

CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this month's lightbulb winners:

- ▶ Colton Chase
- ▶ Dewayne Devellen
- ▶ Gus DeLissa
- ▶ Jason Evans
- ▶ JB Delaney
- ▶ Gary Filson

Contact us today for your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Enter to Win a Willie Wiredhand Holiday Ornament

The 2020 Willie Wiredhand Commemorative Holiday Ornaments have arrived! CMS will hold a drawing for **FIVE ORNAMENTS**.

To be eligible for the drawing, please complete and return the entry form to the CMS office in Meade, either in person or mail to: CMS Electric Cooperative Inc. P.O. Box 790 Meade, KS 67864

Entries must be received by **5 P.M. ON DEC. 16, 2020**. Winners will receive the ornament in the mail.

Willie Wiredhand Ornament Drawing

Clip and return to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 790, Meade, KS 67864, by 5 p.m. on Dec. 16, 2020.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Cold Weather Rule

Effective Nov. 15 to March 1

CMS Electric Cooperative shall not disconnect a member's residential service between Nov. 15 and March 1 when the local National Weather Service office forecasts the temperature will drop below 32 degrees in the 24-hour period following the time of disconnection.

It will be the responsibility of the cooperative during the cold weather period to send one written notice to the member. The member will receive a second written notice 24-hours prior to any scheduled disconnect at their address or at their meter location that they are to be disconnected. The member can avoid disconnection by bringing the member's electric bill current prior to the scheduled disconnect time.

The Cold Weather Rule is to ensure that human health and safety are not unreasonably endangered during the cold weather months.

For more information concerning bill assistance, please contact CMS Electric at 800-794-2353.

Billing Inquiries

Billing is completed on the second to last billing day each month. Bills are due typically 20 days after billing. For billing questions, please contact our office at 800-794-2353. If you have multiple meters and are interested in invoice billing, please contact our office to set it up. For more information about our Budget or Even-Pay plans, please contact our office as well.

Payment Arrangements

CMS Electric understands when members struggle to stay current on their bills and we are here to help. We can work with you to set up payment arrangements. To make a payment arrangement, please contact our office at 800-794-2353.

Your CMS Payment Options

CMS Electric has six convenient payment options for our members. All members receive a standard monthly bill for their electrical use. Bills are due and payable upon receipt. We realize one method of payment does not fit every members' needs, so we have several payment options available for your convenience. All our payment options are free.



Auto Payment/Bank Draft

Members have the option to have payments automatically withdrawn from their bank accounts or credit/debit cards. Sign-up is available through our online bill pay system or through the office. Auto payments are drawn automatically each month on the due date of the bill. A form is also available on our website cmselectric.com.



SmartHub/Online Bill Pay

Online bill pay is also available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Click the "Pay Online" button on the left side of CMS Electric's website or follow cmselectric.smarthub.coop/login.html. Members can also download the "Smart Hub" app from the Apple or Android marketplaces on any mobile device.



CMS Electric Offices

You may pay by check, cash or credit/debit card at either office in Meade or Coldwater. Our offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, except for select holidays.



Night Deposit Boxes

There are night deposit boxes located at either office in Meade or Coldwater. Payments dropped off after 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, will be posted the next business day. Please pay inside to avoid broken payment arrangements or disconnection.



Mail*

CMS Electric's monthly bill comes with a return envelope to mail your check back to us at P.O. Box 790, Meade, KS 67864 or P.O. Box 738, Coldwater, KS 67029

**Please allow additional time if using the postal service. Payments must be received in our office on or prior to due date. We DO NOT use the mailing post date for the payment date.*



IVR

CMS Electric has an automated pay-by-phone option. Members can use a check or credit/debit card by calling 888-395-5281.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Energy bills can increase during winter for a variety of reasons, like house guests, more time spent at home, and shorter days and longer nights. Small actions like turning down your thermostat, replacing old bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help you save. **Source:** energystar.gov





6 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. awards six \$1,000 scholarships annually to eligible applicants. Apply by Feb. 10, 2021.

Purpose

To support development of effective leaders through educational opportunities.

Objective

To provide financial assistance for six high school graduates — based upon scholastic and extracurricular achievements — to continue their education.

Scholarship Eligibility

Current high school seniors whose parents/guardians are members of CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Each applicant must intend to enroll as a full-time student in an accredited university or college, including junior, community, vocational or technical college. All applicants for the CMS Electric scholarships shall be considered based upon scholastic and extracurricular achievements without regard to race, age, color, religion, gender, national origin or existence of physical handicap.

Scholarship Criteria

Scholarship merit is based on three categories: scholastic achievement, extracurricular school activities and community engagement.

How to Apply

Interested applicants may contact the CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. office or a CMS board trustee from within the district in which they reside to obtain an application form or print an application form from the CMS website, www.cmselectric.com.

Completed applications must be postmarked and/or returned to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. **by Feb. 10, 2021.**

Mail applications to: Scholarship Committee, CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 790, Meade, KS 67864.

Questions about the scholarship program should be directed to CMS General Manager Kirk A. Thompson at 620-873-2184 or 800-794-2353.

Selection Procedure

Selections are made by CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Scholarship Committee. Applicants must be willing to be interviewed by the committee if necessary. Decisions made by this committee shall be final. Runners-up will be selected in the event the recipient forfeits rights to the scholarship.

Payment of Scholarships

The scholarship recipients shall provide proof of college enrollment satisfactory to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

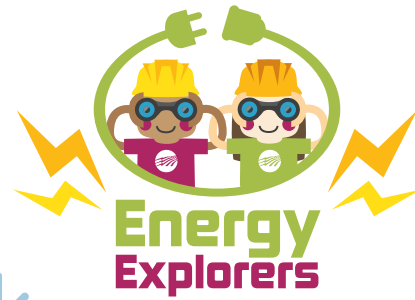
The cooperative will then pay the institution. Should the recipient withdraw from college, payment of scholarship monies shall cease and reimbursement of unused monies shall be made to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Conditions

In the event the scholarship recipient receives financial assistance from other sources, which would constitute a full scholarship, the recipient shall notify CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. and relinquish rights to the scholarship. The money shall then be awarded to the runner-up, provided that individual continues to meet all criteria.

WINTER WONDERLAND WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words associated with winter in the puzzle below?
Use the word bank to check your work.



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

WINTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP:

Instead of turning up the heat in your home, grab an extra layer of clothing or get cozy under your favorite blanket!

WORD BANK:

- snowflake
- mittens
- scarf
- snowball
- chilly
- icicles
- cocoa
- earmuffs
- fireplace
- blanket