these, you may want to consider PrePay Metering!

With PrePay Metering, a Member can forgo the large deposit to have their electricity turned on. You pay \$100.00 start up fee (which will be applied directly to your account as a credit), a small Membership fee and a \$35.00 connect fee. Then you are all set to go as a PrePay Member!

You can easily monitor your energy use with a PrePay Meter. Since you pre-pay for what you will use, it can make a Member more aware of how their kilowatts are consumed. Alerts are sent out via text message once a specific balance that is chosen by the Member has been reached. Then you know it is time to add more money to your account balance.

Those who put up a deposit when they became a Member can use that deposit to switch over to a PrePay Meter account and may have a credit as a result! For more information about our PrePay Program, please contact our offices at 580-924-2170 today!\*\*\*

**\*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.\***

*The Circuit! is composed monthly by*



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## Why Is My Bill So High?



If your electric bill seems higher than it used to be, it's time to investigate. Often there are reasons that are easily overlooked.

*Check your graph on the bill itself.* First, verify that the bill actually is higher. Visit your electric cooperative's website at [www.se-coop.com](http://www.se-coop.com) or ask someone there for help to pull up your bills for the past year. You may be surprised to see that your electricity use fluctuates depending on the season, and that your bill is higher during winter and summer.

*Check the weather.* Extreme outdoor temperatures cause your HVAC unit to work harder to keep your home comfortable.

*Check the number of days in the billing cycle.* Depending on the number of days in the month and the bills due date, it could cover a couple of extra days some months. That would cause a bill to be slightly higher.

*Check what is plugged in.* If you thought your bill would be significantly lower because your family was gone on vacation part of the time, you might be surprised to realize that many of your appliances still require a moderate amount of electricity when the house is unoccupied.

*Check your equipment.* As appliances like refrigerators and water heaters age, they become more inefficient. If your air conditioning and heating system or another large appliance is over 15 years old, consider replacing it with a more energy-efficient model.

*Check your lifestyle.* If your college age child is home for the summer, chances are, your electric bill will be a bit higher than it was while they were away. If your grandkids are vacationing at your house, your bill could go up. If you've had house guests, you've used more electricity. If you have major appliances, like a swimming pool, hot tub or even a large TV, that has affected your electric bill.

*Don't check with the neighbors.* No two families use electricity the same way. If you believe your electric bill is too high because your neighbors is lower, your not making an even comparison. A better comparison is between your use of electricity now compared with the same time last year.

If you still think that your bill is higher than it should be, give us a call at 580-924-2170.\*\*\*