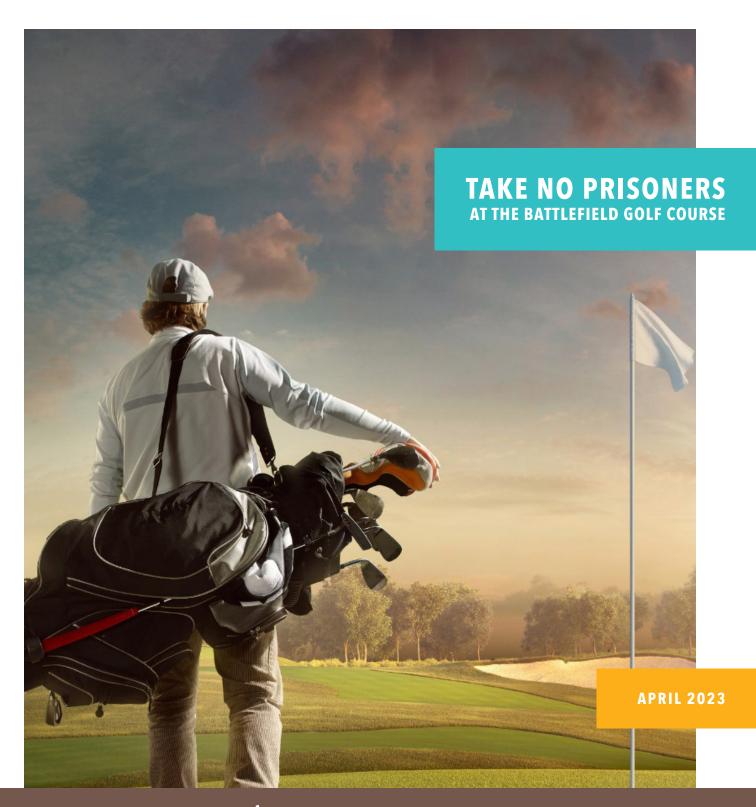
# NECONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



## NECONNECTION

Northeast Connection is published monthly to communicate with the members of Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative.

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600 South Main Street, Grove, OK 74344

#### **BUSINESS HOURS**

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

#### **DISPATCHING AVAILABLE 24 HOURS AT**

1.800.256.6405

#### If you experience an outage:

- and on the meter pole to be sure the trouble is not
- an outage, use the name as it appears on your bill,

Please direct all editorial inquiries to Public Relations at 800.256.6405 or email publicrelations@noec.coop



#### THE RIGHT PEOPLE

#### **Reggie Ramsey Bolt Operations Superintendent**

I enjoy lifting weights in my spare time. Weight training is something I've done most of my life, but I started doing

competitively about five years ago. It's guite an adrenaline rush to challenge your body, set a new personal record (or "PR" for short), and win a meet.

It didn't take me long to figure out that in order to be successful at competitive powerlifting I needed to surround myself with the right people. The right people offer knowledge, experience, and encouragement. They also inspire you to be better and do better.

If you've ever done something challenging, you know what I mean when I say it's important to have good people in your corner.

The same holds true when I'm here at work. The right people make all the difference.

I started my career at NOEC in July 2003 as a communications technician. I was very fortunate to have a great teacher in Brad Meyer. When I started, my main job was to test, repair, and install radios and emergency lighting equipment. I later began doing sales, radio programming, and installing tornado sirens. Brad accepted a new position with the cooperative two years later and I found myself in charge of our radio department. Thanks to Brad's mentoring, however, I was able to step up to the challenge and meet the growing customer demands of a busy operation.

I had lots of help along the way. Along with Brad, I am especially thankful for the many NOEC linemen who helped me install tornado sirens in communities all across northeast Oklahoma.

Continued on page 3







Events are published as space allows and must be submitted at least 60 days in advance.
Send information to Northeast Connection Events Calendar, PO Box 948, Vinita, OK 74301 or email: publicrelations@noec.coop

#### \$100 IS HIDING!

Search the pages of *Northeast Connection* for a 6-digit account number with an asterisk on each side. For example: \*XXXXXX\*.

Compare it to your account number, which appears on your monthly electric bill. If they match, contact the cooperative at 918.256.6405, by May 1, 2023, to claim a \$100 credit on your electric account.

#### **FUN FACT!**

Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative is celebrating its 85th year serving you!

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Big County Breakfast Apr 1 | Zena

Zena Community Center

Beyond the Backyard-Urban Homestead Conference

Apr 1 | Vinita

Craig County Fairgrounds

Claremore Kennel Club Dog Show Apr 1-2 | Claremore

Claremore Expo Center

**Annual Green Country Giggers Tournament** 

Apr 14-15 | Jay

Lake Eucha

Wonder City Wordfest Apr 15 | Locust Grove

Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry

Civil War Days at Har-Ber Village Apr 21-23 | Grove

Har-Ber Village Museum

Woolly Weekend at Shepherd's Cross

Apr 27-29 | Claremore

Shepherd's Cross

Made in Oklahoma Handmade Vendor Fest

Apr 28-29 | Claremore

20900 S 4200 Rd

**Grand Lake Fireworks 5K Dam Run** 

Apr 29 | Disney

Summerside State Park

Second Annual MuralFest 66 Charity Car Show Apr 29 | Miami

**Downtown Miam** 

April events are subject to date change or cancellation.
Please contact the host for most current event information.



# FEATURED RECIPES

## **DELAWARE COUNTY**

#### STUFFED PEPPERS

#### **SHELLY MORGAN**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 6 bell peppers (any color)
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1 can Chipotle sauce

Step 1: Preheat oven to 350°F.

**Step 2**: Slice peppers in half and place peppers in a square baking dish.

**Step 3**: Mix ground beef, onion, and egg. Add 1/2 can Chipotle sauce and bread crumbs. Mix well.

**Step 4**: Stuff pepper with the meat mixture.

**Step 5**: Top each pepper with teaspoon of remaining Chipotle sauce.

**Step 6**: Bake uncovered for 60 minutes.



Cook time: 60 minutes



Cook time: 60 minutes

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#### **SWEDISH MEATBALLS**

#### **JOYCE HENSLEY**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup quick oats
- 1/4 cup minced onion
- 1 10 oz can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 10 oz can cream of chicken soup
- 1 12 oz can evaporated milk
- 1/4 cup minced parsley

- Step 1: Preheat oven to 350°F.
- **Step 2**: Whisk the egg and milk together. Then add beef, onion, and oats.
- **Step 3**: Shape into 1 inch balls and bake for 20 minutes. Drain the meatballs.
- **Step 4**: Combine soups, milk, and pour over meatballs. Bake uncovered for 40 minutes.
- **Step 5**: Garnish with parsley before serving.

### THE RIGHT PEOPLE

#### CONTINUED FROM INSIDE COVER

I always figured the more skills I acquired the more value I would bring to the team. So whenever help was needed with a big cabling job, I was happy to volunteer. This often meant long days and hotel stays when we had jobs take us far from home.

When fiber optics started gaining momentum, management asked if I would be interested in helping with some of the larger fiber jobs. I gladly accepted the new challenge. Working with Stanley Crawford, Alex Mercado, and Rocky Oldham gave me a chance to develop my fiber skills. I worked long days for many years and found myself helping with both cabling jobs and fiber projects—all while juggling my regular duties as radio technician. The addition of Jeremiah Garcia in 2011 really helped ease both the radio and fiber workload.

It has been amazing to watch our fiber optic business grow over the years. We started with small links for switches in schools and businesses and later added final-mile internet circuits for schools and hospitals. As cellular technology progressed, we began building final-mile dark fiber circuits to towers across this corner of the state.

The arrival of BOLT Fiber Optics brought even more opportunity. Once BOLT began connecting customers, I became the project's outside plant technician. About that same time, Shane Burgess was hired as project manager. His presence was instrumental during the crucial, planning phase of the project. It wasn't uncommon to have Shane helping us out in the field a few days a week.

I accepted a promotion to broadband operations foreman in 2019 and my crew was responsible for installing fiber closures and troubleshooting difficult issues with our outside plant. A year later I was named broadband operations superintendent. Today, my crews build drops and main line. We also construct and maintain fiber circuits.

BOLT continues to grow and add technicians, and I am happy to say I had a part in training every one of them. Following Shane's example, I still work in the field with my crew as much as possible. I'm fortunate to have a great group of guys on whom I can depend. It makes my much job easier.

All the names mentioned above are examples of the right people. There are many others whose names are too numerous to mention.

I would encourage you to take stock of the people who have joined you on your journey in life. Are they building you up or pulling you down? I've been blessed to have many of those uplifting type of people during my career here at NOEC.

Some advice? Don't ever forget to thank those who helped you along the way, and don't be afraid to be that person for others.





# TAKE NO PRISONERS

Shangri-La Resort has once again outdone itself. In case you haven't heard, the popular Grand Lake destination is adding yet another feather to an already crowded cap.

Golfers throughout the region eagerly await the spring 2023 opening of The Battlefield, a spectacular 18-hole par-three course that is sure to provide one of the most unique and challenging golf experiences anywhere.

Situated on 80 acres and featuring more than 100 feet of elevation change, this latest addition to the sprawling resort complex is the perfect complement to Shangri-La's existing 27-hole championship golf course.

"It's a great addition to the golf offerings at Shangri-La," said PGA Director of Golf Rob Yanovitch. "The Battlefield offers something for every player. Whether you are a scratch golfer, new to the game, or even a youth player, it will be a challenging, one-of-a-kind environment."

The Battlefield is located behind the Monkey Island Fire Department and will function as a stand-alone facility with its own clubhouse and practice area. A driving range with a scaled-down footprint, as well as a large putting clock, are available for warm-up.

While some may prefer to walk the rolling course, golf carts will be available for daily play. A patio area overlooks several green complexes and offers a great place to relax following a round. A full-service turn house will have meals, snacks, and beverages during play. Grab any gear you need for your round back at The Battlefield pro shop and, while you're at it, shop from a variety of souvenirs to commemorate your experience.

Due to the distance of The Battlefield from the existing golf operation, a separate parking area is available for automobiles and the course will have its own golf cart storage.

The Battlefield takes advantage of the natural topography of the property. Golfers will encounter creeks, falls, terraces, and exposed rock outcroppings as they navigate rugged terrain on the approach to the dramatic green complexes.

"The setting is beautiful and rugged—much like an actual battlefield set in a wooded area with dramatic elevation features," said Shangri-La Executive Chairman Jason Sheffield.

The aptly-named Battlefield will most assuredly take no prisoners. Not to be confused with the "pitch and putt" par-three offerings of yesteryear, the much-anticipated addition is no amusement park novelty. Expect full-length holes that are both fun and challenging.

With four sets of tees, players can opt for a more direct tee to green approach or choose the back tees and bring strategically-placed bunkers, beautiful water features, and dramatic green complexes into play. From the back tees, holes will play anywhere from 110 to 245 yards, giving golfers of varied skill levels an opportunity to play nearly every club in the bag during a given round.

"Short courses are trending across the country," said Yanovitch. "The Battlefield stands out because it is a full-length, 18-hole, par-three golf course. When you play the threes at Shangri-La, you may hit every club in your bag. The beauty of it is that it's up to you. You can make the experience as challenging as you want."

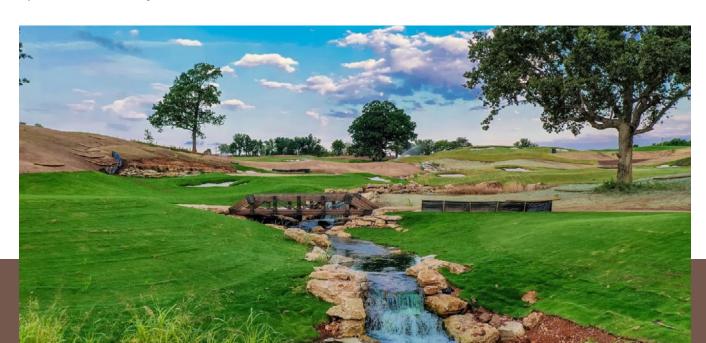
Transformation of the property began in August 2021 with initial land clearing and dirt work. The site was ready for turf by the following summer. Turf was down by October 2022 and then commenced construction of the clubhouse and cart barn facilities. With grow-in of the Bermuda grass fairways, bentgrass greens, and native grass areas expected to benefit from warmer spring temperatures, the course will be ready for play this spring.

Thoughtfully designed by architect Tom Clark with assistance from Kevin Atkinson of Atkinson Design Group, The Battlefield will be the first new golf course constructed in Oklahoma since The Patriot Golf Club opened in Owasso in 2010 (although much of the Shangri-La renovations were completed after that). Work began on The Battlefield in August 2021, having been delayed a year due to the pandemic. Construction was carried out by Dale Forrest and Tulsa-based United Golf. Forrest and Clark previously collaborated on the existing resort golf course. Mark Thomas is credited with The Battlefield's clubhouse design.

Shangri-La club member Bob Rush is very familiar with the existing course and is now looking forward to honing his short game over at The Battlefield.

"I am definitely looking forward to playing The Battlefield," confirmed Rush. "Everything they do out here is first class and you can tell this new course is just going to continue that momentum. It is super nice and will be a fun addition, besides offering a nice change of pace from the existing courses."

The addition of The Battlefield follows on the heels of Shangri-La's new \$12 million indoor/outdoor activity park. The Anchor opened in June 2021 with a variety of new entertainment options, including four tennis courts, six pickleball courts, a basketball court, a mini-Fenway Wiffle® Ball park, an immensely popular indoor gaming area with everything from pool, darts, ping pong, and shuffleboard to Trackman golf simulators, LaserShot shooting simulators, virtual reality games, a Hologate virtual reality arena, a plethora of traditional arcade games, an indoor/outdoor sports bar area, video walls, and fun food options at The Galley.



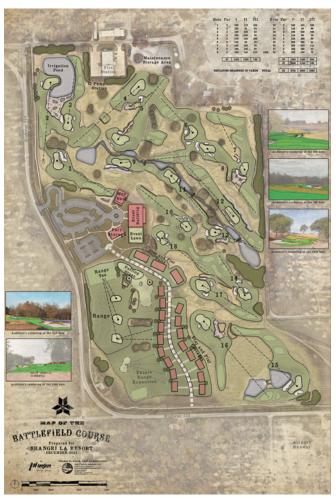


"The increase in both tourism, group events, and membership at Shangri-La, combined with the recent upsurge in the popularity of golf make this a natural move for Shangri-La," said Sheffield of The Battlefield. "We are constantly looking for ways to position Grand Lake and Shangri-La to be the ultimate destination in our region."

Shangri-La's resort hotel also offers 119 guest rooms, 9,000-square-feet of indoor meeting and convention space, a medical spa, an indoor pool as well as a massive 6,500 square foot outdoor pool, a children's playground, and multiple dining and drinking options at 10 different venues. Boat and personal watercraft rentals, yacht charters, and parasailing adventures are also available seasonally at Shangri-La Marina.

The resort development also includes two residential housing communities: the 15-home Gallery and thirty-eight homesites at The Ridge.

For additional information visit the Shangri-La website at www.shangrilaok.com, download their mobile app, or follow on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok.



## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LINEWORKERS?



Every April, we celebrate lineworkers and the hard work they do to make sure we have electricity to power our lives.

How much do you know about lineworkers?

Take the quiz below to find out!

a. True

(Use the answer key to check your work.)

- 1. Lineworkers have to wear a lot of gear to do their jobs. A lineworker's gear can weigh up to \_\_\_\_\_. b. 50 pounds a. 15 pounds c. 80 pounds Lineworkers maintain and repair electrical lines, but they do not install them. a. True (no installation) b. False (They maintain, repair and install lines.) **3.** There are approximately \_\_\_\_\_ lineworkers in the United States. **b.** 90,000 a. 50.000 **c.** 120.000 4. Lineworkers must wear \_\_\_\_\_ clothing to protect them from a possible electric arc while working. a. fire resistant b. extra thick c. leather or rubber 5. Lineworkers must wear special conductive boots when climbing a
- Anower Key: 1) b. 50 pounds 2) b. False 3) c. 120,000 4) a. fire resistant 5) a. five resista

b. False

# \$

# UNCLAIMED DOLLARS COULD BE YOURS

Checks totaling \$10 or more have been mailed to eligible members. Checks were not mailed to members whose patronage capital accounts totaled less than \$10. These accounts will continue to accumulate funds with each retirement. When an account reaches \$10 or more, a check will be issued following the next retirement. NOEC makes every effort to ensure members receive patronage capital that is rightfully theirs. To accomplish this, it is important for NOEC to have your current mailing address. Checks are often returned marked "undeliverable." Many of these do not have the correct 911 address. A partial listing of unclaimed checks is provided here. Future issues of Northeast Connection will contain additional listings. If you see your name, claim your check by calling 800.256.6405, extension 9313. A complete list of returned checks is available online at www.noec. coop. Visit the link or scan the QR code below with your smartphone camera to access the full listing.

D

D & J RANCH RESORT - MIAMI OK
D L B BROADCASTING/DAVE BOYD - VINITA CO
D&R VENTURES LLC - VINITA OK
DAILEY, TERRY L - LOCUT GROVE OK
DANIELS, ALAN - JAY OK
DANIELS, BRENDA - KANSAS OK
DANIELS, EVA - COLCORD OK
DANIELS, VANCE - KANSAS OK
DARNELL, DWIGHT M - MIAMI OK
DAUGHERTY, WYNENA R/CHARLES J - JAY OK
DAVIDSON, OLETA - JOPLIN MO
DAVIDSON, ROGER N - TAHLEQUAH OK
DAVIS, ANTHONY D - JAY OK
DAVIS, BETSY R - LANGLEY OK
DAVIS, DONNA M - JAY OK
DAVIS, HAROLD - SILOAM SPRINGS AR
DAVIS, LARRY R - GROVE OK
DAVIS, MARY B - JAY OK

DAVIS, SCOTT - SW CITY MO

DAVIS, W R - CHELSEA OK
DAVIS, WANDA J/JIMMY R - JAY OK
DAWSON, BERNICE - CHOUTEAU OK
DAWSON, ELLA J - LOCUST GROVE OK
DAWSON, LOIS - CHOUTEAU OK
DAY, GREG A - LOCUST GROVE OK
DEARDORFF, D D - TULSA OK
DEASON, D R - SHIDLER OK
DECAMP, BRYON S - CHOUTEAU OK
DECHAINE, MELANIE R - BENTONVILLE AR
DECKER, KEN - ADDISON TX
DEES, CHARLES R - TULSA OK
DELANGE, KEN - FRONTENAC KS
DELAWARE COUNTY BANK - JAY OK
DENAEYER, ROBERT R/SANDEA - GROVE OK
DENISON, DARLA L - NEOSHO MO
DENNIS, GREGORY E - ADAIR OK
DEPTRIS, FRED - EUCHA OK
DEPREE, PAULA J - ADAIR OK
DERRYBERRY, J W - NEOSHO MO
DESCHAINE, MRLANIE R/JOSEPH BENTONVILLE AR
DESCHNER, ANN H - VINITA OK
DESILVA, DALE - WYANDOTTE OK

# UNCLAIMED DOLLARS

### **COULD BE YOURS, CONTINUED**

EADS, RICHARD O - NEOSHO MO EARNHARDT, FRANK H - ADAIR OK EASTMAN, JEFFREY L/JEANNE - AFTON OK FEATHER, RALPH A JR - JAY OK EDELMAN, STEVE - KANSAS OK EDEN, O E - AFTON OK EDENS, CURTIS - VINITA OK EDENS, VALERIE - CHOUTEAU OK EDWARDS, KELLY A - KETCHUM OK EDWARDS, M H - JAY OK EDWARDS, PAMELA - PRYOR OK EDWARDS, RONALD L - BIG CABIN OK EGNOR, ARCHIE - BIG CABIN OK EIDSON, SUSAN B - JAY OK ELAM, BRIAN K - OWASSO OK ELAM, REBECCA J - STRANG OK ELDER, ANN E/JOHN W JR - TULSA OK ELK RIVER MARINA - JOPLIN MO ELLER, O D/JO L - TULSA OK ELLIOTT, ATHENA F/JAMES J - CHELSEA OK FLETCHER, ZELA - COLCORD OK ELSEY, RUETTA G - CHELSEA OK ENYART, BOBBY - HOLIDAY ISLAND AR ENYART, RONNIE - VINITA OK EPLING, FAUNDA R WILLIAMS - JAY OK ERBE, TERRI L ANDERSON -GROVE OK ERNST, EDITH R - JAY OK ESKEW, TERRY L - GROVE OK ESLINGER, WILLIAM A - MIDWEST CITY OK ESTES, JERRY L - SENECA MO ETHRIDGE, BUDDY M - COLCORD OK EVANS, BILL JR - FAIRLAND OK EVANS, CARLA J - COLCORD OK EVANS, DOUGLAS R - VINITA OK EVANS, EULA D - AFTON OK EVANS, JUSTIN T/SHAUNTEL - MIAMI OK EVANS, WESLEY E - KETCHUM OK EYTCHESON, CHARLES - CHELSEA OK

FAGLIE, MARY - QUAPAW OK FAIN, DOROTHY E - JAY OK FAIN, ROY - COLCORD OK FAIRSHEETS, BILL - STRANG OK FALLEY, LONNIE - SPRINGDALE AR

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

FALLING, GEORGE - AFTON OK FARMER, RODNEY L - KETCHUM OK FARMER, TOM B - BROKEN ARROW OK FARRAND, ART - WAYNOKA OK FDIC - OKC OK FERGUSON, PAMELA J - WEBB CITY MO FERRO, EDWARD J - GROVE OK FERSON, MONICA - CARTERVILLE MO FIDLER, LINDA M - PRYOR OK FIELDS, CONNIE - GROVE OK FIELDS, JAMES W - JAY OK FIELDS, MW-GROVEOK FIMPLE, BOB - DISNEY OK FIRSCHMANN, GARY - SILOAM SPRINGS AR FIRST BANK OF BUTLER - BUTLER MO FIRST NATIONAL BANK VINITA - KETCHUM OK FISHER, DONNA - TULSA OK FISHER, KYLE D - CHELSEA OK FISHER, RON G - TAHLEQUAH OK FLAMING, KENNY L - PINEVILLE MO FLICK, KIM/ROCKY - AFTON OK FLUD, SIMON D - KETCHUM OK FORBIS, WANDA - AFTON OK FORD, WT-AFTON OK FOREMAN, CHELSEA M/TRINTON J BUDDS -COLCORD OK FOREMAN, IDA E - TWIN OAKS OK FORSYTHE, JT - TULSA OK FORTNER, DALLAS -SENECA MO FOSTER, CLARA - ADAIR OK FOSTER, DANA S - COLCORD OK FOSTER, DAVID L - DAVIS OK FOSTER, GILBERT - VERNON VT FOSTER, JOE - COLCORD OK FOSTER, TANYA/CARRIE T MCCABE - KANSAS OK GILLILAND, GEORGE A - FAIRLAND OK FOSTER, TERESE - GROVE OK FOUNTAIN, DUSTY - COLCORD OK

FOWLER, DALE/GRACE - AFTON OK

FOWLER, MR - GROVE OK

FREEMAN, BILLY - MIAMI OK

FOWLER, TERRY J - KANSAS OK

FRANCIS, JEANNE L - GROVE OK FRANKLIN, BILLY J - KETCHUM OK

FRANKLIN, DONNIE - COLCORD OK

FRATES DEVELOPMENT CO - GROVE OK

FREEMAN, B J/JEAN M - BROKEN ARROW OK

FREEMAN, DAVID E - KETCHUM OK FREEMAN, DAVID L - OCHELATA OK FREEMAN, JOHN H - COLCORD OK FREEMAN, MAX W JR - FAYETTEVILLE AR FREEMAN, WILLIAM - COLCORD OK FRIEND, STEVE W - SENECA MO FRITSCH, MARQUETTA R/PHIL J - AFTON OK FRIZZELL, TOBON - AFTON OK FRYE, JAACOB A - JAY OK FURR, SUSAN - TULSA OK



GAIL, JOHNNIE P - GROVE OK GALLANT, TB - FAIRLAND OK GALLAWAY, WILLIAM D - CHOUTEAU OK GANN, DEBRA - JAY OK GANN, DONNIE - COLCORD OK GANT, DANA S - CHOUTEAU OK GARCIA, DANIELLIA - EUCHA OK GARDE, SHIRLEY J - VINITA OK GARDNER, JOHN G - GROVE OK GARNER, JESSE R - JAY OK GATES, THOMAS E - STRANG OK GAULT, MELISSA - GROVE OK GENOVESI, JEREMIAH - EUCHA OK GIBBS, LUTHER - HINDSVILLE AR GIBBY, BRIAN - COLCORD OK GIBREATH, MARTHA R - ROCHESTER NY GIBSON, D K/KENNY - EDMOND OK GIBSON, NEIL B - KETCHUM OK GIFFORD, JERRY L SR - GROVE OK GILBERT, MIKE - PRYOR OK GILES, RONALD - PRYOR OK GILLESPIE, BRITTANY/DUSTIN J STARR - ADAIR OK

To view the full list please visit our website, www.noec.coop or scan the code below with your smartphone.



SCAN ME!

#### STORM SAFETY CHECKLIST

With the start of the spring season, it's time to start thinking about storm safety. Being proactive with storm preparedness can make all the difference when it comes to safety.

Start by having a plan. Next, practice your plan. Finally, work your plan. Staying up-to-date on the latest weather conditions and having a safe place to ride out the storm should be an important part of any storm preparedness plan.

Unfortunately, spring storms can cause power outages and sometimes downed power lines. All downed power lines should be considered energized. Stay away from all downed and low-hanging lines and contact Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative immediately.

Another part of your plan may include the use of an electrical generator during outages. Be aware that improper installation and use of electric generators can be very dangerous. Two factors to consider are carbon monoxide exposure and backfeed.

Avoid carbon monoxide exposure by making sure your generator is only operated outside of your home in a well-ventilated area. A carbon monoxide detector would also be a wise investment.

Backfeed is created when an electric generating source that is improperly installed not only supplies electrical current to your house but also feeds back onto Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative's lines—even lines that are laying on the ground. This can present hazards not only to you and your family, but to the general public, first responders, pets, livestock, and employees of the cooperative who are responding to outages and downed power lines. Contact a qualified electrical contractor if you have any concerns regarding the proper installation of your generator.

## TIPS & TRICKS

#### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Is air flow restricted to your climate control system?

The climate control system in your home requires unobstructed air flow to operate at its full efficiency. Two things get in the way of that: a dirty filter or a filter that is "too tight." A dirty filter becomes clogged with dust and slows down the intake. A "tight" filter is designed to capture more of the air particles but can reduce the flow of air. An extremely dirty filter could cause air to be drawn from around the edges of the frame and deposit the pollutants on the coils/fins and further decrease the efficiency of the unit. Left in place, a dirty filter could easily lead to a costly repair bill.

Help prevent the problems above by purchasing less expensive filters and change them more often

#### **FOLLOW US!**

Follow Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative on Facebook to stay in the know regarding storm related outages.

