

THE CIRCUIT!

December 2023

A publication for our Members
in the counties of
*Atoka • Bryan • Choctaw
Coal • Johnston*



Reminder of SEC's 2024 Youth Programs

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS: Are you ready for the trip of a lifetime? If you answered YES, then you need to enter SEC's Youth Tour Contest! Youth Tour is an all-expense paid, week long trip to Washington, D.C.! The contest is open to all High School Juniors in SEC's service territory.

To enter, students will need to submit a three to four minute multi-media presentation covering the topic of "What Makes An Electric Cooperative Unique?". Video or slide presentations must be submitted to the Co-op no later than February 23, 2024. The Co-op will then choose two lucky Juniors to attend Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. from June 14-20, 2024!



Chance Krueger, Atoka and James Clark, Silo-SEC's 2023 Youth Tour Delegates



8th Graders get hands-on experiences at Energy Camp!

EIGHTH GRADERS: Do you love summer camps? Energy Camp is a FREE all-expense paid adventure to Red Rock Canyon near Hinton, OK. It's a summer camp that is designed to help students develop leadership skills, have summertime fun, and at the same time be educated on one of rural America's most important industries – rural electrification. The 2024 Energy Camp is set for May 28-31 and is open to all eighth grade students in SEC's service territory.

SEC will select two students to enjoy fun filled days that include all kinds of activities! Campers can expect pizza parties, dances, volleyball, hiking, swimming, basketball, football and learning about electric co-ops! To enter, students must submit a 200-300 word essay on "How I Can Have an Impact on Energy Conservation". The essay will need to be submitted to the Co-op no later than April 12, 2024.

Five Ways to Safeguard Your Home This Winter

As the temperatures drop and the days grow shorter, there's a natural inclination to create a warm and cozy haven at home. Unfortunately, as we see increased use of heating equipment, candles and electrical items, the number of home fires tends to increase during winter months.

Here are five ways you can safeguard your home for the winter season.

1. **Ensure carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are working properly.** If your detectors are battery-operated, replace the batteries annually. Test the detectors once a month and give them a good dusting to ensure the sensors are clear of dirt and debris.
2. **Inspect electrical cords.** We depend on more cords during winter, whether for holiday lighting, extension cords or portable heaters. Before using any corded items, double check to make sure cords aren't frayed or cracked. If you use portable space heaters, remember to keep them at least 3 feet away from flammable items. Use models that include an auto shut-off feature and overheat protection. Space heaters can take a toll on your energy bills. Use them efficiently (to heat smaller spaces) and safely. Never plug a space heater into a power strip. *Speaking of power strips...*
3. **Avoid overloading electrical outlets and power strips.** When overloaded with electrical items, outlets and power strips can overheat and catch fire. If you use power strips for multiple devices, make sure the strip can handle the electrical load. For a safer bet, look for power strips that include surge protection.
4. **Clean the fireplace to improve safety and efficiency.** There's nothing better than a warm fire on a chilly night, but it's important to maintain your fireplace for safety. As wood burns, a sticky substance known as creosote builds up in the chimney. When creosote buildup becomes too thick, a chimney fire can ignite. The chimney should be cleaned at least once a year to reduce fire risks. Regular cleaning also improves air flow and limits the amount of carbon monoxide that seeps indoors.
5. **Practice safety in the kitchen.** As we spend more time in the kitchen during the holiday season, be mindful of potential fire hazards. Never leave food that's cooking on the stove top unattended. Clean and remove spilled foods from cooking surfaces and be mindful of where you place flammable items like dish towels.



SEC wants you and your family to stay safe during the winter season.

Visit www.safeelectricity.org for additional safety tips.

SEC'S Year-End System Maintenance

On **Thursday, December 28th, 2023** at **5:00 PM**,
all of SEC's computer systems will be down
for year-end maintenance.

As always, outage calls will be taken and dispatched.
However, we will not be able to accept payments
in the office, on-line, or at any Kiosks due to the
annual year-end maintenance.

Online payment systems will be available
on **Monday, January 1st, 2024** at *around 10:00 AM*.

All connects and disconnects will be
suspended until we reopen on
Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024.

Our office will re-open on
Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024.

Holiday Office Closings

Friday, December 22nd-CLOSED
Monday, December 25th-CLOSED
Monday, January 1st-CLOSED



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24/7 Payment Hotline:
1-888-260-6597

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Website
www.se-coop.com

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Report Outages Fast with the SEC2Go App

If you haven't already, you need to download the SEC2Go mobile app from your phone's app store! Once installed, members are able to log into the app and access their SEC account. Services that can be accessed through the online Customer Portal at www.se-coop.com can be viewed through the use of the app!



You can pay your bill, view your payment history, retrieve your PrePay account balance, set up customized alerts, and access your energy usage graph. Alerts can be set up and customized for:

- due date reminders
- past due balances
- insufficient funds alert
- notifications for when changes have been made to your account
- payment confirmation
- and even high energy usage alerts

Possibly one of the most handy features of the new app is the ability to report an outage through your smart phone or tablet! Users can log in and tap on "Services" followed by "Report an Outage" under the menu. Enter a phone number you can be reached at if required then tap the circle next to the word "Yes" when asked if your power is off. Lastly, provide any comments that you may feel would be helpful to the lineworkers about the outage. Be sure and tap the blue "Report an Outage" button at the bottom of the screen when you have your information entered.

If you have already created an account to pay your bill online, you can use the same log in credentials to access SEC2Go. If you have not set up your online account, you will need to call us at 580-924-2170 or 580-745-9463 to verify there is an e-mail address on file along with a social security number. Once those are verified and entered, you will be able to set up access.

You may access a step by step guide for navigating the new app online at www.se-coop.com under the New Member tab, then finding the New Member Packet. For issues or for any questions you may have while setting up the app, please feel free to give us a call at 580-745-9463!***