



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1511 14,000 Rd, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330

866-784-5500

[www.twinvalleyelectric.coop](http://www.twinvalleyelectric.coop)

**TWIN VALLEY  
ELECTRIC CO-OP**

# NEWS

## Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### Board of Trustees

**Daniel Peterson**

President

**Bryan Coover**

Vice President

**Dareld Nelson**

Treasurer

**Bryan Hucke**

Secretary

**Rodney Baker**

Trustee

**Tom Ellison**

Trustee

**Larry Hubbell**

Trustee

**Diane McCartney**

Trustee

**Jason Zwahlen**

Trustee

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Contact Us

1511 14,000 Rd.

P.O. Box 368

Altamont, KS 67330

866-784-5500

[www.twinvalleyelectric.coop](http://www.twinvalleyelectric.coop)



## FROM THE CEO

# We are Prepared for Summer Storms



**Ron Holsteen**

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the

occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Twin Valley Electric is ready to respond.

Most power outages are caused by damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round—through right-of-way clearing—to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, major storms can damage transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is used to take your outage report calls. Outages affecting the most members are handled first.

Twin Valley Electric's line crews inspect substations to determine if the outage starts there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the outage is at the substation, power can be restored to hundreds of members.

Then our crews will check for damage to three-phase lines, which serve the most members. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Next, line crews check the service lines that deliver power to our members and repair the damaged lines, restoring power to the effected areas. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to the line outside of your home. Make sure you notify Twin Valley Electric so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Like us on Facebook for the latest updates during a power outage.

**Despite our best efforts, major storms can damage transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.**

# 5 Efficiency Tips to Spring into Summer

June 21 marks the first day of summer. As we transition seasons, now is the perfect time to begin saving energy around the home. Here are five ways to spring into summer.

**1 Replace your air filter.** Replacing a dirty, clogged air filter allows your system not to work so hard to circulate the air. It is also a great time



GETTY IMAGES/KIMKOLE

Keep warm summer air outside where it belongs! Add caulk to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

to get your air conditioning (HVAC) system serviced to make sure it is operating most efficiently.

## **2 Seal the cracks and gaps.**

Keep the warm outside air from leaking into your home. Inspect the cracks and penetrations around the home. You may need to re-apply caulking or foam where cable lines, dryer vents and telephone lines may penetrate your home. Look around windows for gaps and install door seals to the exterior doors.

## **3 Install a smart or programmable thermostat.**

No need to cool an empty home. Installing a smart or programmable thermostat can yield significant savings when programmed to work around your schedule.

## **4 Lower your water heating costs.**

Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120 degrees Fahrenheit). Washing clothes in cold water will help save energy and money.



Set your smart or programmable thermostat to fit your schedule to avoid unnecessary energy use.

## **5 Save in the laundry room.**

The dryer is one of the largest appliances in a home. Make sure it's operating at full efficiency by inspecting the dryer vent and cleaning the lint trap after every use. Air drying your clothes will help limit your laundry costs.

## SUMMER SAFETY for Kids



- ▶ Fly kites in large open spaces away from overhead power lines.
- ▶ Always check trees for nearby power lines before climbing. Choose another tree if lines are close by.
- ▶ Keep long tools, like pool skimmers, stored and secure when not in use. They can be long enough to reach electric lines connected to the home.
- ▶ Ensure all outdoor outlets have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) to help prevent electric shock.
- ▶ Recognize the green metal boxes in yards contain electrical equipment and are not toys.

# Powering Up After an Outage

When the power goes out, we expect it to be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm or natural disaster causes widespread damage, extended outages may result. Our line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible. Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark:

## 1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines

Transmission towers and cables that supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of members) rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.

## 2. Distribution Substation

A substation can serve hundreds or thousands of consumers. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself or if problems exist further down the line.

## 3. Main Distribution Lines

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of consumers in communities or housing developments.

## 4. Tap Lines

If local outages persist, supply lines (also known as tap lines) are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools and homes.

## 5. Individual Homes

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always report an outage to help line crews isolate local issue.

# SUMMER FUN WORD SEARCH



Summer is the best time of the year! Can you find all the words associated with summer fun in the puzzle below? Use the word bank for help.

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

## WORD BANK

BEACH

COOKOUT

FIREFLIES

ICE CREAM

PICNIC

SUNSCREEN

SWIMMING POOL

