



# Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

# News

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## Putting Things Right

A broken pole can turn a beautiful day into an outage day. Other work has to be put on hold as linemen are called together to replace splintered wood and reenergize the line.



Such an incident happened in Cedar County in September, when a trailer with a full load of hay came in contact with a power pole. Line crews consisting of Randy Fletcher, Ronnie Simmons, Troy Lasley, Jared Asmus, and Josh Heiserman with assistance from Kent Henry were called in to restore power. The line has to be opened and grounded before the wires can be unhooked and the two parts of the old pole removed. The new pole is prepared on the ground as much as possible before being hoisted and set into place. All the connections are then made at the top of the pole. The crews remove the grounds then restore service as it was before the accident.





# Beat the Peak - Winter Edition

As cold weather moves into the Sac Osage area, members may be wondering what can be done to lower peak demand in the winter. Winter weather can lead to increases in peak load especially in homes using resistance heating.

Programmable thermostats can be very useful on homes with electric furnaces to beat the winter peak. Raising the temperature setting prior to the peak hours and having it lower during peak times can provide consistent saving. Members should keep in mind that Sac Osage charges on the highest one-hour demand during peak hours for the month, so changes should only be considered if they can be done consistently. One day of raising the thermostat in the hours of 6-9AM or 4-7PM will likely set a new peak.

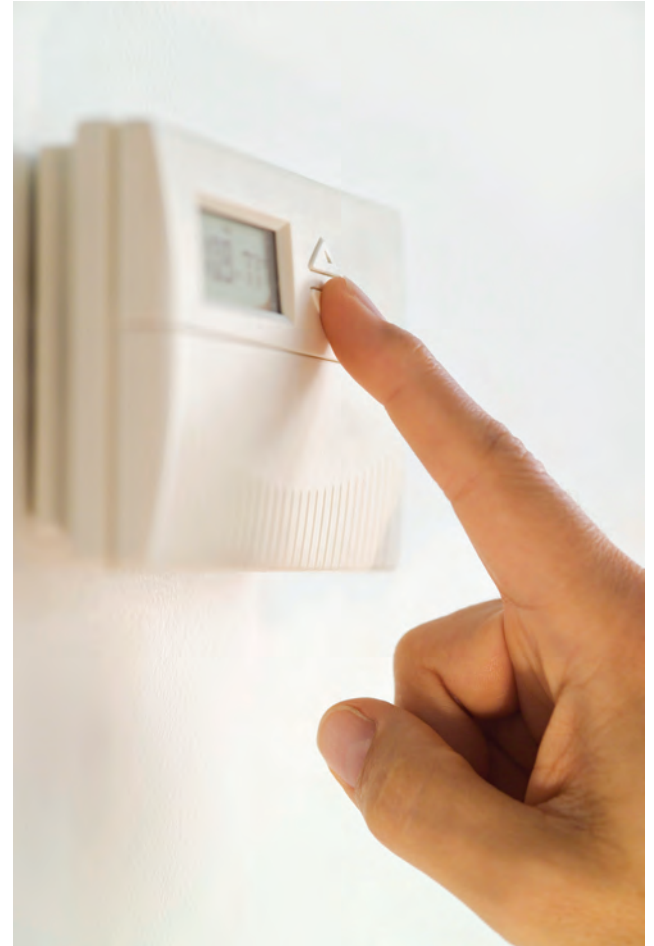
While space heaters can often cause higher bills if left running along with a central heating system, they can be useful in lowering demand if used properly.

The key is to turn the whole house thermostat to a low enough temperature that it will not turn on during the peak hours. Then people can use a space heater for a small area they are occupying. The danger is leaving a space heater to run when the area is not being used and raising the overall electric bill unnecessarily. Also, a space heater running in a room when the thermostat is not turned down will only add to the peak and thus the member's electric bill.

All of the usual winter saving tips will apply to demand pricing as well.

- Open shades during the daytime to let sunlight warm the home.
- Make sure extra items such as electric blankets are not left on all day.
- Caulk and seal around windows and doors.
- Close storm windows and eliminate drafts.

These steps will save on both kilowatt hour energy charges and demand.



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME REMINDER

Don't forget to fall back on **November 3!**  
Set your clocks and timers back one hour.



### Energy Efficiency

### *Tip of the Month*

When cooking that Thanksgiving turkey, don't peek in the oven! Each time you open the door the inside temperature can drop as much as 25 degrees. Not only will it take longer for the turkey to cook, it will also increase your electric bill. Good news about leftovers though: a full refrigerator or freezer uses less energy.



Offices will be be closed Thursday, November 28th and Friday the 29th in celebration of Thanksgiving Day.