



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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**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.

Lane-Scott Begins Cost-of-Service Study

Lane-Scott Electric has hired a consultant to prepare a study which examines the cooperative's cost of providing electric service. The cost-of-service study determines the revenue needed to cover the cooperative's operating expenses and debt obligations, as well as examine the equitability of the rates among the different consumer classes.

It is also the goal of Lane-Scott to bring the rates of the native territory and the Mid-Kansas Electric Cooperative territory together so there will be one set of rates.

The cost-of-service study will examine both sets of rates and consolidate them into one. This should provide for efficiencies in operating practices as reduce the costs associated with maintaining separate accounting and billing systems.

Rate studies are complicated. In a sense, they are an attempt to predict the future, or at least the answers to a few questions. What revenue will be required to fund the operations of the cooperative for the foreseeable future, and what is the fairest way to collect that revenue through rates? What external factors will have an effect on the cooperative's financial picture in the future? What will the weather be like in the coming years? While we may never accurately predict the weather, an attempt can be made to predict the other variables that affect rates. We have retained the services of Doug Shepherd, Vice President of Management Consulting Services at Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., to assist us with the rate study.

The rate study has several stages. First,

we will use existing data to determine what revenue will be required to operate the cooperative successfully in the future. Next, we will perform a cost-of-service study to assign the costs to provide electric service to customer classes using traditional rate-making principles. And last, we will design rates to meet the cost recovery obligations, to recover the revenue fairly from each customer class, and to meet any other strategy or goals identified by the board in the rate study process.

When the rate study is completed,

it will be reviewed by the board in detail. Kansas law then requires that we provide the membership with notice of the time and place of any meeting of the board of trustees where rate changes will be discussed and voted on. That meeting notice will appear in the pages of this section of the

It is our goal to bring the rates of the native territory and MKEC together so there will be one set of rates.

magazine and an attempt will be made to provide you with as much detail as possible on any proposed changes to the rates. You will have the opportunity to attend the Board Meeting to hear the discussion and vote of the board and express your opinion on the changes.

You show confidence in your Board of Trustees when you cast a vote for their election to the position. The Board takes its responsibility to set fair rates very seriously. After all, they are members of the cooperative and pay the same rates.

We will keep you informed as this rate study progresses. Next month, we will discuss the revenue requirement aspect of the rate study.

Attention High School Sophomores & Juniors

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative offers free trips for up to four children of Lane-Scott Electric members.

Two winners will be chosen to join more than 1,700 young people in Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour **June 9-16, 2016**. They will visit the state capitol in Topeka and Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant before flying to Washington, D.C. There they will learn about the U.S. government through visits with senators and the congressional delegation, meetings with youth from other states, and tours of museums, Capitol Hill and Arlington National Cemetery.

Two winners will be chosen to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO, **July 16-22, 2016**.

They will stay at the scenic Glen Eden Resort in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. At camp, they will join winners from other cooperatives in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming to form one of the most outstanding leadership camps in the country.

This trip is open to any sophomore or junior whose parents are members of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative.

To apply for this trip, students must submit a 200-word essay that



Alexis Peck (left) and Morgan Tucker stop in front of the Jefferson Memorial while on the 2015 Youth Tour.

answers the question: "How have the services from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc., made our lives better?" **The essay must be in our office by March 15, 2016.**

The winners will also be asked to present a short speech on their trip at the Lane-Scott Annual Meeting in July.

Parents, please help your children understand what an amazing opportunity this is and encourage them to participate.

The Board of Trustees of Lane-Scott feel that education of our youth about the operation and structure of cooperatives is important to their future. The youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. The more they are aware of how the cooperative works, the better off our country will be.



Payden Shapland enjoys the view of Elk River during the 2015 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

For more information visit www.lanescott.coop and click on youth information or call Bob Venters at 620-397-5327.

Daylight Saving Time Reminders

On March 13, remember to spring your clocks forward one hour. This is also a great time to check fire, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and change out batteries. Make sure smoke detectors work properly by using the alarm test option. Use a vacuum to make sure there are no cobwebs, spiders or other little insects taking up residence that would hinder the effects of the smoke alarm.

Detectors play a larger role in survival than one might think. A recent study showed that inoperable smoke alarms caused two-thirds of fire-related deaths due to damage, defects and missing batteries. Experts recommend writing the date on the new battery in the detector so there will be no question as to when it was last replaced.

Daylight saving time is also a great time to review home safety with family members including escape routes and checking all electrical outlets. Practice a home safety review and test procedures on getting out safely in an emergency situation. Look through the house for any hazards, such as overloaded or improperly placed extension cords. It is recommended to make sure areas around the furnace, water heater and stove are clear of debris that can cause fire.

Happy St. Patrick's Day



Celebrate Easter

Our office will be closed for Good Friday on March 25. Lane-Scott wishes you a happy Easter!

