



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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LANE-SCOTT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 800-407-2217. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and standby personnel.

24-hour Electrician Service

If you are without electricity or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day.

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

Annual Meeting Notice

Lane County Fair Grounds

Tuesday, July 13, 2010, at 6:30 p.m.

Check the July issue of *Kansas Country Living* magazine for complete details.

Please plan to attend.

July 2010						
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Clarke & Mulville to Attend Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

Lane-Scott Sends Clarke and Mulville to tour Washington, D.C.

JOHN CLARKE and **SARAH MULVILLE** will be touring the nation's capitol with 34 other students from across Kansas for the 50th Annual "Government in Action" Youth Tour, June 10-17.

Clarke and Mulville were selected from a group of high school applicants by Lane-Scott. To win this trip, students were asked to write an essay that answers the question: "How have the services from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative make our lives better?"

"Lane-Scott is proud to support the Youth Tour program and send our youth to experience government in action," said Earl Steffens, Manager. "Our hope is that local students will gain some awareness of how our political system works and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our community."

Kansas is one of the 45 states to send a youth delegation to the annual electric cooperative youth tour. Since 1964, the nation's electric cooperatives have collectively organized the trips for more than 40,000 high school juniors and seniors to visit U.S.



John Clarke



Sarah Mulville

congressional members, energy and grassroots government education sessions and sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

The students will begin their trip by touring the state capitol in Topeka, followed by visits to the Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant and the Lyon-Coffey Electric Cooperative before flying to Washington, D.C. The group will learn about the U.S. government through visits with their senators and congressional delegation, meetings with youth from other states and tours of museums, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery and the White House.

"These student leaders will be great representatives of both their electric cooperatives and their communities," said Shana Holsteen, Kansas Electric Cooperative youth director. "We are pleased to continue this tradition of taking Kansas youth to learn about electric cooperatives and our nation's government."

Lane-Scott sponsors two students to Washington, D.C., each year. For more information, contact Bob Venters at 620-397-5327.

Don't Let the Air Out!

Get Back to Efficiency Basics with Weatherization

Children running in and out of the house on a hot summer's day may hear a common warning: "Don't leave the door open—you'll let the air out!" But how many adults do the same thing without realizing it?

While you may not leave your front door open, air leaks in the attic and basement let valuable air in—and out—of your home.

The U.S. Department of Energy's EnergyStar® program advises addressing air leaks and ductwork in your home before investing in a new heating and cooling system; sometimes, those are the real sources of problems rather than your equipment.

If air leaks are generally hidden, where do you start?

Most leaks occur in the basement and attic. Starting in your basement, look for gaps and cracks where your cement or block foundation meets the frame of your home. Joists (building supports which are smaller than beams) between the floor and the foundation (called rim or band joists) create cavities, small empty spaces that are hard to insulate and may leak. Not all of the gaps are visible, so EnergyStar® suggests sealing the top and bottom of cavities around rim joists. Use caulk to seal cracks that are 1/4 inch or smaller; spray foam works best to fill gaps from 1/4 inch to about three inches.

It's also a good idea to seal gaps between the basement ceiling and the floor above, like holes for wiring and water pipes.

In the attic, there are many small areas where air may come in, but focus on large spaces. For example, if your home has dropped soffits—part of the ceiling that has been lowered



For step-by-step instructions on how to weatherize your home visit www.energystar.gov.

for lighting design—be sure they've been properly sealed. These design elements, common in bathrooms and kitchens, are often built before your home's drywall is installed, leaving part of your wall open to air from wall or floor cavities.

Even though there may be insulation covering dropped soffits in your attic, be sure all cavities around the soffits have been properly plugged. To do this, place fiberglass insulation inside plastic garbage bags and stuff it tightly into any cavities.

Pay attention to dirty insulation; it's a big clue that air is moving through the area. Just like the basement, be sure to seal gaps between the attic ceiling and the rooms below, including holes for wiring, lighting, and the attic door.

There are many more ways to protect your home, including weather stripping doors and windows and sealing ducts. For step-by-step instructions on how to weatherize your home and start saving energy dollars today, download Sealing Air Leaks and Adding Attic Insulation, a do-it-yourself guide to weatherization from EnergyStar the guide is available at www.energystar.gov.

Summer Storm Safety

Lane-Scott Electric encourages you to practice caution and safety during summer storms, which at times can be severe. Beware of flooded areas cause by heavy rains—water and electricity do not mix! Below is safety advice to use following a summer storm:

Flooded areas—Be careful when attempting to walk in flooded areas and remember that submerged outlets or electrical cords could energize the water.

Wet electrical equipment—Do not use electrical appliances that have been wet. Water can damage the motors in electrical appliances, such as furnaces, freezers, refrigerators, washing machines, and dryers. Electrical parts can pose a shock hazard or overheat and cause a fire.

A qualified service repair dealer should recondition electrical equipment that has been wet. Certain equipment will require complete replacement, while a trained professional can recondition other devices.

Portable generators—Take special care with portable electric generators, which can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including line workers making repairs.

A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes. Other tips include:

- ▶ Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- ▶ Keep the generator dry.
- ▶ Make sure extension cords used with generators are rated for the load, and are free of cuts, worn insulation, and have three-pronged plugs.
- ▶ Do not overload the generator.
- ▶ Do not operate the generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly, which can be deadly.