

THE CIRCUIT!

A Publication of Southeastern
Electric Cooperative, Inc.



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CHEEP Program Sign-Ups Have Began



CO-OP HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Comfort, Savings, Efficiency

SEC has officially kicked off the newest program in the rebate family! Now, your Co-op gives Members the ability to make the energy improvements on their homes to keep high energy usage down. The Cooperative Home Energy Efficiency Program (CHEEP) is now available at SEC and provides Members with the resources to make those recommended improvements.

To sign up, visit www.se-coop.com and click on the “Rebates” tab. From there, hover over the “CHEEP Program” tab and click on “Registration”. You will be redirected to the CHEEP website where you can register for the program. Once you have signed up, a home energy efficiency expert will conduct a FREE (\$275.00 value) whole-home energy audit.

The audit will test your home’s ability to seal in heat during the winter and cool air during the

summer, checks for potential duct leakage and ensures an adequate amount of attic insulation. Members will receive a detailed report on site along with projected retrofit costs and return-on-investment of the project if the Member decides to move forward and take advantage of **hundreds of dollars in additional rebates**.

If the Member follows through with the suggested improvements then they can pay the remaining balance or they can apply for On-Bill-Financing with Southeastern Electric.

The Home Energy Efficiency Program is available only to residential members living in a traditional single-family house who meet the qualifications for the program. This information can be viewed at our website, www.se-coop.com, or you may call our office at 580-745-9463 for assistance in signing up.***

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2017 Capital Credit Disbursements

At the March 27th meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was decided that a Capital Credit refund (retirement) totalling \$638,613.35 would be distributed back to the Members during the Spring of 2017. Those who were Members of the Co-op during the year of 1988 should receive a refund check.

Southeastern Electric Cooperative is a non-profit organization. The rates are set to bring in enough revenue for the Co-op to operate. When the operating expenses are subtracted from the total amount of revenue collected during the year, the result is referred to as a "margin." As a member-owner, when the Co-op has margins they are then allocated, or assigned, in the form of a Capital Credit Allocation to Members who purchased electricity from the Cooperative during the years in which the margins were generated.



This is a huge task that SEC's Accounting and Billing Departments oversee. Hundreds of checks will be mailed during the disbursement.

James Fox, Assistant General Manager said, "Members should begin seeing checks in the mail around mid-May. Once you receive your check you may cash it right away. If you do not recognize the name on the check, please return it to the Co-op so that the rightful person will get their refund."

If you have any questions on how the refund is allocated, please contact member Services at 580-745-9463.***

PMRP Began April 1st

One of the most anticipated rebate programs has started back for 2017. The Preventative Maintenance Rebate Program (PMRP) began on April 1st and will run through June 30th. The program is open to Members of the Cooperative who did not participate in the 2015 or 2016 calendar year. If you need to find out your eligibility, please give our office a call.

This rebate of up to \$70 can assist in absorbing part of or in some cases, all of the cost associated with having a yearly maintenance service performed on your heating and cooling system (HVAC).

Call our office at 580-745-9463 before you schedule your service with a licensed technician so that we can ensure you will qualify for the rebate. Upon approval you will be given an application that will need to be IN HAND at the time of the service.***

Right of Way to Begin in May



Having clean and clear access to electrical Right-of-Ways (ROW) is very important when the linemen are repairing or maintaining a service. SEC implements an annual brush spray program to help keep lines clear of vegetation and debris and provide accessible ROWs. When brush or other organic material comes into contact with the power lines, blinks and possible outages can occur.

This year, SEC has once again contracted with Progressive Solutions, LLC from Marshall, Arkansas to do the service. The program will focus on the areas of Yuba, Colbert, Kiersey and Durant. The townships included are Yuba, Kemp, Hendricks, Colbert, Roberta, Caddo and Silo. It is scheduled to begin at the end of May and will take approximately 2-3 weeks to complete, covering just over 1,000 miles of line.

The same types of herbicide that has been used for several years will be used again in 2017. These chemicals have been thoroughly tested for toxicological effects on many animal species including shrimp, fish, worms, birds and mammals.

The crews will be wearing their traditional blue uniforms and will be easily noticeable by their bright orange hats.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Member Services Department at 580-745-9463.***

Attention: Members Who Use Bill-Pay Feature with Their Bank Account



Some SEC Members find it convenient to pay their bill by using the Bill-Pay Service offered by their financial institution. While this is a helpful tool, we would like to make those Members aware that the date that you give your financial institution to authorize the payment is NOT the date that SEC receives

your payment.

From our experience with accounts who use this type of banking service, the financial institution may hold payments for up to 10 days before mailing them to the Co-op. This can delay the payment for up to 14 days in some instances.

If this is an issue that you are facing, we would like to suggest a service that is offered by SEC. The FREE Automatic Bank Draft option takes away the worry and uncertainty of paying your electric bill.

The FREE Automatic Bank Draft option will draft funds directly from your checking account a few days before your bill is due. Please call our office with any questions or to begin the simple process to enroll your account for Automatic Bank Draft.***

Beat the Peak Returns for 2017

Your Cooperative needs your help again in 2017 to Beat the Peak!

The Peak Season runs from June 20th to August 31st. Between these dates, members who have signed up by using the form below are encouraged to shift their energy usage from the hottest parts of the day (the hours between 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.) to either earlier or later times when the temperatures aren't as extreme.

By shifting usage from "peak-times" during the day will help reduce the chance of having to build costly new power plants that would be required to generate enough electricity to meet the demand during the Peak Season.

One of the easiest and most helpful ways that you can save during these hours is by setting your thermostat to 78 degrees between the Peak Hours.

To participate, please fill out the form below and return it to the Cooperative. You may include it in your monthly bill, mail it separately, bring it to the office or even leave it in the drop box in the drive thru.

Those who return their form and take the Peak Pledge no later than JUNE 20TH will receive a \$10 Energy Credit on their August 2017 bill. Pledges received that do not have a notification option checked or that are not legible will not be put into the system. ***



Member Pledge

Effective dates: June 20-August 31, 2017

By signing and returning this form, I am pledging to make a conscious effort to shift my energy usage from the "Peak Times" to either earlier or later periods of the day in order to reduce the overall system demand and the possibility for construction of costly new power plants.

I will strive to shift my usage time of tasks such as laundry, using the dishwasher or showering, to earlier than 2 p.m. or later than 8 p.m. to help minimize the load usage for my household.

I understand that by participating in Beat the Peak I am not only helping myself manage my monthly electricity bill, I am a part of a group working together to reduce the overall system demand for neighbors as well as my Cooperative.

Please select how you would like to be notified for a "Peak Day":

Text: _____

Phone Call: _____

Signature: _____ Account #: _____

****Please print.** An account number **MUST BE** provided in order to receive the credit.

This pledge **MUST BE** postmarked no later than June 20th, 2017

in order to receive your \$10 Energy Credit. ***Pledges that do not have at least one type of notification selected above will NOT be accepted.***