



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Watts Ahead

Ninnescah Rural Electric Co-op, Inc.

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General Manager

Robert Lamatsch
Manager of Operations

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.

Working with Local Legislators

“All politics is local.” This observation by the late Thomas P. “Tip” O’Neill, Jr., former Speaker of the House of Representatives, means that even national politics have a local impact, and people care most about issues that directly affect them. Indirectly, this famous adage underscores the importance and value of local politics.

At Ninnescah Electric, we think it’s critical to develop and cultivate relationships with local legislators because they craft, introduce and vote on legislation that impacts the local business climate, the environment and quality of life for our community. That’s why we work closely with our local elected officials. After all, our purpose is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy, but our mission is to help our community thrive.

Ninnescah Electric is a local business

that powers economic development and prosperity for our region. As a cooperative, we have deep roots here, and we listen closely to our members to better understand the needs of the community. Our leadership, board members and employees live and work right here in the community we serve.

We strive to be an advocate for our community, ensuring that local legislators know, understand and act on the issues that are important to our area.

Providing Industry Guidance and Expertise

As a practical matter, we recognize that most legislators are “generalists,” yet they vote on a wide range of issues. Their expertise may not include the changing energy industry, which is why Ninnescah Electric provides guidance

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Join Us for YOUR Annual Meeting

*Mark Your Calendars for
March 15 at 6 p.m.*

The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6 p.m. at the Pratt Municipal Building. More details to follow in next month’s issue of *Kansas Country Living*.



Nomination Committee Selected

At the regularly scheduled board meeting held on Nov. 23, 2021, Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees selected a nominating committee. Those appointed were:

- ▶ **JACK DEVINEY**, Attica
- ▶ **WILBUR K. WOOD**, Haviland
- ▶ **MARVIN JANTZ**, Haviland
- ▶ **KEN W. LEWTON**, Coats
- ▶ **STEVE MOORE**, Stafford
- ▶ **MORGAN J. TRINKLE**, Preston
- ▶ **JAY A. DERLEY**, Lewis
- ▶ **JON M. MCCLURE**, Stafford
- ▶ **TERAH LAMBERT**, Sun City

The nominating committee will meet at Ninnescah's office on **FRIDAY, FEB. 4, 2022, AT 1:30 P.M.** to select members of the cooperative to run for office. These nominees will be voted on at the annual meeting.

If anyone wishes to place a member's name into nomination (husband or wife if signed jointly), please contact any nominating committee member before the nominating committee meeting in February. The committee shall prepare and post at the office of the cooperative at least 25 days prior to the annual meeting a list of nominations for trustee. Any 15 or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signature not less than 20 days prior to the annual meeting and the secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted.

Ninnescah Offers 4 SCHOLARSHIPS

Ninnescah's Board of Directors is awarding four \$1,000 scholarships in 2022 for high school juniors or seniors whose parents or guardians receive electric service from Ninnescah. To apply, please complete the application below and return to Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, 275 N.E. 20th St., P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124. Applications are due in Ninnescah's office by **FRIDAY, JAN. 7, 2022.**

Applicant Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School _____

Grade in School _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Names _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone _____

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I hereby grant permission for _____
to enter the 2022 Ninnescah Electric Cooperative, Inc. scholarship competition.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

Welcome New Members

John S &/or Pam Patterson – *Harper*

Karina Miranda &/or Jesus Valdez – *Stafford*

Brenda Heyen – *St. John*

Suzette L &/or Lincoln Hart – *Medicine Lodge*

Zakre Johnson – *Lewis*

Sammy J Schrimsher – *Cross Hill SC*

Brandon &/or Krystal Burton – *East New Market, MD*

Superior Pipeline Kansas LLC – *Tulsa, OK*

Working with Local Legislators *Continued from page 12A* ▶

and expertise from subject matter experts who've been in the energy industry for many years.

One way we do so is through the Co-ops Vote program. Partnering with Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. we bring together co-op trustees and key staff, local officials and our legislators to discuss energy-industry topics and their affects on the quality of life of our communities.

Today's energy landscape is an increasingly complex topic covering not only the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the industry, but also encompasses technology, cybersecurity, the electrification of the transportation sector and more.

Our experts provide briefings and backgrounders to legislators, committees and staff, often at Co-ops Vote events, and we offer expert testimony for hearings and other legislative or regulatory meetings or gatherings. And because we're involved in economic de-

velopment and we know local community leaders, we can provide insight on how issues and policies under discussion might impact our region.

Representing Your Best Interests

We strive to be a trusted resource on energy issues. Because of our deep roots in the community, we have a firm understanding of local issues and needs. We will continue looking after the long-term interests of our consumer-members. This means we can cultivate and foster positive, productive relationships with legislators who know and trust us, because we're advocating on behalf of the community we serve.

We're proud to power your life and bring good things to the community. We hope you'll continue to advise Ninnescah Electric on matters of importance so we can continue to advocate on your behalf and improve the quality of life for all.

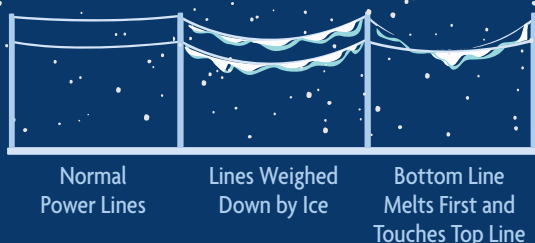
Tips to Ditch the Space Heater



Space heaters are energy hogs, and older models can be extremely dangerous. This winter, ditch the space heater and try these alternative solutions to stay cozy.

- ▶ Use an electric blanket to keep warm at night.
- ▶ Caulk and weatherstrip around all windows and doors to prevent heat loss.
- ▶ Consider adding insulation to your attic and around duct work.
- ▶ Open curtains during the day to let sunlight warm your home. Close them at night.
- ▶ Run ceiling fans clockwise in the winter to push warm air down.

ICE ON POWER LINES A WEIGHTY SUBJECT



Ice is a force to be reckoned with when moving electricity across power lines and into your home or business.

ICE ON DISTRIBUTION LINES

Ice can quickly lead to broken power poles and other pole equipment. Ice can also make falling tree branches 30 times heavier and much more likely to break power lines.

ON A 300-FOOT SPAN OF 1-INCH THICK POWER LINES

- ▶ 1/2 inch of ice adds 281 pounds of weight
- ▶ 1 inch of ice adds 749 pounds of weight
- ▶ 2 inches of ice adds 2,248 pounds of weight

WHEN ICE MELTS

Melting ice can cause power outages. If ice on the bottom (neutral) line melts before the lines above, it can cause the lines to touch.

OTHER ICE FACTS

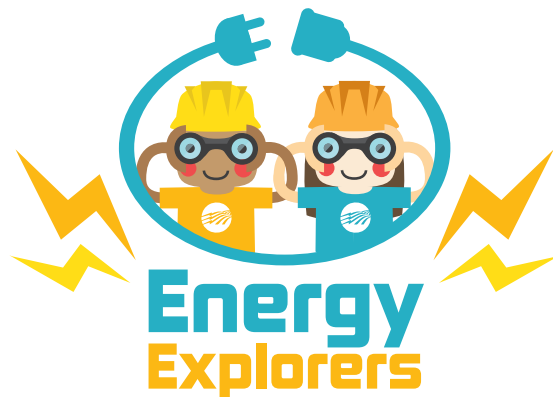
- ▶ Damage can begin when ice exceeds 1/4 inch
- ▶ 1/2 inch of ice can cause a line to sag up to 12 inches
- ▶ Pressure can be caused by a broken tree limb
- ▶ Both ice and melting ice can cause power outages

Sources: Weather.gov,
Severe-wx.pbworks.com
and Victory Electric
Cooperative Engineering



WINTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD

Did you know there are several ways you can fight the winter chill *and* save energy at home? Complete the crossword puzzle below to learn how to save energy during winter months.



1. Down: Open curtains and blinds during the day to allow _____ in to warm your home.

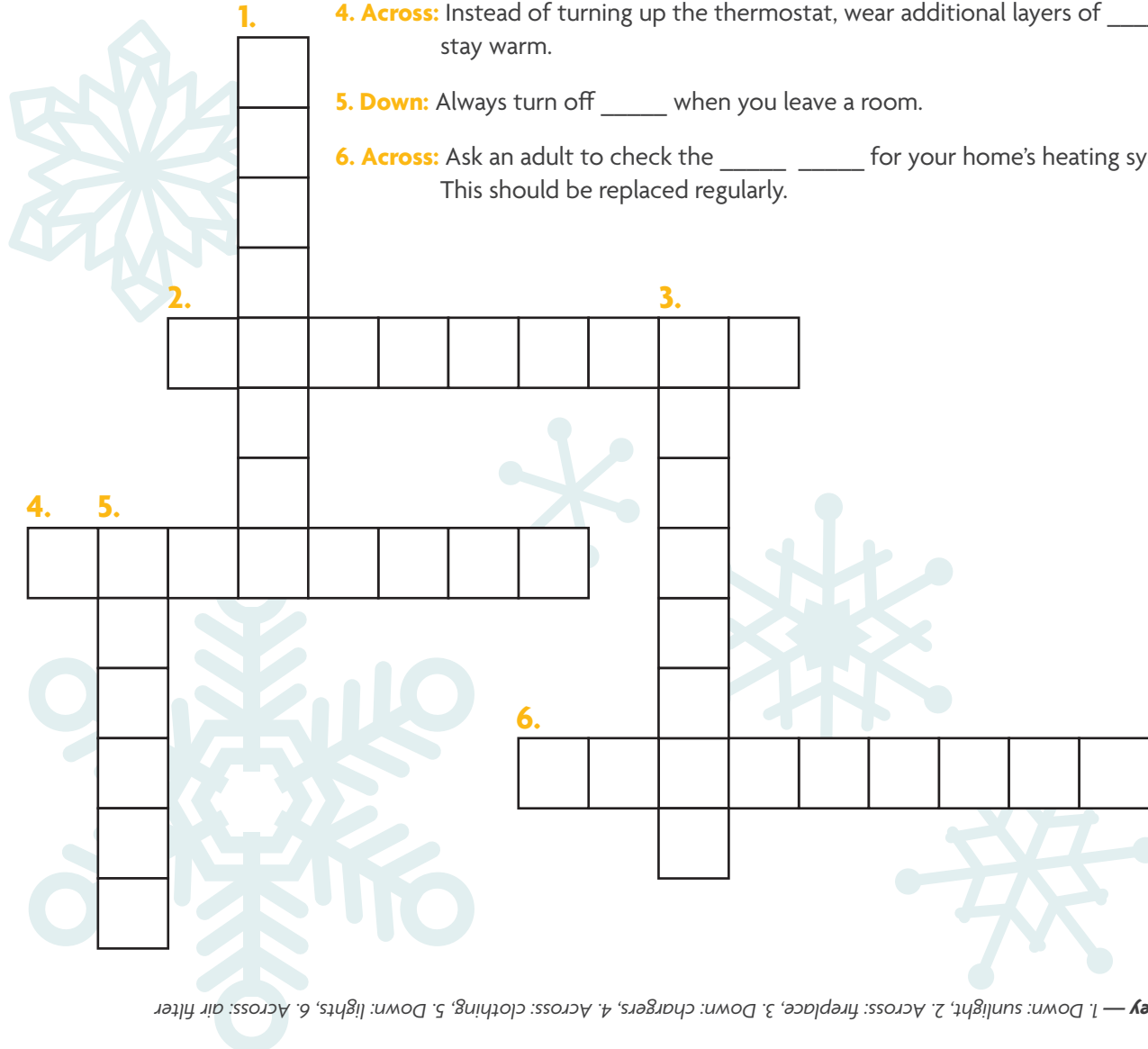
2. Across: If you have a _____ at home, ask an adult to close the flue when a fire is not burning.

3. Down: Unplug phone and tablet _____ when they're not in use.

4. Across: Instead of turning up the thermostat, wear additional layers of _____ to stay warm.

5. Down: Always turn off _____ when you leave a room.

6. Across: Ask an adult to check the _____ _____ for your home's heating system. This should be replaced regularly.



Answer Key — 1. Down: sunlight, 2. Across: fireplace, 3. Down: chargers, 4. Across: clothing, 5. Down: lights, 6. Across: air filter