

P.O. Box 360, 14935 U.S. Highway 36, Norton, KS 67654
785- 877-3323 or 800- 577-3323
www.prairielandelectric.com

**PRAIRIE LAND
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS



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Power Line Issues

Call 800-577-3323 to report outages and other power line issues.

Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FROM THE MANAGER

Seasons Greetings From Your Co-op

No matter what else is going on in the world, the holiday season, with all the family gatherings and traditions, brings a sense of comfort and nostalgia. The close of a year is a time of reflection and a reminder of what matters.

I'm grateful for my own family as well as my co-op family. At Prairie Land Electric, we're driven by a sense of mission and purpose. Our team feels a strong connection to our community and our members because we live here too.

You might see our lineworkers and bucket trucks helping to hang holiday

decorations in some of our smaller towns during the day. Outside of work, I'm always impressed with the spirit of giving among our employees. They gather food for local pantries, buy gifts for those less fortunate, and volunteer time for community events.



Kirk Girard

This holiday season, I wish you and your loved ones peace, joy and prosperity. Speaking on behalf of our team at Prairie Land Electric, I know the future will be bright, because of you.

MERRY AND BRIGHT

Don't add stress to your holiday season. Knowing how to properly use and hang lights could prevent injury or fire. Consider LED lights when replacing old strands. LEDs use 80-90% less energy than incandescent bulbs.



Make sure your home's electrical system can handle the load.

Do not use cords or plugs that are frayed or cracked.

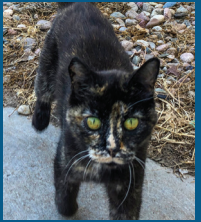


Unplug light strands before changing a bulb or string fuse.

Only use lights certified by a reputable testing lab (UL).



Kilowatt Completes 15 Years



KILOWATT began her career with Prairie Land in December 2006 as a safety and energy efficiency ambassador at the Norton office.

Recently, Kilowatt learned that 15 years for a cat is equivalent to more than 70 years for a human. Therefore, she has started exploring her retirement options and succession planning.

Cooperative Month Poster Contest Winners

To celebrate Cooperative Month in October, Prairie Land Electric held a poster contest for third graders across its 18-county service territory.

Each classroom was provided activity books to learn about electrical safety. Students used their creativity to draw posters of electrical safety at home or school, and those with the winning posters were awarded a new bike and helmet. As a thank you for their participation, their teachers received checks for classroom supplies.

Prairie Land received 363 posters from 27 participating classrooms. Thank you for supporting your electric cooperative and promoting electrical safety. Congratulations to the winners!

- ▶ **1ST PLACE** – **RUGAR BRYANT**, Clifton-Clyde Elementary, Clifton; Mrs. Hevelone, teacher, \$200
- ▶ **2ND PLACE** – **CRUZ VAN PATTEN**, Northern Valley Elementary, Alma; Mrs. Gebhard, teacher, \$150
- ▶ **3RD PLACE** – **COOPER BUFFINGTON**, St. Francis Elementary; Mrs. Swihart, teacher, \$100

Rugar Bryant and his winning poster, with his parents, teacher, and Journeyman Lineman Luke Lister. The first place classroom gets a check for \$200.



Cruz Van Patten and his winning poster, with his parents and teacher. The second place classroom gets a check for \$150.



Cooper Buffington and his winning poster, with his parents and teacher. The third place classroom gets a check for \$100.





KILOWATT TIPS

Safety-Minded Gifts

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



Kilowatt

For Adults

- ▶ A flashlight with extra batteries
- ▶ A roadside emergency kit
- ▶ Reflective clothing for runners or walkers
- ▶ A smart doorbell to see who's at the door while at home and away
- ▶ A cozy bed blanket to replace an older electric blanket; those more than 10 years old are often unsafe
- ▶ For vehicles not equipped with them, a rear-view camera and dashcam
- ▶ A pet harness for use in a vehicle; make sure it has earned crash-test certification

For Kids

- ▶ Buy age-appropriate gifts (see recommendations on box or toy); children younger than age 3 should not have access to toys with small parts.
- ▶ Also avoid marbles and small balls for young children.
- ▶ Don't forget proper safety gear such as helmets and knee and elbow pads when gifting scooters, in-line skates, bikes and other riding toys.
- ▶ Hoverboards — these units should be compliant with UL safety standards.
- ▶ 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.

KILOWATT was adopted by Prairie Land after the December 2006 ice storm. She now brings you energy and safety tips each month.



Helping someone with their utility payment is an especially practical and thoughtful gesture and convenient gift for any occasion. When you send this form, along with a check or money order in the amount of your choosing, your gift will be added to the recipient's Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc. account and they will receive a Gift of Electricity receipt. (Please allow up to one week for your gift payment to be applied.)

Recipient Information

(Please name a recipient — we are unable to choose a random recipient for you.)

Member Name: _____ PLEC Account # (if known): _____

Address: _____ Apt/Unit #: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Personalize your Gift Receipt:

Gift Amount: \$ _____ To: _____ From: _____

Optional message: _____

- ▶ Make check or money order payable to Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ▶ Mail this form and payment to P.O. Box 360, Norton, KS 67654
- ▶ Available year-round. Visit PrairieLandElectric.com for more designs
- ▶ For more information, call us at 800-577-3323

Attention High School Juniors: Win a Free Trip!

If you are a high school junior and would like to increase your leadership skills, meet new friends and travel, apply for an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C., or Steamboat Springs, Colorado, sponsored by Prairie Land Electric.

On June 16-23, 2022, students will join 1,800 youth from across the nation in Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Participants will visit the monuments and other attractions, as well as visit Capitol Hill to learn more about how our government works.



At the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp on July 15-21, 2022, students will join with youth from Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming. Campers will form a mock cooperative, participate in leadership activities and learn about electric cooperatives.

To apply for the contest, complete and return the application below to Prairie Land Electric by **5 P.M. ON JAN. 10, 2022**. You can also apply online by scanning the QR code at left. For more information, check with your high school counselor or contact Kenzie Griffiths at kgriffiths@prairielandelectric.com or 785-874-2735.

Application for 2022 Youth Tour Contest — Due Jan. 10, 2022

TO APPLY, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN TO PRAIRIE LAND ELECTRIC, PO BOX 360, NORTON, KS 67654. STUDENTS MUST BE A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL DURING THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR TO APPLY.

Applicant name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ Home phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ School Name: _____ Year in School: _____ Birthdate: _____

Parent(s) or guardian(s): _____ Email: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____ Your electric service provider: _____

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

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby grant permission for _____ to enter the 2022 Youth Tour competition sponsored by Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS AND CHAPERONES IS OUR TOP PRIORITY. IF THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR OR COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP ORGANIZERS BELIEVE THAT TRAVEL IS UNSAFE DUE TO CONCERNS WITH THE CORONAVIRUS (OR ANY OTHER ACTS OF TERRORISM, DISASTER, CIVIL DISORDER, OR CURTAILMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES), THE TRIP WILL BE CANCELED.