



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Watts Ahead

## NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.

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### IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 620-672-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

## Who Owns What?

### Understanding electric equipment responsibilities

As July rolls in with longer days and rising temperatures, it also brings the increased potential for severe weather. Summer storms can arrive quickly and hit hard, sometimes causing significant damage to essential electric equipment throughout our community.

Ninnescah Electric is always prepared to respond swiftly to outages and restore power safely, but it is also important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by the co-op. Understanding these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure

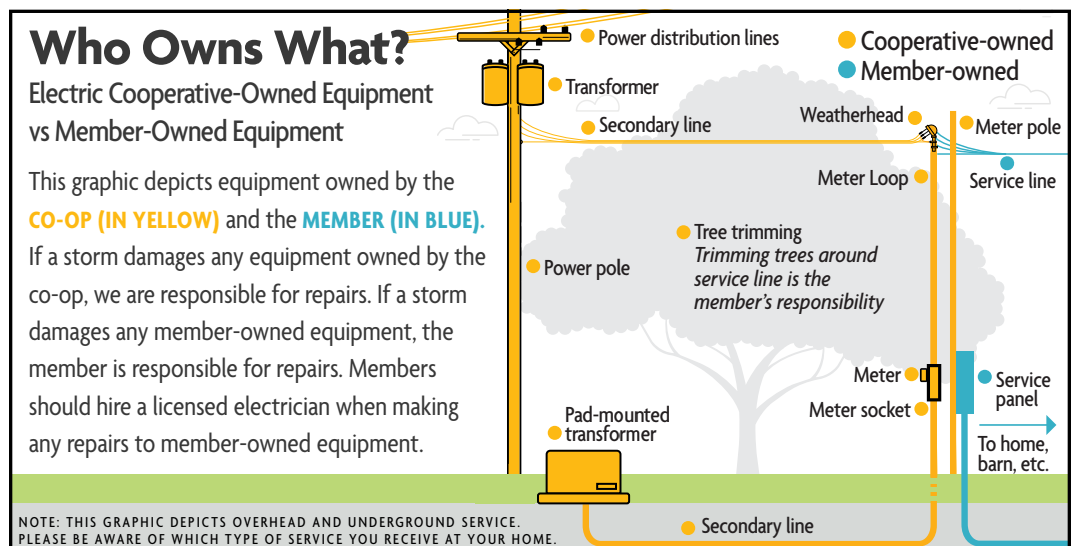
everyone stays safe when the weather turns rough.

Ninnescah Electric is responsible for maintaining and repairing the equipment and lines that run to your meter, including utility poles, distribution power lines, electric meters and transformers.

Ninnescah members are responsible for the equipment located between the electric meter and their home or business, including any underground service lines that lead into the structure and the service panel.

If any equipment that you (the homeowner) are responsible for

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# SUMMER RATES BEGIN WITH JULY BILLING

Summer rates will be reflected on July bills and will remain in effect though your October bill. Listed below are the summer rates for electric service.

\*Includes Energy Cost Adjustment – Varies Monthly

Summer Rates		Cost
<b>Residential Minimum Billings*</b>		
Single Phase	Customer Charge	\$32.50
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.15478 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.25 per KW
Three Phase	Customer Charge	\$42
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.15478 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.25 per KW
<b>General Service Minimum Billings*</b>		
Single Phase	Customer Charge	\$35
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.132070 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.35 per KW
Three Phase	Customer Charge	\$45
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.132070 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.35 per KW
<b>Small Commercial Minimum Billings*</b>		
Single Phase	Customer Charge	\$37.50
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.14732 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.50 per KW
Three Phase	Customer Charge	\$47.50
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.14732 per kWh
	Demand Charge	\$0.50 per KW
<b>Irrigation Minimum Billings*</b>		
Single Phase	Customer Charge	\$32.50
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.15232 per kWh
	Energy Cost Adjustment	Varies Monthly
Three Phase	Customer Charge	\$42.50
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.15232 per kWh
Load Control	Customer Charge	\$30
	HP Charge (Billed in 5 equal installments in April-August)	38.75/HP
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.09990 per kWh
No Load Control	Customer Charge	\$30
	HP Charge (Billed in 5 equal installments in April-August)	42.50/HP
	Summer Energy Charge	\$0.14007 per kWh

# Retirement Celebration

**MATT RINER** began his career as a lineman with Ninnescah Electric in February of 1981, a career defined by hard work and countless storm calls.

After 44 years working as a journeyman, in some of the toughest weather conditions, including lots of long days and nights, Matt is retiring.

Matt's experience and calm demeanor will be greatly missed! Thank you for your dedication and service to Ninnescah Electric!



## Who Owns What?

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is damaged, please call a licensed electrician to conduct the repairs. A professional has the experience and know-how to assess and manage these types of repairs.

When severe weather damages electrical equipment, it's important to note that any necessary repairs to the homeowner's equipment must be conducted before Ninnescah Electric crews can restore power to your home or business. By understanding the equipment you are responsible for, the repair and restoration process will be smoother and faster.

Our community takes great pride in the beautiful trees and landscaping that contribute to the natural beauty where we live, however, regular trimming is essential to ensure reliable electric service and minimize damage from severe weather. Ninnescah Electric regularly trims trees throughout our service territory to improve service reliability. If you spot a

**By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process if severe weather impacts our community.**

tree limb that is obstructing a distribution power line outside your home, please call us so we can trim those limbs and maintain those lines.

Any overgrown limbs or vegetation around the service line is the homeowner's responsibility, and in these cases, please call a professional tree trimming service to assist.

By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process if severe weather impacts our community.

If you have any questions about your electrical equipment, we're here to help. Please contact Ninnescah Electric at 620-672-5538.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

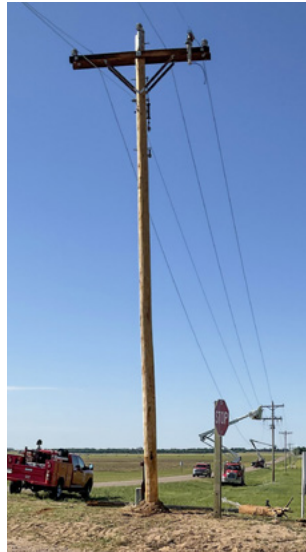
Robert N. Davis – Cantonment, FL

Justin Flora &/or Matthew Flora – Sawyer

Kailei Petz & Jeffrey Jones – Pratt

Kevin &/or Judy Smith – Fairview, OK

# May Storm Damage



Tornado damage from the night of May 18 and morning of May 19 had a significant impact on Ninnescah's system.

Counties sustaining damage were Edwards, Kiowa, Pratt, Stafford and Reno.

Mutual aid crews from electric cooperatives across the state — Alfalfa, Butler, CMS, Lane-Scott, Sedgwick and Victory — along with our contractor Holler Electric were brought in to help repair the damage.

Thank you to our mutual aid and Ninnescah crews for all your help!

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Ninnescah crews were joined by crews from neighboring cooperatives and our contractor to quickly restore power.

The storms on May 18-19 caused significant damage to Ninnescah's system.

Chris Klein's daughter, Lennyn, made bracelets for the linemen and cups were given as an appreciation gift to the crews for their hard work!

620-672-5538

Call us today!

NREC

## SIGN UP TODAY!

If you would like to receive notice regarding a planned outage, via email or text message, please contact our office.

## FREE AND EASY Ways to Save Energy

Here are **10** easy, no-cost ways to save energy this summer.

**1** Close or lower window coverings during the heat of the day.



**2** Set your thermostat a few degrees higher.



**3** Take cooler showers (this is better in the summer anyway!)



**4** Use countertop appliances or a microwave instead of an oven.



**5** Better yet, grill or smoke food outdoors.



**6** Unplug that extra fridge, especially older, inefficient models (they have to work even harder in a hot garage).



**7** Optimize your programmable thermostat's features (around 40% of homeowners never program them).



**8** Check the airflow around windows and doors (add weatherstripping if needed).



**9** Unplug all chargers and electronics before leaving the house.



**10** Shut the front door (don't air-condition the outdoors).



STAY COOL AND SAFE

# Blend Up a Summer Smoothie

On a hot summer day, there's nothing more satisfying than sipping a cold, tropical smoothie. But before you plug in your blender and start whipping up that fruity refreshment, it's important to keep electrical safety in mind — especially in the kitchen where water and appliances mix. Here are some easy but essential electrical safety tips to help you enjoy your summer smoothie safely:

## SAFE BLENDING TIPS FOR YOUR KITCHEN

- ▶ **DRY HANDS BEFORE PLUGGING IN:** Wet hands and electricity don't mix. Always make sure your hands are completely dry before plugging in or operating your blender.
- ▶ **SKIP THE POWER STRIP:** Plug high-wattage appliances like blenders directly into wall outlets to avoid overheating or tripping your power strip.
- ▶ **CHECK FOR GFCI OUTLETS:** Outlets near sinks or water sources should be equipped with ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection to help prevent electrical shock.
- ▶ **INSPECT YOUR CORDS:** If your blender has a frayed, cracked or damaged cord or plug, it's time for a replacement. Using damaged appliances is a major safety risk.
- ▶ **AVOID OVERFILLING:** Don't fill your blender to the top. Overflowing ingredients can cause spills that may reach electrical parts and pose hazards.
- ▶ **UNPLUG BEFORE CLEANING:** Always unplug the blender before trying to remove stuck ingredients or before cleaning. It's a simple step that prevents unexpected starts or shocks.
- ▶ **KEEP THE BASE DRY:** Never submerge the blender base in water. Use a damp cloth to wipe it clean instead.

Whether you're blending up a quick breakfast or a poolside treat, following a few simple electrical safety tips can help prevent accidents and keep your summer safe and sweet.



## Tropical Summer Smoothie

Once your blending setup is safe, it's time to treat yourself! Try this tropical smoothie recipe — it's quick, easy and perfect for hot summer days.

- ▶ 1 cup frozen mango
- ▶ 1 banana
- ▶ ½ cup coconut water
- ▶ ½ cup Greek yogurt
- ▶ ½ cup pineapple chunks
- ▶ ice as needed

Add mango, banana, coconut water, yogurt and pineapple to the blender. Blend until smooth.

Add ice and blend again to your desired consistency. Pour into glasses and enjoy!

Makes 2 servings.