

THE CIRCUIT!

April 2020

A publication for our Members
in Atoka•Bryan•Choctaw
Coal•Johnston Counties



SEC Honors Lineworker Appreciation Day



Lineworkers serve on the frontlines of our nation's energy needs, and on April 13, 2020, Southeastern Electric Cooperative, along with other electric cooperatives across the country, will honor the brave men and women who work hard to keep the lights on.

Line crews work around the clock, sometimes in difficult and dangerous conditions, to keep power flowing to our local communities. Whether they're restoring power after a major storm or maintaining critical infrastructure to our electric system, lineworkers are at the heart of our co-op.

When a storm hits, they set aside their personal priorities because Mother Nature doesn't work around holidays, vacations and birthdays. A service-oriented mentality is one of the many admirable characteristics of an electric lineworker.

SEC is proud to honor the 11 lineworkers that maintain over 2,770 miles of power lines in our service territory. Each day they put their lives on the line to provide SEC Members with safe and reliable electricity.

Trevor Matlock, Safety Director, said, "The job that the linemen provide and are expected to perform is dangerous, yet rewarding. In the times of storms and restoring power and also in the routine jobs, they exemplify safety for themselves and are always looking out for the lineman standing next to them."

SEC invites all co-op members to take a moment and thank a lineworker for the important work they do. Please note, while the Nationally recognized Lineworker Appreciation Day occurs on the second Monday in April, you may notice a different day mentioned in other materials as each Cooperative will choose the best day to honor their crews that works around their April schedule. Without our lineworkers, the world would be a dark place.***

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Three Ways to Electrify Your Lawn Care



Spring is just around the corner, and you can practically smell the freshly-cut grass. If you're in the market to upgrade your lawn care equipment, you may want to consider electric (or battery-powered) options.

Gas-powered lawn mowers and trimmers may be your go-to, but times they are a changin'. Electric lawn care equipment options are becoming more popular than ever, offering consumers faster charging times, longer battery life and

quieter, greener products compared to their gas-powered counterparts. Here are three ways you can electrify your lawn care this spring.

Electric Lawn Mowers

Electric lawn mowers have come a long way over the last few years. Early models required corded connections, which were tricky to manage—but the cord has been cut. Newer cordless electric mowers are certainly more expensive than gas-powered mowers, but much of the upfront cost can be recovered since electricity is a less expensive fuel than gas, and electric engines generally require less maintenance than gas engines. Cordless electric mowers typically range from \$200 to \$500.

Electric mowers are suitable for most lawn care needs, with batteries that typically require about one to two hours to fully charge, and most batteries can run for a full hour. That said, if you have a large yard (half an acre or larger), a gas-powered option may be best to suit your needs.

Electric Leaf Blowers

After cutting and trimming your lawn, you'll need to clear off those walkways and patios for the finishing touch. If you don't want to deal with the maintenance of a gas-powered blower or the restraints of a corded blower, a cordless electric version is a great option.

Cordless electric leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, but they don't offer quite as much power as gas-powered and corded blowers. If your leaf blowing and clearing needs are minimal, a cordless electric leaf blower can get the job done. Costs for a cordless electric blower vary depending on power and battery quality, but you can purchase a dependable model for about \$150 and up.

If you're looking to electrify your lawn care equipment, be sure to do your homework. Search online for the latest reviews, and check trusted websites like [ConsumerReports.org](https://www.ConsumerReports.org). With a little research, you'll be well on your way to Lawn of the Month – with less maintenance, hassle and noise (and your neighbors will thank you!). ***

2020 Annual Meeting Watch

The Annual Meeting is around the corner and preparations are already being made at Southeastern Electric.

Mark your calendars to join us on *Tuesday, August 4th* for our 81st Annual Meeting! It is scheduled to be held at our traditional place-*Durant High School located at 950 Gerlach Drive in Durant, OK.*

Of course there will be awesome entertainment along with the highly anticipated door prizes. You will have a chance to meet the SEC employees who work hard behind the scenes and chat with your neighbors and friends. Concession items will be available as well.

Keep an eye out for more Annual Meeting announcements in the months to come so that you don't miss out on the excitement!



Home Efficiency Can Be E.P.I.C!

The Efficiency Plan & Improvement Commitment (E.P.I.C. Program) is an exciting program offered through your Cooperative. SEC is offering this home energy efficiency program in an effort to assist our member-owners in making significant improvements to their home's energy efficiency.

SEC developed a strategic partnership with Precise Building Performance (Precise), LLC, out of Lawton, Oklahoma. Precise will conduct three specific assessments at the home: 1) Blower Door Test; 2) Duct Blaster Test; and 3) A visual inspection of the attic insulation. At the conclusion of the energy efficiency assessment, Precise will inform member of the results of the assessment.

To sign up, visit our website at www.se-coop.com and hover on the REBATES tab at the top of the page. Click on the E.P.I.C Program at the top of the list. Then, click on Sign Up and follow the prompts! If you need assistance signing up, please call us at 580-745-9463.***

The Circuit! is composed monthly by



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SEC Sends Eighth Graders to Energy Camp!

SEC is sending three eighth grade students to the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives' Youth Power Energy Camp! An official contest was announced to schools at the beginning of this year. Interested students were instructed to write an essay over the topic "How I Can Have an Impact on Energy Conservation". Entries were due to the Cooperative by the end of February and winners chosen mid-March.



Located at the beautiful Canyon Camp in Hinton, OK., campers, over the course of four fun-packed days, will engage in various leadership and electrification activities. Campers get a first-hand look "behind the switch" to learn how their own homes receive power. In addition to learning how electricity is generated, they also get to meet co-op employees who work together to provide safe, affordable and reliable electricity. During the "Life of a Lineworker" day, campers have a chance to try on safety equipment and climb a pole. They also see a high-voltage demonstration and hear from Oklahoma Energy Trails Foundation volunteers.

"Our goal is for these campers to develop and understand their worth, discover the cooperatives' connection to community, and learn how these relationships all work together," said Stacy Howeth, Energy Camp Director and OAEC's Director of Member Services.

"I am so glad that we are able to offer this camp and other great programs like Youth Tour to our area students. These programs could be considered as opportunities of a lifetime and we hope that all of our schools see them the same," said Kevin Rothrock, SEC's Public Relations Specialist.

Stay tuned to SEC's facebook page and upcoming editions of The Circuit for the Energy Camp official winner announcement! ***

