



Osceola Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



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 Salsa Recipe for consideration to be printed in our August Newsletter. Submission deadline is July 20. Printed recipes are worth \$10 bill credit.

July 2026



**Join us for the 3rd Annual
Member Appreciation Supper
August 25, 2026
5:00-7:00 pm
Burgers - Potato Salad - Baked Beans
\$20 Bill Credits - Adult & Kids Prizes**





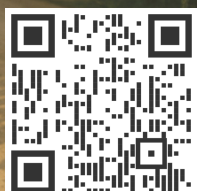
IT'S HERE!

Manage your Osceola Electric account *the way you want* with the new **FREE** Mobile Customer Access.

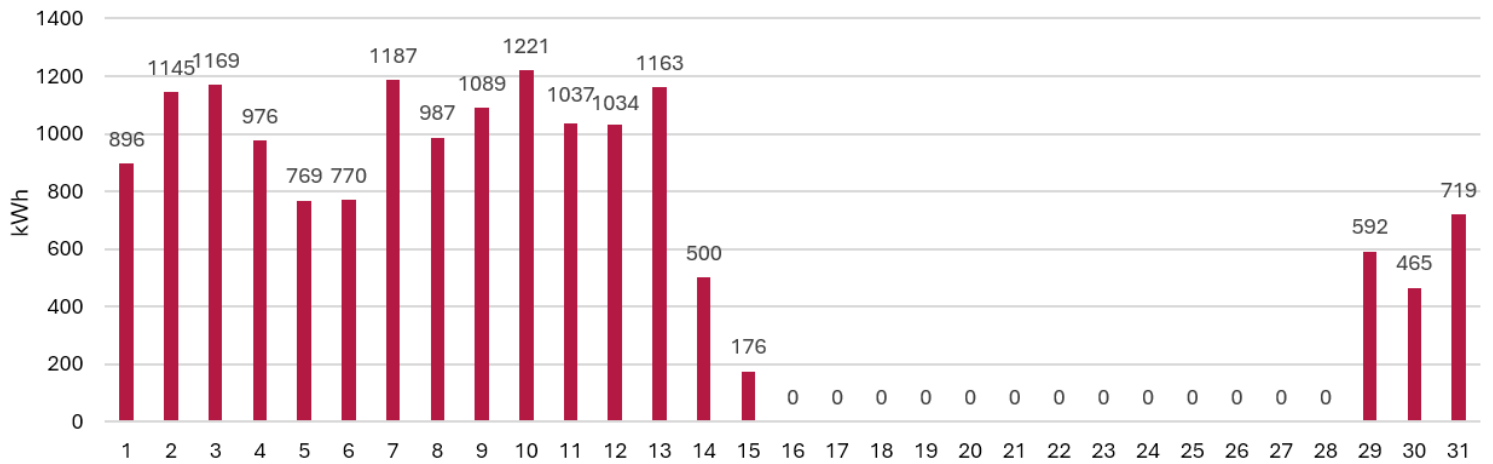
Online Bill Payments
Convenient and Secure
Easy to Use, No Contact
Easy Account Management Tools
View Usage
View Statement
View Past Payments

Call our office at (712) 754-2519

Available on iOS and Android. Search for **Osceola Electric Cooperative** in your app store. After installing the app, create your account or login with your existing online credentials.



May Solar Park Production



We had a connection that faulted in the metering package at the Solar Park. Temporary repairs were made with plans to make permanent repairs in June when we receive the necessary materials. Solar customer credits were adjusted to account for the loss of production using Solar Tax Credits from the Iowa Department of Revenue.

Safety at OEC



At the June Safety Meeting Osceola Electric Cooperative staff participated in emergency procedure scenarios, in which they proved their ability to respond quickly in an emergency.

Pictured the line crew shows their ability to properly and efficiently work the lower controls on a bucket truck to perform a bucket rescue if the need arises.



Don't Fall for Home Repair Scams

As temperatures rise, so do reports of door-to-door home repair scams.

Contractors may show up uninvited, claiming your air conditioner is about to fail or your roof was damaged in a recent storm. Some even say they are already working in your neighborhood and can offer a "today only" deal.

Don't fall for it.

These high-pressure tactics are designed

to push homeowners into quick decisions. Warning signs include requests for large upfront payments, insistence on cash, lack of a written estimate or no verifiable business address. In some cases, scammers may pose as utility workers and ask to check your meter or demand payment to avoid service shutoff.

Before agreeing to any work, take a few minutes to verify the company. Ask for a

license number and proof of insurance. Look up the business independently and check for reviews or complaints. Legitimate contractors will provide written estimates and allow time for questions.

If something feels off, it probably is. Taking a pause can protect both your home and your wallet during the busiest repair season of the year.

Electrical Safety *around* Water

Prevent
shocks around
pools, hot tubs and
spas before
they happen.

- Use a qualified electrician for any new pool, hot tub or spa wiring.
- Used covered outdoor outlets.
- Make sure outlets are GFCI-protected and tested monthly.
- Keep cords away from water. Don't use extension cords for pool equipment.
- Choose battery-operated and waterproof TVs, radios and speakers.
- Don't handle phones, tablets, laptops or charging cords when you're wet, and keep them away from pools, spas and sinks.

- Check power line clearance with an electrician or your utility when installing pools, spas and structures like diving boards; and have utilities marked before digging.
- Schedule periodic electrical inspections and upgrades for your equipment.
- Have an electrician show you how to shut off all power in an emergency and make sure the shut-off switch is labeled.

Know the risks: Wet skin + wet surfaces = increased risk when electricity is present.

Warning signs of shock in the water:

- Tingling sensation.
- Muscle cramps.
- Restricted movement.

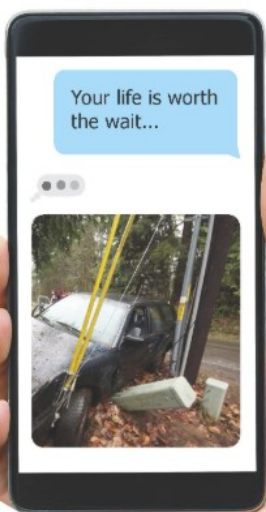
If you suspect electrical shock:

- Turn off all power immediately.
- Do NOT enter the water to rescue anyone.
- Use a non-conductive rescue tool (such as fiberglass).
- Call 911.

If you feel a shock in the water, move away from the source and get out.

Don't Drive Distracted

Don't
text
and
drive.



Learn more at



Be smart. Be safe.

Energy Bills Can Rise without a Rate Increase

When an electric bill suddenly rises, many people assume their electric cooperative raised its rates.

Sometimes that's the case. But more often, the biggest reason is simple: You used more electricity.

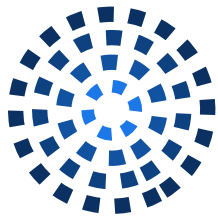
According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, nearly 90% of U.S. households use air conditioning. During hot weather, cooling systems run longer and more often. Even if the price of electricity stays the same, using more electricity means a higher bill.

Heat waves can have a bigger effect than you might realize. A few extra days of very hot weather may cause an air conditioner to run for hours longer each day. Refrigerators, freezers and dehumidifiers may also work harder during extreme heat.

If your bill seems unusually high, compare your electricity use with the same month last year. Most utility bills show the number of kilowatt-hours used. That number can tell you whether the increase came from higher use, higher rates or a combination of both.

You can also look for simple causes if you notice an unexpected jump in your energy use. A clogged air filter, a thermostat set a few degrees lower than usual or windows receiving direct afternoon sun can all increase cooling costs.

The next time your electric bill arrives, don't just look at the amount due. Check how much electricity you used. The answer to a higher bill is often hiding in that number.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Running multiple major appliances at the same time—like your dishwasher, laundry machines and oven—can spike energy demand and strain the electric grid, especially during peak hours (typically late afternoon to early evening). Instead of stacking appliance use, spread it out throughout the day or shift chores to off-peak hours when energy demand is lower. This not only helps improve overall efficiency but can also reduce your energy costs. A simple habit change, like doing laundry in the morning and running the dishwasher overnight, can make a meaningful difference for both your wallet and energy reliability.

Fill-in-the-Blank: Fireworks Safety Tips

Holidays like the Fourth of July and other celebrations can be fun times with great memories. But everyone should practice safety near fireworks. Read the safety tips below, then fill in the blanks with the correct answer in the word bank.



1. The best way to stay safe is to never use fireworks at home. Instead, attend a public _____ and leave fireworks to the pros.
2. Watch fireworks from a _____ of 500 feet away from where they are launched.
3. Never touch or pick up pieces of fireworks or duds as they may still be _____ or could explode at any time.
4. Remember, _____ are not toys and can reach 2,000 degrees F. Use glow sticks instead.
5. Think about _____ when fireworks are nearby. It's best to leave them indoors to reduce the risk of them running away or being injured.

Word Bank:
Sparklers
Ignited
Pets
Display
Minimum

Answer Key: 1) display 2) minimum 3) Ignited 4) Sparklers 5) Pets

IOEC Quiz

Send in your completed quiz for your chance to win!
IOEC will draw 3 members to receive \$10 credit towards their electric bill. Congratulations to last month's winners: Terry Ferguson, Jeff Smith, Kevin Diekevers

1. The 3rd Annual Appreciation Supper will be held _____.
2. IOEC staff participated in emergency procedure scenarios at the June _____ meeting.
3. As temperatures rise, so do reports of door-to-door home repair _____.

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Operating Statistics

May

	2025	2026
Billed consumers, farm	1,152	1,152
Billed consumers, non-farm and others	125	128
Kilowatts sold, farm	2,181,172	2,211,649
Kilowatts sold, non-farm and others	5,331,599	6,706,625
Average consumption, farm	1,893	1,920
Average Consumption, non-farm	42,652	52,396
Average statement, farm	241.61	278.81
Average statement, non-farm and others	3,485.18	4,649.47
Total minimum bills	19	13
Outage time per consumer—minutes	1/2	1 1/6
Annual Meeting	March 2027	