



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Watts Ahead

## Ninnescah Rural Electric Co-op, Inc.

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### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 800-828-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

## Show You Care with Safety-Minded Gifts

As you create your holiday gift list this year, consider adding safety-minded gifts as a way to show you care. From a smart doorbell to a smoke detector, a gift that keeps loved ones safe gives peace of mind and could help save lives.

Consider the following tips and gift ideas to help keep everyone on your gift list safer this holiday season and throughout the year:

### For adults

- ▶ Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ▶ A flashlight with extra batteries for emergencies
- ▶ A roadside emergency kit
- ▶ Reflective clothing for runners or walkers
- ▶ Gloves with LED lights or hand-held “knuckle lights” designed for runners
- ▶ A smart doorbell to see who’s at the door while at home and away
- ▶ Gift certificates for home services (home maintenance, such as HVAC inspection or chimney sweeping)
- ▶ A fire extinguisher for the kitchen
- ▶ A pack of GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) outlets and a gift certificate for a qualified electrician to install them
- ▶ A cozy bed blanket to replace an older electric blanket; those more

than 10 years old are often unsafe

- ▶ Aftermarket safety systems for cars that don’t have them, which include features such as forward-collision and lane-departure warnings
- ▶ A rear-view camera and dash cam for vehicles not equipped with them
- ▶ A pet harness for use in a vehicle; make sure it has earned crash-test certification

### For kids and youth

- ▶ Age-appropriate gifts (see recommendations on box or toy); children younger than age 3 should not have access to toys with small parts and avoid marbles and small balls for small children
- ▶ Safety gear such as helmets and knee and elbow pads when gifting scooters, roller blades, bikes and other riding toys
- ▶ Hover boards—these should be compliant with UL safety standards (new hover boards that are UL 2272 certified are fire safe; boards bought before 2016 do not have this certification)
- ▶ Many gaming consoles are equipped with internet browsers and chat features that allow players to communicate with each other, so be aware of these capabilities in any game or electronic device

**For other safety tips and information, go to [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).**

## Ninnescah Returns Capital Credits

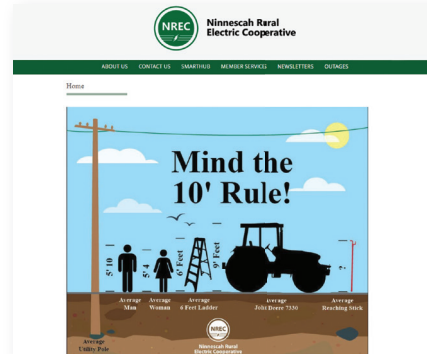
The Ninnescah Rural Electric Board of Trustees has approved the return of capital credits to the electric cooperative membership. The capital credits will be returned to members for the remaining balance of 1988. This reflects your ownership in the cooperative during that specific period of time. The capital credit checks are scheduled to go out the latter part of December.

You might not realize it, but when you signed up to receive electric service from Ninnescah Electric, you became a member and owner of an electric utility. While investor-owned utilities return a portion of any profits back to their investors, electric co-ops operate on a not-for-profit basis. So, instead of returning excess funds, known as margins, to investors who might not live in the same region as you do, we issue capital credits to you. The goal of the Ninnescah Board of Trustees is to return the margins on a regular rotating basis, starting with the oldest capital credits first.

## Be Wary of Third-Party Payment Services

Ninnescah Electric **DOES NOT** charge members to make payments on our website, [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com), through the SmartHub app. Third-party payment locations and websites are **NOT** affiliated with Ninnescah Electric, and payments made through these sources cannot be guaranteed.

For security purposes, we **DO NOT** recommend a search for Ninnescah on the internet, but rather go directly to our website, [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com), and select SmartHub on the green bar at the top of our home page.



When making an online payment, go to [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com) and select SmartHub on the green bar at the top of our home page.



### Account Management at Your Fingertips!

SmartHub allows you to manage many of your utility accounts online or with your mobile device. Download the FREE mobile or tablet app in the Apple App Store or Android Marketplace.

## WELCOME New Members

Brandon O. Farr – *Iuka*

Scouler Company Inc. – *Pratt*

Douglas K. McLean – *Kinsley*

Urban Farms LLC – *Wichita*

Rance Tucker – *Pratt*

Jamie &/or Jack Deviney – *Attica*

Unified School District 422 – *Greensburg*



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY CHECKLIST

Nearly half of all home fires occur during winter months. Take a few minutes to identify and correct any potential electrical hazards to ensure the safety of your home.

### SWITCHES AND OUTLETS

- **Are any switches or outlets warm to the touch?** YES NO  
Warm switches or outlets indicate an unsafe wiring condition.
- **Are any outlets or switches discolored?** YES NO  
Discoloration indicates dangerous heat buildup at these connections.
- **Do plugs fit snugly into outlets?** YES NO  
Loose-fitting plugs can cause overheating and fires.

### CORDS

- **Are any cords cracked, frayed or damaged?** YES NO  
Damaged cords can expose wires, causing shock or fire hazard.
- **Are any cords pinched by furniture or windows, or attached to anything with staples or nails?** YES NO  
Pinching and/or stapling cords can damage the insulation, causing shock or fire hazard.
- **Do you use extension cords on a permanent basis?** YES NO  
Extension cords should only be used temporarily.

### ELECTRIC PANEL

- **Do you have recurring tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses?** YES NO  
If yes, this could indicate you're exceeding a safe level of electrical current.
- **Do you have arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs)?** YES NO  
AFCIs provide greater fire protection. Check your circuit breakers for the AFCI label.

Please note this is not a comprehensive safety checklist. Visit [ESFI.org](http://ESFI.org) for more information.  
Source: ESFI



SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS—APPLY FOR THESE AMAZING TRIPS!

# YOUTH PROGRAMS BUILD

## Leadership, Community, Memories

Ninnescah Electric will select two students to take an all-expenses-paid trip in the summer of 2019. If you are a high school sophomore or junior, submit your application for the chance to win one of these trips.

During both trips, students forge lifelong friendships and many become college roommates and professional colleagues. Most importantly, these youth programs inspire students to discover who they want to be.

### Tour the Nation's Capital

Imagine—a chance to visit our nation's capital for one week, meet with more than 1,800 students from across the U.S. and visit with Kansas' senators and congressional representatives. Ninnescah will choose one winner to go to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., from June 13-20, 2019. The week-long trip to Washington, D.C. is jam-packed with sightseeing. Students will visit many of the major monuments and memorials, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial



During the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., students meet with our elected officials. Next year's tour will be June 13-20, 2019.



Each year, campers go rafting during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, which next year is scheduled for July 12-18, 2019.

and the Washington Monument. To see what's in store, visit <http://bit.ly/dcytvideo2015>.

### Adventure in the Rockies

Ninnescah will also choose

a winner to attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, July 12-18, 2019. Rafting, hiking and building memories—it's not just another trip! At camp, you will join winners from other co-ops in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming to build valuable leadership skills. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/CYLCVideo>.

### How to Apply

To apply for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, please complete the form below or download at [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com) and return **BY DEC. 6, 2018**. Ninnescah will provide informational packets on which there will be a quiz and short interview (similar to a job interview) to select two winners. For more information, please contact Nancy Aschenbrenner at 800-828-5538.

## Application for Youth Tour Contest – Due Dec. 6, 2018

To apply, please complete the application below and return to Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, 275 NE 20th St., P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124, **BY DEC. 6, 2018**.

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true. APPLICANT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the 2019 Youth Tour competition sponsored by

Ninnescah Electric Cooperative, Inc. SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_



# Recipes

from Our  
Members' Kitchens

## Salami Cream Cheese Pepperoncini Rollups

- ▶ 1 – 8 oz. pkg cream cheese
- ▶ 18 slices pepperoncini peppers, drained or to taste
- ▶ 18 slices thinly sliced salami

Spread about 1 ½ teaspoons softened cream cheese over a slice of salami; top with 1-3 slices of pepperoncini pepper. Roll the salami around the cheese and pepper. Secure with a toothpick. Repeat with the remaining ingredients. Serve immediately.

*Vicki Rush, Haviland*

## Mixed Nut Tarts

- ▶ 10 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- ▶ ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ▶ ½ cup sugar
- ▶ ¼ cup heavy cream
- ▶ 1 (10-oz.) can honey roasted mixed nuts
- ▶ 1 tsp. vanilla
- ▶ 3 (15-ct.) packages mini phyllo shells

Preheat oven to 350 F. Place phyllo shells on parchment lined baking sheet. In a large saucepan, combine butter, brown sugar, sugar, and heavy cream. Stir over high heat until blended and starting to boil. Reduce heat to medium and boil gently, stirring often, for 2 minutes. Remove from heat. Carefully stir in vanilla and mixed nuts. Allow to cool slightly. Divide filling among phyllo shells. Bake for 12-15 minutes. Let cool before serving.

*Vicki Rush, Haviland*

## Perfect Southern Pecan Pralines

- ▶ 1 ½ cups pecan halves or chopped pecans
- ▶ 1 ½ cups granulated white sugar
- ▶ ¾ cup brown sugar
- ▶ ¼ cup + 2 Tbsp. unsalted butter, cubed
- ▶ ½ cup evaporated milk
- ▶ 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- ▶ ½ tsp. kosher salt

Line 2 cupcake tins with about 16-20 paper liners. Set aside. In a large, heavy-bottomed saucepan, combine the pecan pieces, sugars, butter, evaporated milk, vanilla extract, and salt and bring to a boil over medium heat. Stick in a candy thermometer and stir constantly while boiling until temperature reaches 235-240 F, about 10 minutes. Remove pan from heat and working quickly and CAREFULLY, beat the mixture vigorously with a wooden spoon until mixture thickens and almost turns cloudy and opaque in color, about 2-5 minutes. Working fast, use a spoon or cookie dough scoop to portion the hot candy into each muffin tin, covering the bottom of the muffin cup. You should get about 16-20 candies, depending on how much you fill each cupcake tin. Cool the candy COMPLETELY. Candy is ready once it's reached room temperature and is firm and solid. Peel away cupcake liners before serving.

Single batches recommended as the candy hardens quickly. If you have leftovers store covered at room temperature.

*Vicki Rush, Haviland*

## Crumb Coffee Cake

- ▶ 2 ½ cup sugar, divided
- ▶ 3 cup flour
- ▶ ¾ cup shortening
- ▶ ½ tsp. nutmeg
- ▶ ½ tsp. cloves
- ▶ ½ tsp. salt
- ▶ 2 tsp. baking soda
- ▶ 2 cup buttermilk\*

Combine 2 cups sugar, flour, shortening, nutmeg, cloves and salt. Reserve one cup of mixture for topping. Add soda and buttermilk\* to remaining mixture. Pour mixture into 9x13 pan. Add ½ cup of sugar to the one cup of mixture reserved for topping, sprinkle over top of cake batter. Bake at 350 F for 35 to 40 minutes. \*A "wee bit" of vinegar may be added to milk in place of buttermilk.

*Virginia Russell, St. John*

## Want to share your recipe?

In your submission, include the following:

- ▶ Your name and contact information;
- ▶ Ninnescah account number; and
- ▶ the recipe (clearly printed or typed).

Email your entry to: [naschenbrenner@ninnescan.com](mailto:naschenbrenner@ninnescan.com) OR Mail your entry to: Ninnescah Rural Electric, Attn: Recipes, P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124