

**LANE-SCOTT
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

Connections

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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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.

Notice of Nominating Committee Meeting

The Board appointed nominating committee will meet on June 14, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lane-Scott Electric Board room for the purpose of nominating Trustees.

The Trustees whose terms expire in 2010 are Rad Roehl, representing Lane and Gove counties; Bruce Wilkens, representing Scott and Logan counties; and Eric Doll, representing Finney and Hodgeman counties.

June						
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27	28	29	30			

Tips to Keep Food Safe During a Power Outage

We've all been there: a summer storm rolls through, toppling trees and damaging power lines. The lights go out. Although it may only be a matter of minutes or hours before your electric co-op gets things up and running again, thawing food in the refrigerator and freezer can make that relatively short time seem like an eternity.

It's important to keep cold food safe during a power outage, and a little advanced preparation and know-how can keep your family safe from food-borne bacteria. First and foremost, keep your refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to maintain the cold temperature: if unopened, a refrigerator will keep food safely cold for about four hours; a full freezer will do so for about 48 hours (24 hours if it's half-full).

A sure-fire way to know if food is safe is to monitor its temperature. Meat, poultry, fish, and eggs should be refrigerated at or below 40 degrees Fahrenheit and frozen food at or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. If the power goes out, a digital, dial, or instant-read food thermometer and appliance thermometers will help you know if the food remains at safe temperatures.

If the power stays out for a prolonged

period, there are a few ways to aid your refrigerator and freezer in the fight to keep things cold. The simplest tip is to keep your freezer full. If it's not full, group items close together to preserve the cold.

Dry ice can help keep freezers chilly: find it by scanning for "ice" or "carbon dioxide" in the phone book. It will take 25 pounds or so to keep a full, 10-cubic foot freezer safe for three to four days. Fifty pounds of dry ice should hold an 18-cubic foot full freezer for two days. Wear heavy-duty gloves or use tongs when handling dry ice—the temperature of dry ice is -216 degrees Fahrenheit—and separate it from food with cardboard to prevent freezer burn.

During cold months, it may be tempting to store food outside. Although this may work for cold drinks, food can spoil in direct sunlight. Curious animals may also take advantage of an outside stash.

Power back on? Make sure your food is still safe by either checking its temperature or looking for ice crystals. If frozen food is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below or ice crystals are visible, it's safe to refreeze. Discard any perishable refrigerated food (meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and leftovers) that have been above 40 degrees for two hours.

Essays from Lane-Scott's 2010

Lane-Scott Electric has selected four local youth to attend leadership trips through our annual youth competition for area high school juniors.

This year, students were asked to write an essay that answers the question: "How

have the services from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative make our lives better?"

Below you will find the essays from the winners of this year's competition.

Each year, Lane-Scott sends two students to the "Govenment in Action" Youth

Tour in Washington, D.C. The 2010 winners are **JOHN CLARKE**, Ness City; and **SARAH MULVILLE**, Dighton.

They will join 31 Kansas youth and travel to Washington, D.C., June 10-17. They will join about 1,500 other youth seeing



John Clarke

One can only imagine the hardships endured by our ancestors settling in this vast country known as western Kansas. Times were hard, the summers hot and the winters bitterly cold. There weren't machines to do what now days one would consider just plain old everyday tasks. Life, many would say, may even have been boring, knowing entertainment was a story around the campfire. A life on the range was certainly not an easy one. Look as us now!

We have mastered this piece of the country in a short 150 years! We have endured and strived to make this a great place to live for one and all. Electricity has taken a very important role in our advancement from years past. With electricity, we are able to light the darkness, heat and cool our homes, food preparation and storage is a breeze, entertainment is introduced to us in infinite forms and machines and gadgets work on the flip of a switch. All of this wouldn't be possible without the great service and reliability of Lane Scott Electric.

Just a few years ago, a huge ice storm disrupted the electricity for the surrounding area. Power lines and poles were destroyed, and the electricity was off for several days. My family stayed in our house the entire time. By the time electricity was restored, the temperature in the house had dropped to under 50 degrees. Lighting was limited to a few flashlights, and our diet consisted of a lot of peanut butter sandwiches. The worst part was not having the luxury of running water and bathroom necessities in our home.

During the days without television, we played cards, and board games to the point of losing our minds. By the time the sun went down around 6:30 p.m., we were ready for bed. I thought the experience was terrible, but really we had it easier than our forefathers who settled this area. I cannot express the gratitude and respect I have for Lane Scott Electric and its employees for making all these essentials of life available to me. I take for granted the opportunities I'm given everyday because of their work.

Lane Scott has been providing the necessity of rural electricity to its customers for over 60 years. From powering tools in the shop to washing your clothes, we depend on electricity everyday in many different ways.

Imagine waking up one morning and there is no electricity. We never really know how important electricity is to us, until its gone.

I remember when we had that huge ice storm a couple years ago, and I found out what life with limited electricity was really like. Lucky for us we had a generator. Not everybody was that lucky. Even though we had a generator, we could not power everything in our house.

As a teenager not being able to check my e-mail, or talk to my friends online seemed like the most important thing I was missing. Soon to find out there was a lot more that electricity provided for me that I was without.

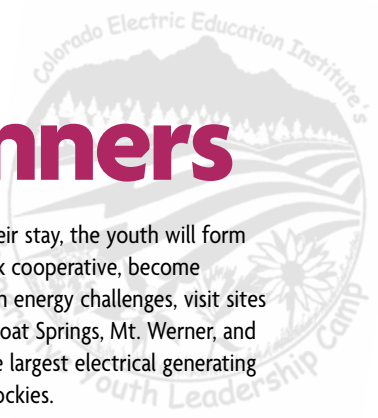
Thankfully the Lane-Scott staff was out performing dangerous tasks in harsh weather conditions every day to get everybody back going again. I think they did a great job in getting the county and surrounding counties back going again. If it wasn't for Lane-Scott, recovering from that ice storm would have been an even longer process than what it was.

Lane-Scott is also an excellent job provider. By making jobs available has also developed growth to the community. It moves more families to town, makes the community bigger, and helps the schools grow. Lane-Scott also pays taxes, which fund local schools and county services. Lane-Scott also supports many city events and school organizations.

As you can see, Lane Scott has made the lives of many people better by not only providing electricity to the rural areas, but also being a big helping hand to the community. I'm sure there are many people who are as thankful for Lane Scott's service as I am.



Sarah Mulville



Youth Competition Winners

the United States "Government in Action". They will visit their Congressmen, various government agencies and sites of historical significance.

The cooperative also sends two students to the Cooperative Youth Leadership

Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

This year's winners are **KATE HAGANS**, Utica; and **MORGAN LAWRENCE**, Shields. They will join approximately 100 youth from a four-state area participating in the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp July 17-23.

During their stay, the youth will form their own mock cooperative, become acquainted with energy challenges, visit sites around Steamboat Springs, Mt. Werner, and tour one of the largest electrical generating plants in the Rockies.



Kate Hagans

With electricity flowing through the power lines, Lane-Scott is the "silent" partner on my family's ranch.

Day after day our "silent" partner does its job faithfully supplying water, heat and power to us as we care for our cattle.

Our silent partner can be taken for granted because we assume it will always be there, but when we

are without electricity we are reminded how often we use electricity.

I have seen the look on the faces of my family when the electricity is taken out by a storm and we know our partnership is interrupted. My family then has to work twice as hard to do our work taking care of our cattle without Lane-Scott, and I am reminded how important electricity is to our ranch.

The ice storm a few years ago taught me how valuable our "silent" partner is in our lives. It wasn't just being without lights, but feeding and watering our cattle was a full-time job. Many times we take for granted the use of electricity, but when it is gone it becomes a priority in our lives. It makes me appreciate Lane-Scott and to realize that living on a ranch with no electricity is more difficult than just living on a ranch!

"Silent" partners often do their job quietly and dependably without expecting praise or rewards. Lane-Scott is a force in our community, supporting our school and clubs in their work

My family relies upon Lane-Scott's services to run our ranch and I am glad they work hand in hand with us as our ranch's "silent" partner!



Morgan Lawrence

The services from Lane-Scott Electric have made my life better in many ways. The first way the cooperative has made my life better involves my family's stocker-feeder cattle operation. In order to have this operation, we have a small roller mill that we use about twice a week to grind milo and corn to feed to our cattle. We also must water our cattle. Electricity is very important in pumping water to the surface so that we can have water for our stock.

Lane-Scott Electric is always quick to respond to our call when our electricity is down. They know how important it is that we have power to care for our livestock.

The second experience was in December 2007 when our county was encased in several inches of ice. This ice snapped power poles like twigs and caused a loss of power for several counties. Our feedlot is located about two and a half miles north of our home. This ice storm left us without electricity for 19 days. During the first few days of this outage, my dad worked around the clock trying to keep the 600 head of cattle we had on the farm fed and watered. I worked on the farm with my dad, while my mom and sister rounded up generators. Some days, all we got done was filling the generators with gas to keep them running. My mom became creative cooking everything from pancakes to pizza on the propane grill. We could not wash clothes, we could only have one light, the television, the freezer, the refrigerator and the heater on at the same time because that was all the generator could handle at one time. This was an eye-opening experience for our family that made me appreciate having power.

During this time, the Lane-Scott Electric crew worked very hard in weather conditions that were miserable. They did this to try to get power restored to members as soon as possible so that we did not have to be inconvenienced any longer than absolutely necessary.

Both of these experiences make me very grateful for the services provided by the Lane-Scott Electric and make me never take for granted the Power of Power!



**I THOUGHT I WAS TIGHT
WITH MY MONEY. NOW
I'M AIRTIGHT.**

All it took was a tube of caulk and half an afternoon. Now, I'm saving \$212 a year by sealing a few cracks around the house. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at TogetherWeSave.com.



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