

FEC[®] POWER

Source

Vol. 28 No. 11/12

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Scholarship Applications Available Now...

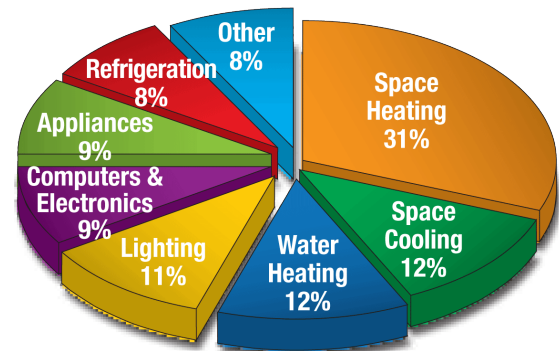
Farmers' Electric Cooperative will be awarding scholarships again this year through the Farmers' Electric Education Foundation. Scholarship applications may be obtained from area high school guidance counselors or from cooperative office locations in Clovis, Ft. Sumner, and Santa Rosa. Scholarship applications can also be requested by calling the Clovis office at 575-762-4466 or by going online to www.fecnm.org. All cooperative members and their dependents are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Only the interest earned on donations is used for scholarships, ensuring that the Education Foundation will continue to support higher education for our members for many years to come. Through 2023, the foundation has awarded 1,505 scholarships totaling \$1,184,730.

Don't Delay! Deadline For Applications Is February, 1, 2024!

This year there are two different scholarship forms. Be sure when requesting a form that you specify either the "Graduating High School Student Application" or the "Returning College Application." Again, both forms are available from any FEC office or are available to download from www.fecnm.org.

On average, this is where your energy dollars are spent?



The Farmers' Electric Education Foundation was established by the members of the cooperative in 1986 and is funded through donated and unclaimed patronage capital refunds and donations by private individuals.

Attention

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2023. To avoid potential disconnection of services, please contact the Human Services Department for eligibility information for the Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) at 800-283-4465. Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2023 through March 15, 2024, if you qualify for LIHEAP and have no past due amount or are making the agreed upon payments.

Atención

Protección contra la interrupción de servicio de invierno comienza el 15 de Noviembre del 2023. Para evitar la posibilidad de desconexión. Favor de ponerse en contacto con el Departamento de Servicios Humanos para informarse acerca de los requisitos de elegibilidad para el Programa de Asistencia Energética de Bajos Ingresos (LIHEAP) al 1-800-283-4465, Su servicio no será desconectado el 15 de Noviembre del 2023 a 15 de Marzo del 2024 si califica para el Programa de Asistencia Energética de Bajos Ingresos y no tiene saldo atrasado ni a fallado con su acuerdo de pagos fijos.

Manager's Message...



Antonio Sanchez, Jr., CEO

FEC Introduces New Commercial EV Rates and a Residential EV Rate Rider

On September 1st, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission approved our new EV rates. FEC is proud to announce that we have a Residential EV Rate Rider for residential members who install an EV charger for their personal electric vehicle(s) at their residence. These members will receive a discount on the first 300 kWh per month, either metered or programmed for off-peak charging. The discount is \$0.019483/kWh, which is almost two cents per kilowatt-

hour. FEC off-peak charging would be anytime other than between 2PM and 6PM (MST). Members who wish to sign up for this new rate rider would need to contact the office or come by and request it. FEC will not automatically enroll anyone.

FEC also received approval for a new Commercial EV Charger Service and a Power Service EV Charger Service. The Commercial EV Charger Service rate is available to commercial electric vehicle charging stations, selling EV charging service to the general public. The Power Service EV Charger Service rate is available to commercial electric vehicle charging stations requiring 50 kVA or more of transformer capacity, selling EV charging service to the general public.

To be eligible for either of these rates, under this tariff, only EV charging can be metered. All remaining services, including but not limited to lighting and any buildings, must be separately metered and served under the tariff that would apply to these facilities.

Peak and off-peak times are defined within Western Farmers Electric Cooperative Member Rate Schedule R-16. WFEC is FEC's generation and transmission entity. FEC purchases all their power from WFEC and our rate from WFEC contains a defined on-peak time period.

FEC recognizes that times are changing and with the drive to be green at the State and Federal levels, more and more EV's are needing to be charged within our service territory. FEC is trying to support our members who wish to participate in this drive and need to charge or want to offer EV charging. The most critical component is to make sure we have the information necessary in order to support this new charging load and therefore we must hear from our members. If you plan to purchase a personal EV and install a charger for it at your home, please contact FEC so we can make certain your service is sized appropriately and take advantage of the discount!

If you have any questions, please contact the office and we'll be more than happy to provide answers. If you're curious about EV charging, and want more information on that, we can help with that too. FEC has owned and operated an EV for more than two years. This EV has traveled all around the state and we can share our experiences with you.



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POWER SOURCE

is published bi-monthly by Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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We are on-call 24 hours each day, 365 days each year, to serve your electric power needs

"After Hours" Outage Reporting:
(800) 445-8541

All Other Calls:
Clovis
(575) 762-4466
Fort Sumner
(575) 355-2291
Santa Rosa
(575) 472-3971

Winter is Coming; Safeguard Your Home

Check air seals

There's a storm a brewin. We've heard that for years and it is usually pretty accurate. Before we know it, we'll be scraping our car's windshield, hauling firewood in the house, lighting pilot lights, and pulling out grandma's old mothball scented quilts. If you don't have a good snow shovel and deicing spray, you might want to get those now.

This is the time of year that we have some greater than normal family expenses; traveling to see relatives, big family meals, and of course, Christmas gifts. Another expense we need to be mindful of is the ominous energy bills. For a lot of us, the winter season with its very low overnight lows and not so high highs is when we see some of our highest energy bills. Here are a few tips that may help significantly reduce your energy costs this winter:

Fix insulation defects

- Most attics have insulation defects. These are areas where insulation has been disturbed, leading to voids in your home's thermal barrier. Although they may seem small and insignificant, these voids can have an exaggerated effect on your home's heat loss. Carefully inspect the attic, and if you see any places where the insulation is notably lower than surrounding areas, fill them in.

Insulate the attic

- When checking if you have any voids in your attic insulation, check the overall insulation. If, on average, you have less than 8-10 inches of insulation, it would be a wise investment to add insulation to the entire attic. Besides, Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC) offers our members a \$500 cash-back rebate for bringing your home's attic insulation to R-38 (approximately 12"). Some exclusions may apply.



Check duct seals

- Check door weatherstripping, plumbing penetrations, and other target areas for air leaks. Seal with new weatherstripping, expanding foam or caulk as needed.

- Duct leakage can have a huge negative impact on your home's comfort and energy use. With the HVAC unit's fan running, inspect the duct system for leaks. You should be able to hear and/or feel significant leaks. Smoke pencils, that can be found at major home improvement centers, your local hardware store, or online, can help detect escaping air at duct joints. Repair and seal as needed. Duct mastic is the material of choice when sealing a duct system but

before prepared, this can get messy.

Adjust the thermostat

- One easy way to save money through the winter months is to maintain a low setting on your thermostat. Set it as low as you comfortably can during the winter. Dress warm and in layers when indoors to stay comfortable.

Install a smart thermostat

- Smart thermostats can make reducing your HVAC's runtime when the house is unoccupied much easier, leading to a real reduction in energy consumption. Another plus of these units is that if you have a heat pump, and program them correctly, they can maximize the efficiency of your heat pump usage, reducing expensive auxiliary or emergency heat.
- Feel free to reach out to FEC and ask for the Energy Guy. He has almost 25 years of experience in trying to save consumers money on their energy bills. Call 575-762-4466 today and say, "let me speak to the Energy Guy!"

ATTENTION: IRRIGATION CONSUMERS
SUBJECT: IRRIGATION ANNUAL
MINIMUM CHARGES

In accordance with Farmers' Electric Cooperative's irrigation rate schedule, certain annual minimum charges apply to all irrigation accounts. Your original minimum charges were calculated through a contract with the Cooperative based on the cost of line extension to the irrigation load. Upon expiration of the contract, the horsepower on that account determines the annual minimum at the rate of \$20.00 per horsepower, but not less than \$110.00 for single-phase service, and not less than \$165.00 for three-phase service.

Under the irrigation rate schedule, consumers have one calendar year, (approximately December 20 through December 20 of the following year), in which to use the annual minimum charges. The December billing will reflect the remaining charges, if any.

If you have any questions regarding the annual minimum charges for your irrigation account(s), please contact the Cooperative's Billing Department at 575-762-4466.

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire staff of Farmers' Electric Co-op, Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years!

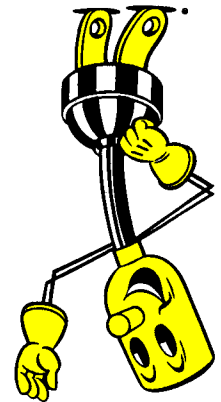
Farmers' Electric Cooperative offices will be closed December 22 and 25 and January 1 in observance of the holidays. In case of an emergency, please call (800) 445-8541. Our line crews are on call 24 hours a day.



Youth Tour Application Packets Available Now!

Go to fecnm.org and hover over the "Community" tab. When you see the drop-down menu, click on "Youth Tour." There you will find the application. It is a downloadable Word document.

This is a trip of a lifetime opportunity!



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