

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's Rural Electric Cooperatives

A FAMILY FUN
TRADITION



Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative • November 2015

Attention Hot Springs High School Students

Sierra Electric Cooperative is searching for two outstanding high school students age 16-19 to represent the school, community, and Sierra Electric in Washington, D.C., during the Government-in-Action Youth Tour, June 11-17, 2016. The SEC representatives will join other New Mexico representatives and fly directly to our nation's capital. The annual Government-in-Action Youth Tour, sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) is a group of more than one thousand high school students who visit Washington, D.C., every June. Students in the tour learn about electric cooperatives, American history, and U.S. government. They visit with their elected congressional representatives and see historical sites including the U.S. Capitol, national monuments, Arlington National Cemetery, and countless other places.



Eligibility

- Student must be the dependent of an active member of Sierra Electric Cooperative.
- Age 16-19 and in high school.
- A GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Submit a completed Youth Tour contest application and requirements.

Deadline

The **deadline** for submittal of applications to Sierra Electric is **Friday, January 8, 2016**. For more details, please call Sierra Electric at 575-744-5231, or contact your high school counselors.

Why Electric Co-ops Replace Utility Poles

You probably don't pay much attention to the utility poles found throughout SEC's service territory, but did you know these tall structures are the backbone of our distribution network?

Strong, sturdy utility poles ensure a reliable electric system, which is why we routinely inspect the thousands of poles found on our lines. Throughout the year, our crews check poles for decay caused by exposure to the elements. They know which poles are oldest and conduct inspections through a rotational process. Typically, a standard wooden distribution pole is expected to last more than 50 years. Check with your co-op's line foreman for a more detailed explanation of the process.

Occasionally, poles need to be replaced for other reasons besides decay and old age.

Weather disasters, power line relocation, and car crashes are potential causes for immediate replacement. When possible, SEC communicates when and where pole replacements will take place so that you stay informed of where crews will be working.

So, the next time you come across a SEC crew replacing a pole, use caution and know that this process ensures a more reliable electric system for you, our members.



Is Your Name on the Capital Credit Listing to Receive a Check?

In this month's *enchantment* you will find an insert that lists names regarding unclaimed capital credit checks. In 2012, Sierra Electric Cooperative retired the patronage capital for 50 percent of operating year 1989; and operating years 1990 and 1991. We encourage you to review the names. Your name may be listed, or you may know of someone. See the insert for more details.

SEC Holiday Closings

Veterans Day: November 11
Thanksgiving: November 26 and 27

Don't Forget Daylight Saving Time

November 1st is Daylight Saving Time, so don't forget to set your clock back!

Tip of the Month

Reduce energy for water heating. Take simple steps like lowering your heater's temperature and installing low-flow showerheads to reduce your water heating bills.



Board of Trustees

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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the cooperative boardroom.



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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative