



Osceola Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®



April 2026

Linemen are Ready When it Matters Most

Contact Us

Office:
1102 Egret Drive
P.O. Box 127
Sibley, IA 51249

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Phone:
Local: 712-754-2519
Toll Free: 888-754-2519

On evenings, weekends or holidays an answering service will accept power outage or emergency type calls only.

Online:
osceolaelectric.com

Take the Quiz

Read through the newsletter and submit the quiz on the back for a chance to win a \$10 bill credit. You can also email your answers to info@osceolaelectric.com

OEC Recipes

Submit your favorite Bread Pudding Recipe for consideration to be printed in our May Newsletter. Submission deadline is April 20. Printed recipes are worth \$10 bill credit.



When storms impact our communities and outages occur, many people experience the inconvenience, but our linemen see a call to action. Our crews are always ready when it matters most—leaving family dinners, working through the night and heading into challenging conditions to restore power as safely and quickly as possible. That readiness is not accidental. It comes from rigorous training, deep experience and a shared commitment to serving others.

What makes linemen especially remarkable is that they aren't just restoring power to a system—they're restoring power to their own communities. They live here. They raise their families here. They understand that electricity is more than a convenience; it's essential to daily life, to local businesses, to schools, farms and emergency services. Powering the places we call home is personal to linemen.

Electric cooperatives like Osceola Electric were built on the principle of neighbors helping neighbors, and our linemen embody that spirit every day. They are the first to respond and the last to leave, often working long hours behind the scenes. At times, serving our neighbors means going beyond our own service territory through a process

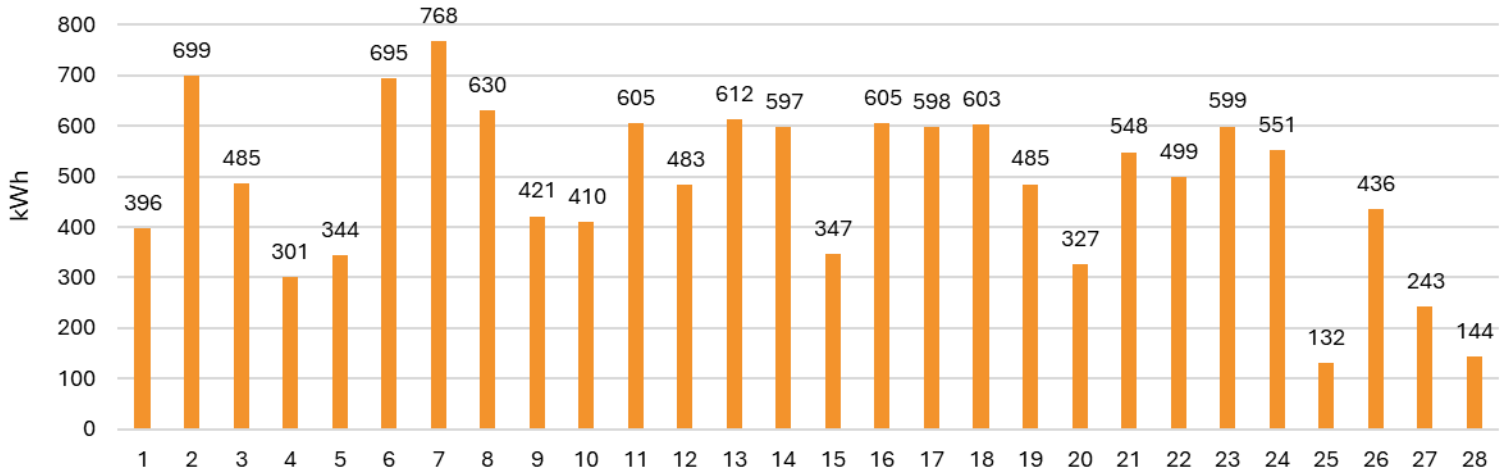
known as mutual aid. During major outage events, Osceola Electric crews stand ready to assist neighboring co-ops—sometimes close to home, and sometimes across state lines—to help restore power. This spirit of mutual aid strengthens all cooperatives and ultimately benefits the members we serve.

We understand any time the lights go out can be frustrating, bringing everyday life to a halt. We are incredibly grateful to our members for your patience and encouragement during these times. Linework is demanding, physical, and at times, it can be dangerous. Our crews approach each job with a focus on safety and teamwork. They take pride in their craft and in the trust our members place in them.

On April 13, 2026, we will celebrate Linemen Appreciation Day, but one day isn't enough. Every day, we are thankful for linemen for their service and dedication, which are the backbone of our cooperative.

To Keagan, Judd, Tommy, Louie, and Lance: thank you for your hard work, your readiness and your unwavering commitment to the communities we serve! We are proud to stand behind you and grateful for all that you do.

February 2026 Solar Park Production



Spring Into Energy Savings

Spring is a season of renewal—and a great time to refresh your energy habits, too! As temperatures begin to warm and daily routines shift, a few small changes around your home can add up to meaningful energy savings.

Osceola Electric Cooperative is committed to helping our members use energy wisely while keeping homes comfortable year-round.

Spring is the perfect time to schedule maintenance for your heating and cooling system. Spring and fall checkups conducted by a licensed professional can help ensure your system is running efficiently, safely and reliably before the peak seasons begin. A well-maintained unit uses less energy, lasts longer and helps prevent costly breakdowns when you need it most.

If you're looking for a simple place to start saving, look no further than ceiling

fans. Fans don't actually cool or heat the air, but they help you feel more comfortable by moving it. During warmer months, make sure your ceiling fan blades are set to rotate counterclockwise. This creates a downward breeze that makes you feel cooler, allowing you to raise your thermostat a few degrees without sacrificing comfort. In cooler months, reverse the direction of fan blades clockwise to help push warm air down from the ceiling, improving efficiency when your heating system is running.

Speaking of thermostats, adjusting the temperature just a few degrees can make a noticeable difference on your energy bill. As spring arrives, try setting your thermostat slightly higher when cooling or slightly lower when heating. Even a two- or three-degree adjustment can reduce energy use while still keeping your home comfortable—especially when combined

with ceiling fans or open windows on mild, pleasant days.

Hot water use is another area where simple habits matter. Taking shorter showers can help reduce the amount of energy used to heat water, which makes up a significant portion of most energy bills. Cutting just a few minutes off each shower not only saves energy but also conserves water.

Finally, members can help control costs by changing the way in which you use electricity. When you run major appliances at the same time your demand increases. To reduce demand consider staggering the use of appliances. Spreading out the use of appliances rather than running them all the same time can help reduce your demand. The higher the demand for energy placed on Osceola Electric and our power supplier the higher the expenses.

Winter Moratorium Ends

As the winter energy assistance disconnection moratorium ends on April 1st, Osceola Electric Cooperative member-owners who are behind on their electric payments are urged to contact us as soon as possible to work out payment options to avoid disconnection. OEC is willing to work with member-owners who have fallen behind on payments to find an agreeable solution; disconnection of service is always a last resort.

Payment Plans

Those who have fallen behind on their accounts may be eligible to enter into a reasonable payment agreement with OEC to pay accumulated debt over time and maintain electric service. If you are past-due on your account, contact OEC

immediately to discuss payment plan terms.

Budget Billing

For member-owners with tight budgets, seasonally high electric bills can cause financial strife. OEC offers "levelized billing" or "budget billing" payment options which ensure consistent electric bills month-to-month, making it easier to budget and anticipate. If your home usage fluctuates dramatically this is a great way to avoid those larger seasonal bills with changes in the weather. To enroll in this billing option, contact OEC. Call our office at 712-754-2519 or 888-754-2519.

State of Iowa Resources

We also encourage anyone who has

fallen behind on payments to contact the Iowa Department of Human Rights office at 515-281-0859 regarding eligibility for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP is a federally funded program that provides a one-time per year payment to assist with household heating costs for eligible households. LIHEAP funds are limited, with applications being accepted on a first come first serve basis at your local community action center from November 1st through April 30th each year.



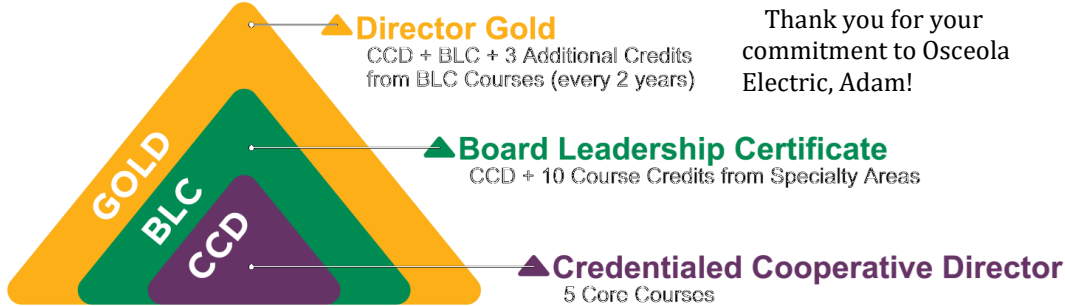
Director Gold Status Achieved

Congratulations to Adam Hoekstra on completing the necessary classes to earn his Director Gold status.

The Director Gold credential recognizes directors committed to continuing their education and advancing their knowledge of board responsibilities.

Directors must earn 3 additional credits after obtaining their CCD and BLC and continue to take 3 course credits every 2 years to maintain their status. Some of the course categories include: Communications, Cooperative Business Model, Financial, Governance, Grassroots, and Risk Management.

Thank you for your commitment to Osceola Electric, Adam!



Seats Available on the Basin Tour



member-owner, you have the chance to embark on a three-day trek across the Dakota Plains to tour the Antelope Valley Power Plant and the Coteau Lignite mine. This exciting bus tour is set for August 5-7, 2026.

Departure from Sibley to Bismarck, North Dakota is planned for August 5 with plenty of movies, games and frequent rest stops to break up the day.

The big tour day is August 6. We'll leave Bismarck, for the power plant and mine tours. Take the elevator to the top of the

power plant to see the view, peek into the coal-burning furnace and enjoy the bus ride into the lignite open pit mine. In the evening a relaxing supper and riverboat ride on the Missouri River. The tour ends back in Sibley in the early evening of August 7.

This member only trip is \$150 per person. The fee includes the cost for the hotel, bus, all meals, riverboat, and snacks.

Seats are limited. Reserve your spot today! Call Osceola Electric at 712-754-2519.

If you've ever wondered about the source of electricity you won't want to miss this opportunity! As a cooperative

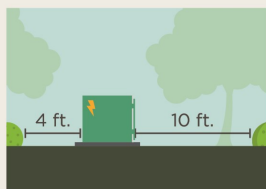
3 Ways to Help Limit Tree Trimming

Did you know electric utilities are required to trim trees and other types of vegetation that grow too close to overhead power lines? We know you love your trees, and we will do everything we can to avoid trimming them. Here's how you can help:

1. Plant trees in the right place. Trees that will be <40 ft. should be planted at least 25 ft. away from power lines (>40ft. should be at least 50 ft. away).



2. Don't block pad-mounted transformers. Plant shrubs at least 10 ft. away from transformer doors and 4 ft. from transformer sides.

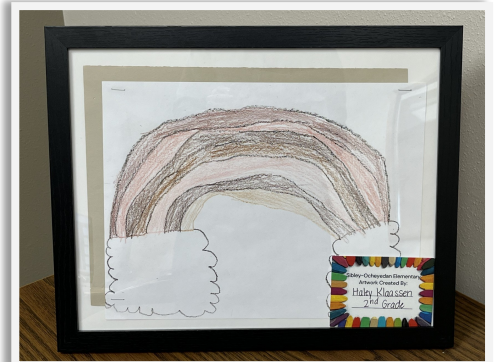


3. Report dangerous branches. If you spot a tree or branch that is dangerously close to power lines, please let us know.



Trimming improves safety for all. Let's work together to enjoy the beauty of trees and reliable electricity.

Artwork on Display



Osceola Electric is partnering with local artists from Sibley-Ocheyedan to brighten up the office.

In February and March we enjoyed a rainbow designed by 2nd grade artist, Haley.

Thank you to the teachers and students at Sibley-Ocheyedan for sharing their talents!

Changes in the OEC Office



Congratulations, Sandy!

Osceola Electric Cooperative is happy to welcome new employee Lynn Modder to the cooperative family!

With long-time employee Sandy Heronimus retiring, Kelly Slagter moved into her place as Billing Clerk and Lynn joined as Cashier/Receptionist. Lynn will likely be one of the first faces you see when you stop in, or the voice on the other end of the phone when you call.

Help us welcome Lynn to Osceola Electric Cooperative!



Welcome to the team, Lynn!

Save Energy

The month or two between cold and warm weather gives you the perfect opportunity to save energy.

Milder temperatures mean heating season is winding down, but it's not warm enough for air conditioning. Some call this a "shoulder season."

Take advantage of the moderate weather by keeping both the heat and the air conditioning turned off. Instead, open windows to draw in fresh air and turn on ceiling fans.

Inspect and seal air leaks and clean AC filters. Open blinds, curtains and shades during daylight hours to reduce the need for electric lighting.

The shoulder season is brief, so forming smart habits now can keep energy bills lower while the outdoor weather keeps your home naturally comfortable.

When the lights go out, lineworkers are ready to answer the call, day or night, to safely restore power and keep our communities moving forward. They take pride in powering the places we call home. Today and every day, we thank lineworkers for their service and commitment.

Lineworker Appreciation Day
April 13, 2026



OEC Quiz

Send in your completed quiz for your chance to win! OEC will draw 3 members to receive \$10 credit towards their electric bill. Congratulations to last month's winners: Mark Haken, Mark Hawkins, and Bruce Van Engen.

- _____ is Lineman Appreciation Day.
- The 2026 Basin Bus Tour is _____.
- Spreading out appliance usage helps reduce _____ expense.

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Operating Statistics

February	2025	2026
Billed consumers, farm	1,154	1,152
Billed consumers, non-farm and others	125	128
Kilowatts sold, farm	3,078,796	2,627,595
Kilowatts sold, non-farm and others	4,998,734	4,838,503
Average consumption, farm	2,668	2,281
Average Consumption, non-farm	39,990	37,801
Average statement, farm	298.49	294.61
Average statement, non-farm and others	3,054.66	3,150.02
Total minimum bills	21	14
Outage time per consumer—minutes	0	2 2/3
Annual Meeting	March 2027	