

## OCEC Operations on High Alert When Winds Pick Up

As winds begin to pick up, red-flag warnings will be issued and OCEC will put into effect fire prevention procedures. Reclosers will be set to non-reclose so breakers operate and lines stay open at the first sign of a fault to help reduce the risk of a fire being started by electrical equipment. This precautionary measure will rely more heavily on line patrol by operations personnel and less on automated equipment, but does come with some consequences – outages may last longer and more members could be affected. OCEC asks everyone to be patient when the longer outages occur, but hope you understand that the benefits of the extra patrol time far outweigh the risks.



Don't forget to "Spring Forward" on March 10 as it is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time.

There's still time to apply for a scholarship! Applications are available from your school guidance counselor, local OCEC office or online at [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com).

### ATTENTION LIHEAP Eligible Members: Notice of End of Winter Moratorium

Protection from winter shut-off ends March 15, 2019. To avoid potential disconnection of services, please contact OCEC at 800-548-4660 to make arrangements for payment.

Members of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at 888-427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance. Para informacion en espanol llame 800-548-4660.

### Stay Away from Downed Power Lines



When ice, heavy snow or trees bring lines down, safety is a top priority.

A power line does not need to be sparking or arcing to be energized. Equipment near power lines may also be energized and dangerous.

Lines that appear "dead" can become energized as crews work to restore power, or sometimes from improper use of emergency generators. Assume all low and downed lines are dangerous. If you see a downed or sagging line, call OCEC at 800-548-4660.

Motorists should never attempt to drive over a line that is on the ground. Snagging a line could pull down poles or other equipment and create additional hazards.

## EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY IS MARCH 1

Thanks for all you do to keep the co-op running smoothly!



### Board of Trustees



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**Preston Stone**  
Trustee • NW District

### Board Meeting

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



# OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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800-548-4660  
**Fax**  
575-682-3109  
**General Manager • Mario Romero**

**Website Address**  
[www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com)  
**Office Hours**  
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (M-F)