

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

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MISSOURI YOUTH TOUR UPDATE

Jefferson City, MO - One hundred and two high school students participated in Missouri's 61st Annual Missouri Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., June 14-20.

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Visit us on the Web - www.sacosage.com

Your local delegate was Sophia Bryson, a Junior at the El Dorado Springs Christian School.

The Missouri Electric Cooperative Youth Tour once again headed back to Washington DC this year. The seven-day tour provided an action-filled week for high school students, offering them opportunities to learn firsthand what it is like to be involved in politics, leadership positions, community service and today's pressing issues.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students and we're proud to send our best and brightest to our nation's capital to participate," said Chris Massman, Vice President of Member Services for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. Massman also said, "Each of these delegates will meet someone or see something that inspires them, and in some cases will create a path to their future career."

Highlights of the trip include the Missouri delegates visiting with representatives from their congressional districts, touring monuments, the Smithsonian Institution's museums, Arlington National Cemetery and the International Spy Museum. The group also took a sightseeing and dance cruise on the Potomac River one evening with the delegations from five other states.

Other events of the week included participation in the Electric Youth Day, during which a special program coordinated by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association brought together over 2,000 Youth Tour delegates from across the United States. The delegates enjoyed featured speeches by government leaders and motivational speakers, such as Mike Schlappi, an inspiring four-time Paralympic medalist and two-time world wheelchair basketball champion.

Since 1964, the nation's cooperative electric utilities have sponsored more than 58,000 high school juniors and seniors for visits to their U.S. congressional delegations, energy and grassroots government education sessions and sightseeing in Washington.

For more information about the Missouri Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program, please go to www. moyouthtour.com.













OFFICE PERSONNEL LEARN ABOUT LINE WORK

Over the last month, our office personnel have had the opportunity to see what co-op work is like outside the office.

Ronnie Simmons gave employees a tour of Sac Osage Electric territory. During this tour, employees learned about the difference in transmission lines and distribution lines, how transformers and meters operate, and how lineman operations work during line outages. A few of the employees were able to watch the meter exchange process and the install of a security light. Ronnie even treated the employees to a Peach Nehi Float from Scott's Iconium Store.

Employees asked Ronnie questions about the different topics they receive on a day-to-day basis when talking to members. After the tour, employees said they had a better understanding of those topics and feel better when talking with members.















HOW TO SAVE MONEY IN THE LAUNDRY ROOM

Ah, the joys of having a washer and dryer in your home. There's no waiting for a machine, no coin slots, and no one taking out your wet load if you aren't right there when the cycle ends.

Although it's cheaper per load and much more convenient to do laundry at home, there's a somewhat hidden cost to consider, and that's the energy it takes to run your washer and dryer.

What appliances in your home use the most energy? The hot water heater is the appliance that costs the most to run. Right behind it is the washer and dryer's combined energy use. (Although not considered appliances by many, heating/cooling tops the list, followed by the hot water heater.)

A dryer requires more energy to run than a washer, but there are ways to reduce your washing costs, too (think hot water versus cold). To save money in your laundry room, consider these tips:

- When using your washing machine, select the right amount of water for the load that is, don't select the "extra large" setting when doing a small load. In fact, consider waiting to do laundry until you have full loads to conserve water.
- Use cold water to save the money you spend heating water. Some laundry detergents are designed to tackle stains in cold water.
- Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load's energy use in half, and using cold water will save even more, according to energy.gov.
- Use dryer balls, which help separate clothes and get more air to them, cutting drying time.
- Utilize lower settings when you use the dryer. Even if your dryer runs longer, you'll use less energy and be less likely to over-dry your clothes.
- Clean the lint out of your dryer between loads and scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.
- Put like items together since lighter-weight clothes take less time to dry. Drying towels and heavier cottons take longer.
- Use the moisture sensor option on your dryer if it has one.
- Take a clue from your teenage boy and wear clothes more than once between laundering them (although don't wait until your jeans can stand by themselves).
- When purchasing a dryer, consider an Energy Star version, which uses 20 percent less energy than a conventional model.
- Energy Star-certified washers use about 25 percent less energy and 33 percent less water than regular clothes washers.
- Thoroughly clean your dryer's vents and duct system at least twice a year.

To learn more about how much you are spending to run your washer and dryer each year, refer to energy.gov's appliance energy use calculator.

For more information about safety around electricity, visit safeelectricity.org.















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