



Osceola Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

August 2026

Office:

1102 Egret Drive
P.O. Box 127
Sibley, IA 51249

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Phone:

Local: 712-754-2519
Toll Free: 888-754-2519

On evenings, weekends or holidays an answering service will accept power outage or emergency type calls only.

Online:

osceolaelectric.com

Annual Meeting: March 2027

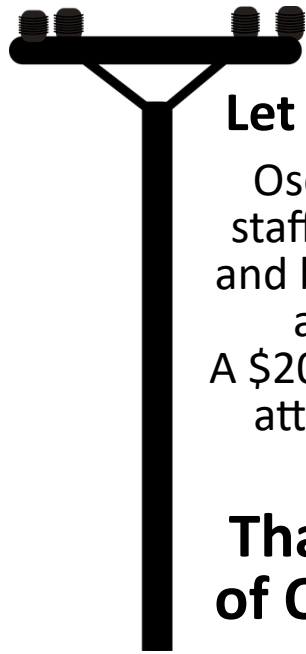
Take the Quiz

Read through the newsletter and submit the quiz on the back for a chance to win a \$10 bill credit. You can also email your answers to info@osceolaelectric.com

OEC Recipes

Submit your favorite Appetizer Recipes for consideration to be printed in our November Newsletter. Submission deadline is October 20. Printed recipes are worth \$10 bill credit.

Osceola Electric Cooperative will be closed September 7 in observation of Labor Day.



Let us do the cooking on August 25

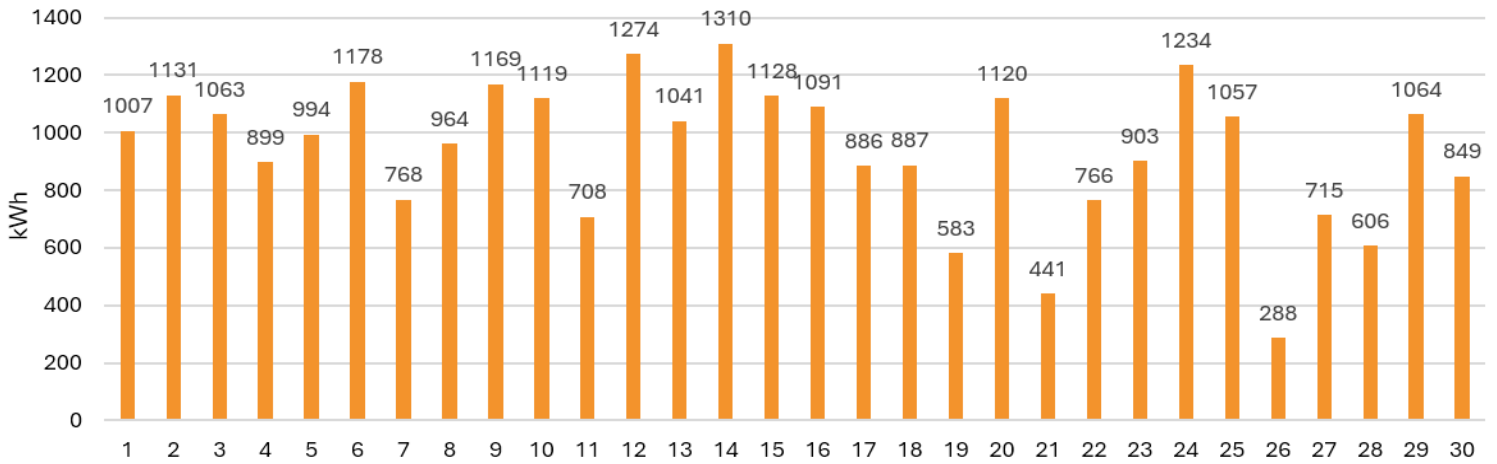
Osceola Electric Cooperative board and staff will be serving burgers, potato salad, and baked beans from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, at the OEC office: 1102 Egret Drive. A \$20 bill credit will be given to members in attendance, along with a chance to win prizes for kids and adults.

Thank you for being a member of Osceola Electric Cooperative!



Recently Osceola Electric Cooperative linemen demonstrated Cooperative Principle # 6: Cooperation Among Cooperatives, in effort to light up the Little Rock Ball Diamond. OEC partnered with Lyon REC and L & O Power Cooperative to make it happen. L & O Power Cooperative donated poles and the use of their digger truck and the linemen set the poles for the lights to be installed later.

June Solar Park Production



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS

FOR DRIVERS:

- **Slow down:** Reduce speed in school zones and near bus stops.
- **Keep your distance:** Stay back at least 10 feet from a school bus—this is the most dangerous area for children.
- **Know the signals:**
 - Yellow flashing lights: bus is preparing to stop. Slow Down.
 - Red flashing lights + stop arm: bus is loading/unloading—stop and wait until the bus moves again.
- **Never pass a stopped bus on an undivided road—it's illegal in most states.**
- **Stay alert:** Watch for kids who may unexpectedly enter the road, especially near bus tops.
- **Respect the zone:** When flashers are blinking in a school zone, stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and take extra care to look for children near playgrounds, parks and residential areas.

School buses are among the safest vehicles on the road—but the greatest risk comes when children are getting on or off the bus. **Whether you're a driver, parent or student, knowing these safety tips will help keep everyone safe.**

FOR PARENTS:

Teach your child to arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes early, and how to play it SAFE:

- **Stay back at least 10 feet**, or five giant steps, from the curb.
- **Always wait for the bus to stop** and the driver to signal before boarding.
- **Face forward** and buckle up if seat belts are available.
- **Exit carefully**, look both ways and cross in front of the bus—never behind. Make eye contact with the driver before crossing.

As students head back to school, remember: **a moment of caution can prevent a lifetime of regret.**

Learn more:



Grain Bin Clearances

When you start to plan for a new grain bin, please contact your electric cooperative.

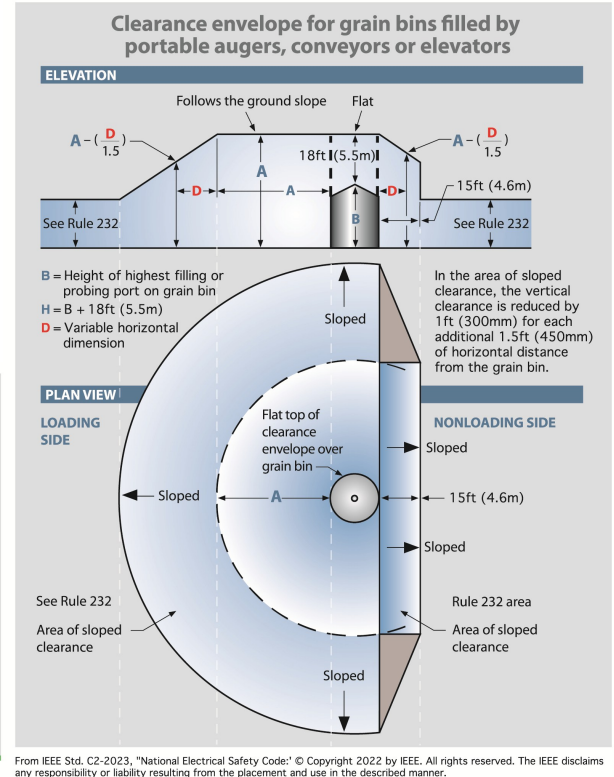
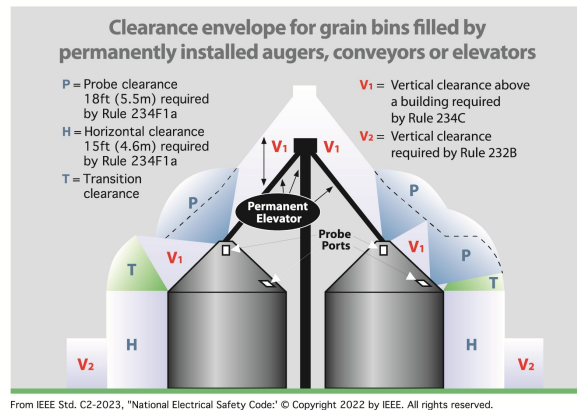
The electric cooperative will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins. The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators.

The attachment to this letter shows a drawing of the specific clearances required for both scenarios. If you have any questions concerning the drawings, please contact your electric cooperative.

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 -- 25.2(3) b. *An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which*

does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2023 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board)

The cooperative is required by the Iowa Utilities Commission to provide this annual



Concern for Community

At Osceola Electric Cooperative, we believe cooperation extends beyond delivering reliable electricity and search for opportunities to support the communities we live and work in.

Thanks to the power of partnership, this year's community giving made an even greater impact across our service area. By joining forces with CoBank, and Basin Electric Power Cooperative Osceola Electric was able to triple the value of

contributions, allowing more resources to reach the communities we proudly serve.

CoBank is a national non-profit bank owned by the Rural American Cooperatives it services. CoBank has established the Sharing Success program to match donations made by their customer-owners.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC) started a matching program for its member-owners. Both CoBank and BEPC allow

customers to apply for up to four matching grants equaling \$2,500.00 dollars each.

Together our combined efforts provided meaningful donations to Area Fire Departments, Sibley-Ocheyedan Athletic Boosters, HMS Athletics and Osceola County Fair Board. These organizations play an essential role in making Osceola County an enjoyable place to live, and work. We're honored to support them.



Mango Berry Salsa by Julie Stahly

Salsa:

- 2 cups strawberries, finely diced
- 2 ripe kiwis, peeled and finely diced
- 1 large mango, peeled and finely diced
(can substitute with peaches)
- 1/2 cup fresh raspberries, halved
- 2 tbsp strawberry or raspberry preserves
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 1 tbsp fresh mint

Combine the prepared fruits, preserves, lime juice, and mint in a large bowl. Toss gently, cover, and chill in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes so the flavors meld.

Preheat your oven to 350° and line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.

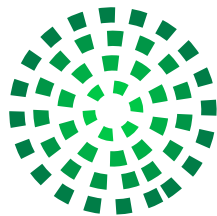
Stack the tortillas and cut them into 8 wedges each. Brush both sides of the wedges lightly with melted butter and sprinkle generously with the cinnamon and sugar.

Arrange in a single layer on the baking sheets and bake for 8-10 minutes until golden and crisp. Let them cool for 15 minutes before serving alongside the chilled salsa.



Cinnamon Chips:

- 10 flour tortillas (8-inch)
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 tbsp cinnamon sugar mixture



**Energy
Efficiency**

Tip of the Month

August heat can put your air conditioner to the test, making it a great time to check your system's air filter. A dirty, clogged filter restricts airflow, forcing your cooling system to work harder than necessary to keep your home comfortable. That extra strain can reduce efficiency, increase energy use and contribute to unnecessary wear and tear on equipment. Inspect your filter monthly during periods of heavy air conditioner use and replace it if it appears dirty. A clean filter supports efficient operation and can even enhance indoor air quality—helping you stay cool and comfortable during the hottest days of summer.

When Fans Save Money

Ceiling fans can make a room feel cooler. But they do not actually lower the temperature in that space.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, fans create a wind-chill effect that helps people feel cooler. The room itself does not become cooler. In fact, DOE says, ceiling fans may allow homeowners to raise the thermostat setting by about 4 degrees in the summer without reducing comfort.

That means a fan saves energy only when people are there to

enjoy the breeze. Running a ceiling fan in an empty room does not improve comfort and uses electricity unnecessarily.

Also, did you know that you need to change the direction that your fan blades spin every spring and fall?

During summer, ceiling fans should rotate counterclockwise. That pushes air downward and creates the cooling effect people feel. Running them in the wrong direction for the season won't keep you comfortable.

OEC Quiz

Send in your completed quiz for your chance to win!
OEC will draw 3 members to receive \$10 credit towards their electric bill. Congratulations to last month's winners: Ardell Henrichs, David Beek, and Larry Benz.

- OEC linemen partnered with Lyon _____ and _____ Power Cooperative to complete a light project at the Little Rock Ball Diamond.
- True or False: During summer, ceiling fans should rotate clockwise.
- The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines and _____.

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Operating Statistics

June	2025	2026
Billed consumers, farm	1,150	1,152
Billed consumers, non-farm	126	128
kWh sold, farm	2,503,005	2,529,204
kWh sold, non-farm	6,540,350	6,809,983
Average consumption, farm	2,176	2,149
Average consumption, non-farm	51,908	66,116
Average statement, farm	\$276.00	\$316.26
Average statement, non-farm	\$4,192.08	\$6,092.35
Total minimum bills	21	13
Outage time per consumer—minutes	7 2/3	84 6/7
Annual Meeting Date	March 2027	