

Annual Meeting Update

OCEC's Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, August 6, 2016. Members received many updates about the co-op with video messages from the president and treasurer of the board and the general manager. Some employees were given their respective service awards and scholarship recipients were recognized. Election of officers was held and incumbents Fred Hansen, Marty Mills, Denny Burnett and Tim Rabon maintained their positions on the board of trustees. Many members won some fantastic door prizes and everyone was served a delicious barbeque brisket lunch. A special page has been created on our web page for you to access information from this year's meeting. Be sure to check it out!

Improve Efficiency with a Home Energy Audit

Conducting an energy audit within our home to discover where we consume the most electricity will not only help us to conserve electricity, but it can also help us to prolong the life of many of these devices.

A great place to start is with one of the most notorious units for high energy consumption; our heating and cooling systems. In summer, our air conditioning unit uses the most electricity, and in winter, our furnace or heating system uses the most electricity. We can easily control our use of these energy hogs by lowering our thermostat, when possible, in winter and raising the thermostat in summer. Having a

programmable thermostat installed is a great way to keep the room temperature at an ideal level when the room may be unoccupied. Ensuring that our home is adequately insulated and sealed will also assist in keeping the cost of our climate control under control.

Another source of high electricity consumption is the water heater, washer, and clothes drier. Based on an average rate of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, these appliances will consume around 40 cents per hour. We can conserve energy by using cold water to wash clothes, reduce the length of time spent showering, and line dry our clothes whenever possible. Other large appliances that use a high volume of electricity are the refrigerator, freezer,

and electric range. Each of these uses an average of around 10 cents an hour when the compressor is running. Keeping refrigerators and freezers closed and well stocked can help keep this cost to a minimum. For aging appliances, consider switching to more efficient Energy Star rated models.

Televisions, game consoles, computers, and their monitors have become more energy efficient in recent years, but can still cost you greater than \$40 a year for each device. Turn them off and unplug when not in use.

Lighting is a huge part of our daily routine all day long. Making adjustments to your lighting can be one of the easiest and best ways to save on your electricity.

OCEC will be CLOSED
Monday, September 5,
in observance of Labor Day.



Our New Website

Have you seen our newly redesigned website? It is packed full of great information for our members and is an excellent resource for electric safety tips, activities for kids, and news about your co-op. Take a look at www.ocec-inc.com today!

Safety in Your Home

Here is some more advice on respecting electricity in the home to prevent shocks, fires and even death:

- Unless you are professionally trained to do electrical work, leave it to the experts.
- Install ground-fault circuit interrupter outlets throughout the home.
- Never go near downed power lines.
- Never plug a major appliance into an extension cord. Only plug one heat-producing appliance into an outlet at a time
- Use correct bulb wattage according to lighting fixture labels.

Board of Trustees



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Tim Rabon
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Preston Stone
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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the cooperative.



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Office Hours
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