

CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this month's lightbulb winners:

- ▶ John Hurd
- ▶ Mirna Juarez
- ▶ Crystal Hicks
- ▶ Greg Holsted
- ▶ Pat Gean
- ▶ Lisa Hadley

Contact us today for your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

77th Annual Meeting Highlights

The 77th Annual Meeting of CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held May 4 in Protection, Kansas. Members and guests attending enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by John Ross Catering Co. of Garden City, with 130 people served.

CMS Board President Ron Oliver welcomed members and guests to the annual meeting. He introduced the CMS Board of Trustees, General Manager Kirk Thompson, and Corporate Attorney Tim Larson. Also in attendance were former operations manager Rusty Blehm and former employee Darrell Frazier. Other guests were Larry Detweiler from Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. and Colleen Wells from Kansas Electric Power Cooperative.

Mr. Thompson introduced the scholarship winners **KACEN ANTHONY**, Satanta; **ERYN APSLEY**, Liberal; **MADISON DENISON**, Minneola; **GRAYDEN STAPLETON**, Meade; **KARLEY MOORE**, Coldwater; and **TORY MARIS**, Protection. Mr. Thompson then presented each recipient in attendance with a certificate and gift recognizing their achievement. Eryn Apsley was unable to attend.

Mr. Thompson reviewed the financial reports as printed in the annual report and presented the manager's report. Mr. Thompson updated the members on the following:

- ▶ 2 MW solar array on the north side of Coldwater Substation has been completed.



General Manager Kirk Thompson with the 2023 CMS Scholarship recipients (from left) Kacen Anthony, Satanta; Grayden Stapleton, Meade; Karley Moore, Coldwater; Madison Denison, Minneola; and Tory Maris, Protection. Not pictured: Eryn Apsley, Liberal.

- ▶ EV charging and our system.

CJ SKINNER was newly elected to represent District 1 and **LINDA TOMLINSON**, District 2, and **KEITH RANDALL**, District 3, were reelected. Mr. Thompson honored trustee member, R. Gary Warden (not in attendance), for his 27 years of service on the board; wished him the best in his future endeavors and will present him with a plaque at later date.

Following the business meeting, there were drawings for many door prizes including two grand prize 40-inch TVs won by **ARLIE LOHRDING** and **JEFFREY SANGSTER**. **RYAN STAPLETON** won the table top Pit Boss barbecue grill and **KYLE HOFFMAN** won the 32-inch TV. The winner of the Kindle Fire drawing was **KARLEY MOORE**. Many other great prizes were awarded including energy certificates for up to \$100 off the winner's CMS electric bill.

STAY SAFE

While Spending Time Outdoors

As temperatures increase and sunny days abound, it is easy to be footloose and fancy free. As you spend more time outdoors, keep these safety tips in mind to have a great summer.



Pools and Hot Tubs

Before opening your pool or hot tub for the season, ensure there is ground fault circuit interrupter protection on underwater lighting circuits, as well as for lighting around pools, hot tubs and spas. Have your pool's electrical system inspected. Faulty wiring can cause swimmers to experience electric shock drowning.

Boating and Swimming

When boating or swimming, know that faulty wiring can cause the water to become energized. Never go swimming near boats plugged into shore power or docks with an electrical source. Energized water can cause electric shock drowning.

While Recreating

According to the National Lightning Safety Council, approximately 440 people are struck and killed by lightning each year.* Nearly two-thirds of the deaths occurred while enjoying outdoor leisure activities — 33% of the fatalities occurred during water-related activities such as boating, spending time on the beach and swimming, while 14% happened during sporting activities such as fishing, soccer and running.

During a Storm

When angry clouds roll in, take them seriously. Have a weather app installed on your phone to inform you of weather alerts. Lightning can occur up to 10 miles away from the heart of the storm, so if you hear thunder, take cover. A watch means that conditions are likely for severe weather to develop; a warning means take action.

When Playing

When flying drones, remote-controlled planes, toys or kites, fly them in a wide-open area free from overhead power lines. If a toy or object gets stuck in an overhead power line, do not try to remove it. Instead, call your electric co-op and a crew will address the issue safely.



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) provides a free app to check local weather and receive weather alerts during severe conditions.

Ensure that overhead power lines do not run through or over a tree before your child starts to climb. Select trees that are in a wide-open space without overhead power lines nearby.

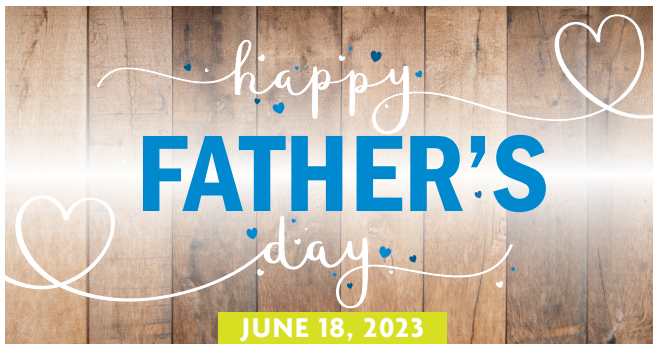
If kids are playing with a ball and it goes inside a substation fence, teach them to never touch or climb the fence to attempt to retrieve it or any other item. Instead, call your electric co-op to safely take care of it. The same precaution applies to a pet or animal inside the fenced area of a substation.

Avoid Releasing Balloons

Although not an outdoor recreational activity per se, be careful with balloons. Metallic balloons if released or accidentally let go can get caught in a power line or other utility equipment and cause a major power outage. In fact, avoid releasing any type of balloon as they can interfere with power lines, substations and aircraft. Plus, birds, turtles and other animals commonly mistake balloons for food, which can harm or kill them.

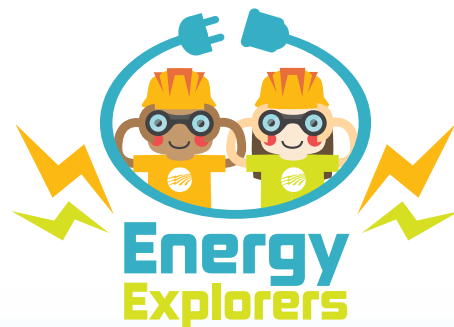
For additional electrical safety tips, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

*ANALYSIS OF LIGHTNING-RELATED DEATHS IN THE U.S., 2006-2021



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Water and electricity never mix. Always practice safety when you're near or in the swimming pool this summer. Read the following safety tips, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle below.



Never bring electrical **devices** near a swimming pool. **Electrical** devices that come in contact with **water** can cause electric shock.

When possible, use **battery**-operated devices when **outdoors** near a swimming pool.

Outdoor electrical **outlets** should be **dry** or covered.

If you hear thunder, immediately exit the swimming **pool**. Thunderstorms and lightning may be near.

C	Y	P	G	V	Q	B	X	S	E	D	R	N	L	Y
I	R	O	J	R	H	S	R	L	J	M	R	I	J	F
I	E	O	X	M	W	O	E	V	T	W	G	Y	L	A
M	T	L	T	J	O	C	M	H	O	H	M	H	K	H
V	T	P	A	D	T	M	C	K	T	Z	G	E	U	Q
E	A	Y	T	R	P	O	Z	N	E	J	K	Y	M	B
H	B	U	I	P	T	E	I	D	Q	K	C	X	Q	M
Z	O	C	L	F	W	N	W	W	C	N	K	J	N	S
R	A	I	T	B	G	G	S	D	R	T	H	T	I	K
L	E	I	T	K	J	K	N	H	X	Z	C	B	Y	J
L	K	T	A	Z	X	T	Y	H	E	Q	D	P	R	R
N	X	M	A	X	M	Q	S	E	C	I	V	E	D	F
Z	O	Y	D	W	O	U	T	L	E	T	S	U	V	L
X	N	P	Y	C	Y	O	H	O	P	J	L	R	C	Q
Z	M	J	Y	L	X	R	L	B	E	N	B	H	C	K