



**WESTERN
COOPERATIVE
ELECTRIC**

An Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

P.O. Box 278, WaKeeney, KS 67672
800-456-6720

www.westerncoop.com
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WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC NEWS

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General Manager

Contact Us

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FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

The Benefits of Pay As You Go



Tom Ruth

Let's face it. Some months our paychecks go further than other months. Holidays, birthdays and life's unplanned situations have a way of dipping into our bank

accounts. Wouldn't it be nice to have better control of your electric bill during those months? Now you have that option.

As a member-owned distribution cooperative, our job is to provide reliable energy and help make your life easier. That's the very reason Western Cooperative Electric is implementing a PrePayPOWER program for our residential consumer-members.

No late fees. No due date. No monthly statements. No deposit held by the cooperative. No large bills at inopportune times. PrePayPOWER is a pay-as-you-go billing option. It gives you the flexibility to better manage your budget by making smaller, more frequent payments when it's right for you, instead of a single, larger payment on a fixed due date.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. OF

Board Meeting to Consider New Prepaid Rate

The Board of Trustees of Western Cooperative Electric Association (WCEA) will meet on Sept. 19, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. at the cooperative's headquarters, located at 635 S. 13th Street in WaKeeney. The board will discuss and vote on a voluntary residential prepaid metering option (a.k.a. "pay-as-you-go electric service") rate. The residential prepaid metering rate will have a proposed effective date of Oct. 1, 2019.

This meeting is open to any member who wishes to attend. The purpose of this rate is to eliminate the need for deposit. Members have the right under the provisions of K.S.A. 66-104d(g) to request, by petition, Kansas Corporation Commission review of a rate change. If any member wishes to attend via conference call that day, please contact the WCEA office during business hours at 785-743-5561 or 800-456-6720.

COMMUNITY | LEADERSHIP | MEMORIES

COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

Keller and Anderson Attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp

HAYLEY KELLER and **CORA ANDERSON** were selected to attend the 43rd annual Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp (CYLC) near Steamboat Springs, Colorado, from July 12-18. Joining their peers from Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming, approximately 100 youth learned about the cooperative principles at the weeklong educational retreat.

Keller and Anderson were selected from a group of high school applicants during their junior year. To win this trip, students were asked to write a one-page essay, take a quiz and appear before a group of judges for an interview.

“Western Cooperative Electric is proud to be a sponsor of the CYLC and send our local youth to develop essential leadership and teamwork skills,” said Tom Ruth, general manager. “Through this trip we hope local students will learn how our electric cooperatives work and how cooperatives and their employees support the communities they serve.”

The Kansas Oklahoma participants met as they boarded the bus along its route to Colorado. When the bus arrived in Denver, the group was treated to an indoor skydiving experience and STEM educational lab at iFLY. When the group arrived at Glen Eden Resort, nestled in the Rocky Mountains, the campers immediately began daily membership meetings where a general manager, board of directors and committees were selected. The weeklong experience also gave participants an authentic camp feel with a hike to Fish

Creek Falls, river rafting, volleyball tournament, swimming, a dance and a talent show.

Several demonstrations and presentations enhanced students' knowledge on the cooperative business model and on operations at their electric cooperative. Campers competed to build a model transmission line out of craft supplies, toured Trapper Mine, Craig Power Plant and watched a high-voltage safety demonstration. The campers also raised \$293.13 to donate to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International Foundation. The money will be used to purchase backpacks and school supplies for students who attend school in Sillab, Guatemala.

When asked, “what memory will you always have with you from this trip?” Anderson said “Learning of the struggles that some of the camp participants have gone through to become the leaders they are, was incredible.”

Overall, the campers said they left CYLC with a new sense of leadership and a basic understanding of how their local electric cooperatives operate and the impact on the communities served.

“The privilege of holding the position of the 2019 board president was an extraordinary opportunity in itself of which not only had an impact on my leadership abilities but also on my understanding of cooperatives,” Keller stated.

For more information about Western's Youth program call 785-743-5561 or visit www.westerncoop.com.



Far left: Nearly 100 students from four states gather for this year's Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in July.

Left: Hayley Keller (left) and Cora Anderson pose in front of Elk River during camp.

The Benefits of Pay As You Go Continued from page 16A ▶

How it Works

Members, whether new or existing, must complete a Western PrePayPOWER Agreement. Beginning with an initial \$50 payment, credited to your electric bill, you can make daily, weekly or monthly payments to your account either online, by phone or in person at the WaKeeney office. Your electric charges are subtracted daily from the credit on your account.

Checking your account balance is easy. Just visit “My Account” on our website, under “Pay Your Bill via Ebiz,” day or night, to view your prepaid balance and energy consumption via the payment portal, ebiz. Use our ebiz app “Western Coop Mobile App” through the App Store or Google Play, on your mobile device.

When your account balance reaches \$25 or less, you will receive a notice by text or email, letting you know it is time to recharge your account. If funds in your account run out, electrical service will be automatically terminated. You will be notified by text or email that your service has been terminated. You can recharge your account with a minimum payment of \$50 at any time, day or night, online

or by phone, and service will be automatically restored. PrePayPOWER is not subject to the Cold Weather Rule nor payment plans.

How it Benefits our Members

In addition to having control over the timing and amount of your electric payments, PrePayPOWER could also help you lower energy consumption. Since you are paying as you go, PrePayPOWER makes you more aware of your energy consumption. By using PrePayPOWER via ebiz, you can monitor not only your residential usage for that day, week and month but, more importantly, reduce energy consumption, thereby lowering your energy costs.

Questions?

More information is available on our website and, as always, you can give us a call at 800-456-6720, and we will be happy to answer your questions. Our goal is to continue finding ways to provide services that fit your lifestyle. We are excited about PrePayPOWER and hope you are too.

Haffner Summer Resolution Winner

Summer could include simplifying your bill-paying process with Western Cooperative Electric. Payment options include bank draft with checking/savings or recurring card (debit/credit).

Additional options include enrolling for e-business (ebiz) or going green by opting for paperless billing. With paperless billing, you may opt to receive text or email notifications to get your information.

Ebiz allows you to see your monthly bill, view daily electric usage and historical data, store a payment method and make payments. Using ebiz allows you to enroll in automatic payments. If you need assistance

contact us at 800-456-6720. There are no forms to complete so signing up is fast, friendly and convenient. Automatic payment guarantees on-time payments while maintaining an excellent payment history.

Selecting any one of these payment options makes you eligible for a monthly drawing for a \$25 voucher to a local business of your choice. Already signed up for these payment options? Your name will also be included in the drawings. **THIS MONTH'S WINNER IS GREG HAFFNER, GRAINFIELD.** Get a fresh summer start by enrolling in an easy payment option. Enter today for a chance to win.

We've Gone MOBILE

We've got an app for that! Western's mobile app provides convenient access to your account information. Search “Western Co-op Mobile App” in the App Store or Google Play.

Services provided on Western's mobile app include:

- ▶ Bill payment;
- ▶ View current charges and usage;
- ▶ Receive special notifications;
- ▶ Contact Western by email or phone; and
- ▶ View outage information and updates.

Once you've downloaded the Western Co-op Mobile App, login or sign up. Call 800-456-6720 for assistance.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

COOKWARE TIP: Copper-bottomed pans heat faster on the stove. In the oven, ceramic and glass dishes are better than metal. With ceramic and glass dishes, you can turn the oven down about 25 degrees and your meal will cook just as quickly.

Source: energy.gov



Do You Have Unclaimed Capital Credits?

Western Cooperative has unclaimed capital credits. We issued checks to the last known address and have been unsuccessful reaching those listed. If you are on the list or an heir to a deceased member, please contact us at 800-456-6720. Having your previous addresses will be helpful. A full list of names can be found on our website, www.westerncoop.com.

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ABBOTT SCOTT E | AUSTIN JOHN F JOY | BESTHON FRED H 12282 | BROWN JESSE 12375 | CHIEF DRILLING INC |
| ADKISON RAMONA 11156 | AYLWARD DRILLING CO | BEVER F R 12334 | BRUNDIGE MARY A | CHILDERS CLINT & JENNIFER |
| AKERS WILLIAM 1112 | BAALMAN RICHARD | BIEKER WENDELIN 1274 | BRYANT JAMES W | CINCRIS ENERGY CO KELLER |
| ALBERS FRED INC | BAILEY WILLIAM M | BIG BEAR RESOURCES | BUCHHOLZ MRS HERMAN 12274 | CLAMPITT L J 1378 |
| ALBIN NANCY 11160 | BAJA PETROLEUM | BIG BEAR RESOURCES MADDEN | BUCK RICHARD 12384 | CLARK OPERATING INC |
| ALEXANDER & AMBROSE OIL | BALDWIN DAVID 12436 | BIG CREEK OIL OPERATIONS KO | BUFFALO OPERATING LLC | COLE GALEN 13198 |
| ALEXANDER & AMBROSE OIL ROME | BANKS VIC 12280 | BILLINGSLEY BRAD 12299 | BUHL ARTHUR 12450 | COLLINS JUSTIN |
| ALLEN JAMES | BANZA PAUL | BILLIPS DON TRUST | BULLOCK FRED TRUST | COLORADO CRUDE EXPL MASSIER |
| ALLEN JAMES E MD | BARTOS JAMES 12315 | BIRD GARY J | BULLOCK FRED 12169 | COLORADO CRUDE EXPLORATION INC |
| ALLIGATOR 19 OIL | BARUCH-FOSTER CORP | BITTEL ELMER | BURGESS CRAIG 12453 | COLUMBIA PETROLEUM 13215 |
| AMERICAN OIL % LEIKER | BARUCH-FOSTER CORP RIEDEL | BLUNT GALE | BURKE BILL 12429 | COLUMBIAN EHR FARMS |
| AMERICAN OIL 1178 | BAUER CHARLES 12316 | BLYTHE JOHN | BURNETT FLORENCE A 12271 | COLUMBIAN SERVICES CORP |
| ANDERSON EMMA M | BAUGHER KEITH | BLYTHE PAUL 12352 | BURTSCHER MARGARET 12427 | COMEAU R A 1374 |
| ANDERSON EVERETT | BAUMGARTNER JOSEPH | BOLLER JOHN A 12355 | BUSHMAN CONSTRUCTION 12395 | CONCORD OIL |
| ANGLE EXPLORATION CO | BEA DRILLING CO | BOLLIG FRANK MRS 12356 | BUTTLE KELLY GENE 12430 | CONDO LISA M |
| ANGLE EXPLORATION CO ZEMAN | BEA DRILLING CO BEFORT | BOMAN CLAUDE 12121 | CALLISON WILLIAM P 13134 | CONSOLIDATED OIL & GAS |
| ARAPAHOE PIPELINE 1137 | BEACH EVERETT D 12318 | BOND JOHN A | CAMPBELL MARGARET | COOK ENOS N |
| ARK VALLEY CONSTRUCTION 11125 | BEACH GLENN 12319 | BORGER, CHELLI | CARDER R E 13138 | CORNELISON NOBLE 1368 |
| ARNOTT OIL BALTHAZOR | BEACON RESOURCES CORP 12273 | BOSQUEZ, DEBRA | CARTER JERRY 1399 | CORNFORTH AUDREY 13169 |
| ARTNELL OIL COMPANY 11131 | BEEK BRADY | BOYD JOHN D 12223 | CASCADE OIL | CORY LARRY R |
| ASHBY R & KATHY 11163 | BELL JAMES DUANE 12192 | BRAMWELL GUY 12365 | CASON LYLE R 13191 | COW GULCH OIL COMPANY 13114 |
| ASPEN DRILLING CO | BELL KAREN 12438 | BRIGGS MAURICE 12370 | CEDAR BLUFF IRRIGATION #6 | CRONN ARDEN 13255 |
| ASSOCIATES OIL & GAS | BELL QUINCY 12329 | BROCE & SMITH 12147 | CENTRAL KANSAS OIL & GAS | CRUZ RODGER |
| ASSOCIATES OIL & GAS TIDBALL | BENNETT TIM | BROCE CONSTRUCTION CO 12254 | CENTURY OIL COMPANY 13116 | CULVER-GROUNDS OIL DVIGNON |
| ATLANTIC OIL CORPORATION 11133 | BENTON JOHN B | BROCK LISA | CHAMPION PETROLEUM ROGERS | CUMMINGS H CURTIS 13192 |
| AUGUSTINE DENNIS 1171 | BENTON ROBERT | BROW WILLIAM H & ELLEN H | CHARLES, HAROLD | CUNNINGHAM CHARLES 13178 |
| AUSTIN BERT 11139 | BERTHELSON MIKE 12297 | BROWN ALPHONSE 12371 | CHARTER PRODUCTION CO | CURELL E C 13179 |
| AUSTIN JOHN F | BERTLEMAN JOLENE 12443 | BROWN GREG L | CHENEY WILLIAM G 13148 | |



Let Us Help You Mind Your eBiz-ness

Western Cooperative Electric now offers eBiz—a consumer-member-friendly application to access your account. eBiz offers the following account management tools:

- ▶ See your current billing statement and billing/payment history;
- ▶ View your daily meter readings from your meter;
- ▶ Pay your bill with a check or card (no processing fee);
- ▶ Pay one time or set up monthly payments;
- ▶ Use our online bill calculator;
- ▶ View charts and graphs of usage data;
- ▶ Compare months or years of usage;
- ▶ Make account changes;
- ▶ Sign up for email billing notifications;
- ▶ Request service from Western; and
- ▶ Store payment options and go paperless.

Follow the directions below to create an eBiz account:

1. Go to www.westerncoop.com
2. On Western's homepage, click the "Pay my bill" link via eBiz.
3. Enter the information requested (shown left)

User Name	<input type="text"/>	Required, at least 8 characters in length.
Password	<input type="text"/>	Required, at least 8 characters long, contain at least an uppercase letter, at least one number, and may not contain any blank spaces.
Re-enter password	<input type="text"/>	
Account number	<input type="text"/>	Required, this is the basic account number.
Phone	<input type="text"/>	Must match the one on file with Western. The error "Did not validate" means you need to provide the co-op with your current contact information.