




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 Sponsors Local Youth on Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

Kyle Grose, Brownell, and Matraca Mann, Dighton, toured the nation's capitol with 32 other students from across Kansas for the 49th Annual "Government in Action" Youth Tour June 11-18.

Grose and Mann were selected from a group of high school students by Lane-Scott.

"The things we saw at the museums were great learning experiences," Grose said. "Seeing how our country has changed from the time Washington was in office is amazing."

Kansas is one of the 45 states to send a youth delegation to the annual electric cooperative youth tour.

The youth delegates who will attend the trip were selected through a competition by their local electric cooperatives. To be selected, the students either wrote an essay or were interviewed by a panel of judges.

The all-expense-paid-trips for the student winners are sponsored by the Kansas electric cooperatives. Since 1964, the nation's electric cooperatives have sponsored the trips of more than 40,000 high school juniors and seniors to visit U.S. congressional members, energy and grassroots government education sessions and sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

The students began their trip touring the state capitol in Topeka followed by visits to the Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant and the Lyon-

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Kyle Grose and Matraca Mann stand on the steps in front of the Supreme Court.



Mann holds a butterfly at the Smithsonian's new butterfly exhibit.

Lane-Scott Sponsors Local Youth on Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

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The 2009 youth tour delegates stand in front of the U.S. Capitol.



Grose poses in front of the Capitol after a congressional breakfast on Capitol Hill.

“It was a truly unforgettable experience.”

Coffey Electric Cooperative before flying to Washington, D.C. The group learned about the U.S. government through visits with Senator Pat Roberts and Congressmen Jerry Moran and Todd Tiahrt, meetings with youth from other states and tours of museums, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery and the White House.

“The best parts of this trip were Arlington and the Holocaust museum,” Mann said. “One made me realize how many men and women have died to help keep this country free, while the other made me realize how cruel and crazy people can get when they get on a power trip and want to take all the control. It was a truly unforgettable experience.”

“Lane-Scott is proud to support the Youth Tour program and send our youth to experience government in action,” Earl Steffens, Lane-Scott’s Manager, said. “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.”

Each year, Lane-Scott sponsors the two trips to Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Bob Venters, Manager of Member Services, at 620-397-5327.



Grose and Mann pose with a “secret service agent” at Madame Tussaud’s Wax Museum.

Preparation Key for Home Fire Safety BY CHRIS GRAMMES

Each year nearly 4,000 Americans die in house fires and another 20,000 are injured, according to the U.S. Fire Administration.

Most residential fires occur between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., with the majority of deaths occurring between midnight and 4 a.m.—when most people are asleep. Below are some tips to keep you and your family safe.

- ▶ Installing smoke alarms on every level of a home helps prevent such tragedies. Place them in each room of the house. Be careful not to place them too close to the stove in the kitchen, to prevent alarms going off when cooking. It's a good idea to have a smoke alarm in each bedroom, too, especially if you sleep with the door closed. Smoke alarm batteries should be tested every month and changed with new ones at least once a year. Also, replace the entire smoke alarm every 10 years or as the manufacturer recommends.
- ▶ Unless a small fire can be easily controlled, leave fire fighting to professionals and vacate your residence. A home fire can become deadly in as little as three minutes. Every second counts when escaping from fire.
- ▶ Develop a fire escape plan and practice it with all members of the family at least twice a year.
- ▶ Create a floor plan and mark regular and secondary evacuation routes. The backup route could be out a window that leads onto an adjacent roof or down a collapsible ladder. Only purchase ladders evaluated by a nationally recognized expert.
- ▶ Make sure windows can be opened easily, screens removed quickly and security bars equipped with quick-release devices. Have all members of the family practice opening windows.
- ▶ In the event of fire, immediately leave your home and do not waste time saving property. If you must escape through smoke, remember to crawl low on the ground and keep your mouth covered.
- ▶ Fire experts recommend sleeping with doors closed. It takes 10 to 15 minutes to burn through a wooden door, which gives you more time to escape.
- ▶ When arriving at a closed door during a fire, use the back of your hand to feel the door—



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- especially around cracks and the knob—to see if it is hot. If it feels hot, use another exit. Even if the door feels cool, open it carefully, bracing yourself to close it if necessary to avoid smoke and fire entering.
- ▶ If you are trapped in a room, keep doors closed between you and the smoke or blaze. Stuff blankets in cracks around the door and cover vents to keep smoke out. If there's a phone in the room, call 911 to notify the fire department of your exact location. Wait by the window and signal with a sheet or flashlight.
- ▶ Families should designate a meeting place—such as a specific tree or the end of the driveway—to make sure all members have gotten outside safely. Assign one person to go to a neighbor's house to phone the fire department. Remember to escape first and then dial 911.
- ▶ Children as young as three can be taught to exit a home safely in the event of fire. Have children practice crawling on the floor and teach them not to hide under beds or in closets when they are scared, but to exit as planned. Some children are afraid of firefighters dressed in full gear. Take them on a tour of a local fire station and see firefighters in uniform.
- ▶ Special care should be taken with infants, toddlers, the elderly or disabled who may need extra help. Individual plans should be developed for these folks as part of your fire escape plan.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

Energy Commandment No. 4

“Thou Shalt Cool It”

BY DOUG RYE

During the summer months, the temperature rises and attics become much hotter. Well, I say, “cool it.”

The worst-case scenario for home energy efficiency is to have a roof without shade, inadequate attic insulation and ductwork in the attic.

The attic could easily be 140 degrees on a hot summer day. How would you like to sit in that attic and try to make homemade ice cream? Most likely you would keel over before the ice cream was ready.

Now do you understand why it is better not to place any part of your cooling system in the attic? For years I have been teaching this but most still install the cooling system in the worst possible environment.

So, let's look at a solution. If you will install a radiant barrier on both the roof rafters and the west or southwest gable end of the attic, you can reduce the 140-degree temperature by about 30 degrees. From a cooling cost standpoint, this is huge. The attic is 30 degrees cooler, the insulation is 30 degrees cooler and the ductwork is 30 degrees cooler.

Basically, this radiant barrier is a strong, reinforced aluminum foil and should be installed on the bottom of the rafters. It comes in 1,000-square-foot rolls. Check with your local home center for availability or call me at 501-653-7931 and I will help you. For new construction, the radiant barrier can simply be a part of the roof decking.

I look forward to writing this column every month. And I think that you can tell my heart is in it. Many of you have told me at my seminars, on my radio show and at my office, that you have implemented my suggestions and that they work. Actually, I never even think about them not working because they always



By installing a radiant barrier on the rafters in your attic, you can reduce the 140-degree temperature by about 30 degrees and save money.



How would you like to sit in that attic and try to make homemade ice cream?

do. They always have a payback and once again, they are good investments.

About a week ago, my wife and I were in our favorite sandwich shop to order a toasted turkey sandwich. A family of four was in line ahead of us. The wife just kept looking at us and finally she just blurted out, “Are you Doug Rye?” To which I replied, “Does that scoundrel owe you money, too?” She grabbed her husband's arm and said, “Honey, Doug Rye is here, right behind us.” I have to admit that I like it when this happens. He shook my hand and told me that he was so glad that a subcontractor suggested that he order the Doug Rye New House video before they started construction. He and his wife watched the video every night for several nights to be sure that their house was built correctly.

Actually, his words were, “We did it and it worked.” He then thanked me. Isn't that great? I was able to help another family, just like I help you with these columns. Now, I was hoping he would offer to buy me a sandwich with the money he saved. Oh well ... I guess I better “cool it.”

Doug Rye, is a licensed architect and the popular host of the “Home Remedies” radio show. You can contact Doug at 1-888-Doug-Rye. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.