



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

501 S. Huston Ave, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330
866-784-5500
www.twinvalleyelectric.coop

TWIN VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS

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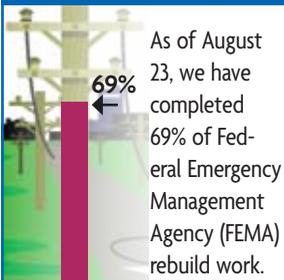
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Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Contact Us
501 S. Huston Ave., P.O. Box 368
Altamont, KS 67330
620-784-5500
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FEMA Rebuild Update



FROM THE MANAGER

Increased Summer Demand Raises Wholesale Power Cost

Last month, I wrote that if the triple-digit heat wave continued through the end of July, Twin Valley would set several records for both demand and usage. We ended the month with 25 days of temperatures 100 degrees or greater. We set a new record for kilowatt-hours (kWh) purchased—5.25 million kWh—and we set a new record for the highest demand—10.6 kW—ever placed on our system.

Our residential electric bills are primarily based on the kWhs used each month. In a typical hot summer month, Twin Valley members use approximately 1,500 kWhs. In July, your average usage jumped to over 1,730 kWhs, another record. Of course, this means that the electric bills were much higher than in previous years.

Fortunately, August was a more normal summer month and the usage and electric bills should return to more normalized amounts for the summer.

Unfortunately, the record setting demand placed on our system has long-term impacts on our cost of power. Where your residential electric billings are primarily determined by kWhs, Twin Valley's wholesale cost of power is impacted greatly by the demand placed on

our system.

The demand (kW) is measured at that point in time where our members are requiring the greatest amount of electricity.

In our case, it was at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27. The new demand record will set the basis for almost one half of our wholesale power costs for the next nine months as the demand costs for October through May are based on the previous summer peak demand rather than the actual demand created each month.

Twin Valley's wholesale cost of power has risen over 16 percent in 2011. Three-fourths of that increase is due to the higher demand that was set last August. The new demand established this July will cause those wholesale power costs to increase even more in late 2011 and during the first five months of 2012. This is why we ask our members to do everything possible to curtail electric usage on the very hot days (peak alert) during the hours of 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

There continues to be upward pressures put on our rates. Twin Valley will do everything it can to keep your energy costs affordable. That's our commitment to you.



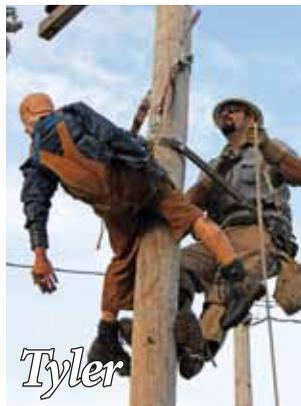
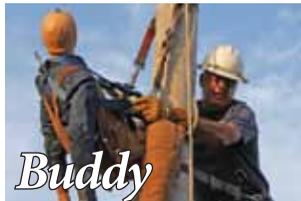
Ron Holsteen

“Twin Valley will do everything it can to keep your energy costs affordable. That's our commitment to you.”

Co-op Lineman Qualify in Pole-Top Rescue



Say hello to your Twin Valley Electric linemen. We took the opportunity during our 2011 Pole Top Rescue training to put a name and a face to the men that keep your lights on.



Get Co-op Updates on Facebook, Text or E-mail

Did you know you can receive Twin Valley alerts at your fingertips? Send us your e-mail address or a cell phone number to receive e-mail or text. Join us on Facebook for updates from Twin Valley.

To join us on Facebook, simply search for Twin Valley Electric Cooperative and click on the LIKE button. You can also visit our website at www.twinvalleyelectric.coop.

Once we receive your cell phone number, we will add you to our alert list. Alerts will be issued only on those days where we predict our loads will set a new billing level. All applicable text messaging rates will apply.



Sign Up Today to Receive Email & Text Alerts!

Complete and return this form to Twin Valley Electric, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Twin Valley Account # _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Number _____

I hereby grant permission for Twin Valley Electric Cooperative to send me alerts via e-mail and text. The information will not be used for any other purpose. I acknowledge that any applicable text message rates will apply and will not be reimbursed by Twin Valley Electric Cooperative.

Signature _____

You Can Dim Efficient Lights—Dispelling Common CFL Myths

U.S. retailers will soon begin switching out traditional incandescent lightbulbs with more efficient options because of new regulations. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are the most widely available technology that meets the law's provisions. There are several myths about CFLs listed below that you that your cooperative wants to dispel.

- ▶ **CFLs cannot be used in three-way fixtures.** Several manufacturers have developed three-way CFLs that provide performance equivalent to traditional three-way incandescent lamps and also operate in standard three-way sockets.
- ▶ **Dimmable CFLs do not work with standard line dimmers.** While dimmable CFLs are available today, not all dimmable CFLs are compatible with every dimmer. Read the package before purchasing to determine if the CFL dims.

- ▶ **CFLs do not last as long as advertised.** Installing CFLs in recessed can fixtures not rated for its use will likely shorten the lamp's life. The life of a CFL also depends on how frequently the consumer turns it on and off.
- ▶ **CFLs do not fit in fans or candelabras.** Lamp manufacturers have developed CFL products of various wattages and designs that can be screwed directly into specialized fixtures such as fans, candelabras, chandeliers, and wall scones.
- ▶ **CFLs are too expensive, and energy savings are outweighed by disposal costs.** The cost of CFLs has dropped significantly, and it's easy to recycle used or damaged bulbs. To learn more, visit www.epa.gov/cflcleanup.
To learn more about lighting changes in 2012 and beyond, visit www.energysavers.gov/lighting.

Kansas Electric Co-ops Prepare for State Fair

Kansas electric cooperatives and Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Kansas are co-sponsoring a high-voltage line safety demonstration in combination with the



Cooperative linemen teach students at the fair how to stay safe around electricity.

Kansas State Fair, September 12-16. Cooperative linemen from across Kansas have volunteered to help spread the message.

Teaching the public to stay safe around power lines is the focus of the electric cooperatives' message at this year's fair. The demonstration, which is part of "Kansas' Largest Classroom," is a half-hour in length and will incorporate a full-size electric safety demonstration, which is on loan from Midwest Energy.

Journeyman linemen from Kansas electric cooperatives will demonstrate proper safety precautions and teach viewers what protective gear linemen use and why, what happens to a person when they come into contact with an energized line and why birds can land safely on power lines. The public demonstration will operate from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is free of charge for all fair attendees. The demonstration will be located in the Beef Judging building, east of the Oz Gallery.

Touchstone Energy and Discovery Channel School "Get Charged" kits will be distributed to teachers who pre-register their 5th–9th grade classes for the demonstration. "Kansas' Largest Classroom" is a one-of-a-kind educational event that features various items from crafts to agriculture and animals. The Kansas State Fair is the largest event in the state and attracts over 350,000 people annually. The fair has approximately 1,000 commercial exhibits and over 30,000 exhibits for competition for attendees to experience.

4th Annual FARM HERITAGE CELEBRATION

September 30 – Education Day • October 1 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
FREE Admission! (Donations appreciated to help offset costs.)

Old-fashioned activities, food & fun for the whole family!

At Tolen Creek Park in Parsons, Kansas (Rain will Cancel)

(located south of Stockyards Travel Plaza at U.S. 59 & 400)



Gas Engine Exhibit

Exhibits need to be double roped off.
Contact: Dean Harris, (620) 421-5342

Tractor Exhibit

Antiques: 1938 & Older
Classics: 1939 to 1957
This is a Display Only. No judging/Prizes
Contact: David Romine (620) 778-1443

Truck Exhibit

1959 & Older Trucks
This is a Display Only. No judging/prizes.
Contact: Jeff Price (620) 820-3793

Horse Events

Working Horse Display
Contact: Mike Stine (620) 762-1334

Archery/BB Gun Shoot

SATURDAY ONLY!
To be held on the east side of the pond.
All Archery & BB Guns will be provided.
Registration will happen before each age
division is set to begin. Prizes to be awarded.

7-9 at 10:30 a.m. • 13-15 at 11:30 a.m.
10-12 at 1 p.m. • 16-18 at 2 p.m.

Vendor Fees

Vendor Fees: \$10 per booth
Food vendors must be pre-approved!

