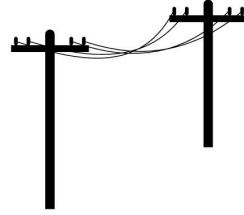




SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
4815 E HWY 54
EL DORADO SPRINGS, MO 64744
417-876-2721



DECEMBER 2025

YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER

SOEC LINEMAN WINS 1ST PLACE IN CHILI COOKOFF

On October 4th, Line Crew Foreman Brian Fugate showcased his culinary talents by participating in the Annual Chili Cook-Off at the Wayside Inn Museum.

Brian faced off against eight other teams, earning the honor of 1st Place by the end of the competition.

Congratulations, Brian!



CONEXON REPRESENTATIVE VISITS CO-OP

Conexon Connect's Sales Representative, Summer Wenger, hosted an information table in the Sac Osage Electric lobby on October 13th and 24th. This event offered members a chance to learn more about the fiber internet service and sign up, if they hadn't done so already.

In addition to sharing information, Summer offered delicious treats and giveaways for members to enjoy during their visit.

SOEC ATTENDS FFA FOOD FOR AMERICA

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative had the honor of attending the El Dorado Springs FFA Food for America event on October 10th.

Children ranging from preschool to 5th grade explored various booths, each offering unique insights into the essential components of feeding America.

Thank you to the El Dorado Springs FFA for inviting our Line Crew Foreman, Brian Fugate, and Member Services Representative, Chance Cyr, to speak at this event.



**SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED DECEMBER 25TH AND JANUARY 1ST**



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MEMBER SERVICES FALL CONFERENCE OCCURRED AT THE LAKE OF THE OZARKS OCTOBER 15TH - 17TH

Member Service Representatives from Missouri, including Chance Cyr from Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, gathered at the Lake of the Ozarks for their annual fall conference.

This year, the community project involved solving clues to figure out the combinations that would unlock toolboxes. These toolboxes contained the necessary tools to build bicycles for children in need. The superhero teams, combined with various cooperatives, successfully completed the task.

The completed bicycles were donated to the Lake of the Ozarks Idiots Club. Yes, that's the name! It's designed to capture your attention and was created by the Jesters of Goodwill.

Visit <https://www.lakeoftheozarksidiotsclub.org> to learn more about what Jesters of Goodwill do as a 501(c)3 volunteer charity.



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SHOULD I USE A SPACE HEATER OR TURN UP THE HEAT?

Drafty room? Before reaching for your space heater, consider whether it's better to plug it in or simply turn up the thermostat.

Space heaters are designed to warm small, targeted spaces — not your entire home. If you find yourself relying on one often, it may be time to address your home's energy efficiency.

Fix efficiency first, then supplement with a space heater. Improving your home's efficiency helps it retain heat, reduces drafts and reduces your energy use. Many solutions are affordable and DIY-friendly, such as:

- Seal air leaks. Use caulk and weather stripping around windows and exterior doors to prevent drafts.
- Add insulation where it matters. Attic insulation has the biggest return on investment, and loose-fill insulation is an affordable option.
- Check your heating system. Schedule regular service for your furnace or heat pump. If it's outdated or struggling, it could be time for an upgrade. Check with your utility for potential rebates and incentives.
- Use programmable thermostats. These can help reduce energy waste by heating only when and where needed.

Once your home is sealed and insulated, a space heater can be used to increase comfort and warm specific rooms, like a home office or bedroom, without turning up the heat for the whole house.

A space heater is like a ceiling fan; it can improve comfort in a small area, but it's not a whole-house solution.

Happy Anniversary to our December Employees!



Brian Fugate - 32 years Richard Johnston - 8 years

Sac Osage
Electric Cooperative
A Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative

Use space heaters efficiently:

- Heat only the room you're currently in.
- Close doors to keep heat contained.
- Choose the right size — too small and it won't warm you; too big and it wastes energy. Check manufacturer sizing guides.
- Use a heater with a thermostat and timer to avoid overheating the room or wasting electricity.

Stay safe while staying warm:

- Place the heater on a solid, flat, nonflammable surface — never on carpets or rugs.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use extension cords or power strips.
- Keep children, pets and anything flammable, such as curtains or bedding, at least 3 feet away from the heater.
- Choose a heater with built-in safety features including:
 - Overheat sensor.
 - Tip-over shutoff switch.
 - UL, ETL or CSA International certification label.
- Never leave a space heater unattended, especially around children or pets.
- Turn off the heater when you leave the room or go to sleep.
- Unplug it when not in use to prevent electrical hazards.

<https://safeelectricity.org>

Safety Tip



Heating equipment accounts for 13% of home fires. Place a space heater on a hard surface and make sure clothing, papers and other combustible items are at least 3 feet away from the heater.

Safe Electricity.org®

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