



Osceola Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

October 2026

Office:
1102 Egret Drive
PO Box 127
Sibley, IA 51249

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

Phone:
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:
www.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
Recipe for consideration to be
printed in our November
Newsletter. Submission deadline
is October 20. Printed Recipes
are worth \$10 bill credit.

**In Observation of
Veteran's Day
OEC will be closed
November 11**



Thank you for your Service!

Local Voices Shape Local Solutions

October is National Co-op Month

By Abby Berry, NRECA

When you hear the word cooperative, what comes to mind? As your local electric co-op, we hope you think of Osceola Electric Cooperative.

Regardless of the services offered, all cooperatives have one thing in common: they're led by the people they serve—and that simple idea makes a meaningful difference.

Cooperatives come in all shapes and sizes, each created to meet a specific need. Credit unions help members save and borrow money. Producer cooperatives, like Ocean Spray and Land O'Lakes, help farmers bring their products to market. Retail cooperatives, like REI and ACE Hardware, are owned by their shoppers or a membership of store owners, while housing cooperatives give residents a voice in managing their communities. And utility cooperatives—like OEC—provide reliable electricity to the communities they serve.

Unlike many businesses that answer to outside investors or shareholders, cooperatives are built for their members. Their goal isn't simply to earn a profit—it's to provide value, meet unique local needs and strengthen the communities they call home.

That's exactly what makes Osceola Electric Cooperative different.

Our story began in 1938 when neighbors came together to bring electricity to an area when other utilities wouldn't. While a lot has changed since then, our purpose has remained steady. We're still here to provide

power and make decisions with our community's best interests in mind.

Being locally owned means we have the flexibility to focus on what matters most to the communities we serve. That's why no two electric cooperatives are exactly alike. Every community has different needs, and every cooperative reflects those priorities.

For some co-ops, that means expanding programs that help members save energy and money. Others may focus on supporting economic development, investing in new technology or creating new opportunities for local students.

You'll also find the co-op difference in the little things. It's the linemen restoring power after a storm. The employees answering your questions when you call. The team members volunteering at community events. The board members—your neighbors—who help guide decisions for the future.

We're your neighbor and local energy partner, and we're committed to serving this community for generations to come.

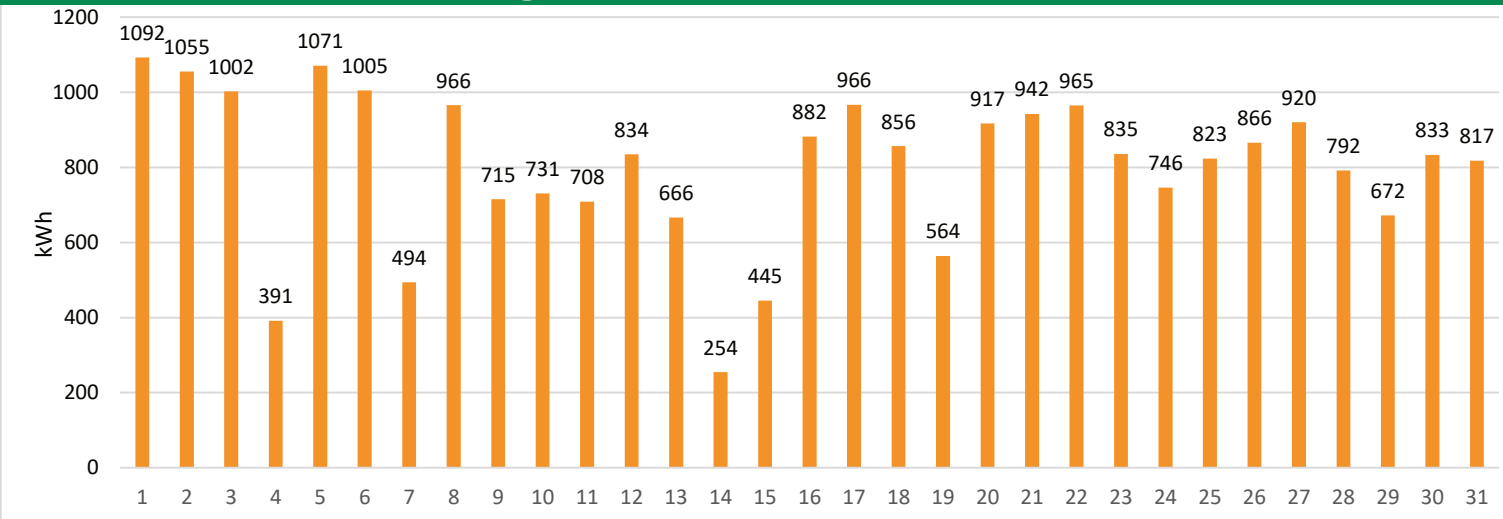
This National Co-op Month, we invite you to join us in celebrating the cooperative difference, because this co-op belongs to you.

Whether it's OEC, your local credit union or ACE Hardware, cooperatives prove that when people work together, everyone benefits.

Your membership is what makes our mission possible—and it's what keeps us focused on serving the people and communities that matter most.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56% of the nation's landscape.

August 2026 Solar Production



Employee Milestone



At Osceola Electric Cooperative, we believe our strength lies in the dedication and hard work of our employees.

Recently Board President, Terrence Clark, presented Journeyman Lineman, Robert Louis, with a 25-Year Service Award.

Since joining OEC in 2001, Louie has answered the call when the lights go out, often working in

challenging weather and hazardous conditions to restore service quickly.

Congratulations, Louie! Thank you for 25 years of commitment to safety, reliability, teamwork and dedication to OEC members! We look forward to celebrating even more milestones along the way.

RECare

RECare is a consumer contribution fund in which members like you assist other members who need help. Consider a one-time contribution or enroll to provide monthly contributions. Whether it is \$1 a month, \$10 a month, or a single donation of any amount, when combined with those of other generous members,

your assistance can go a long way in helping others.

Contributions to RECare provide funds to local community action agencies, which help low-income households with winter heating bills and home weatherization. Osceola Electric

Cooperative appreciates your generosity and the pledges given by members to help our members in need. What a great way to show you care about your community and know that you can make a difference!

Complete the form below to donate.

RECare Customer Authorization Form

RECare is a voluntary energy assistance program that offers funds to local families who need assistance with their winter heating bills or in weatherization of homes of low income consumers of Osceola Electric Cooperative.

_____I would like to make a one-time contribution to RECare. My check is enclosed.

_____I would like to contribute \$_____per month. I understand that this amount will be billed monthly. My gift is a matching fund. The matching fund is_____.

Name_____Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____Account_____

Signature_____

Mail the completed authorization form to: Osceola Electric RECare, PO Box 127, Sibley, IA, 51249.
Or Email to: info@osceolaelectric.com

Basin Bus Tour

Members of Osceola Electric Cooperative joined members from Lyon REC, and Federated REA on an educational journey to Bismarck, North Dakota. This 3-day bus trip took members across the Dakotas to Basin Electric Power Cooperative facilities to see first hand where their power comes from.

Tours included Antelope Valley Station and the Coteau Properties Company Freedom Mine. Members gained knowledge on the ever evolving energy industry and the importance of a diverse energy mix. An interactive walking tour took participants through a coal-fired energy generation facility, they took a drive into a lignite coal mine and saw results of the reclamation process where the mine is returned to productive farms and native grasslands.

Members also enjoyed stops at the Terry Redlin Art Center, Fort Mandan and wrapped up the tour day with a relaxing supper cruise on the Missouri River.

Interested in participating next year? The 2027 tour dates are June 22-24. Call the office at 712-754-2519 for more information and to secure your seat on the bus.



7 Co-op Principles

- OPEN & VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP
- EDUCATION, TRAINING & INFORMATION
| DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL | COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES |
| MEMBER ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION | CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY |
| AUTONOMY & INDEPENDENCE | |

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®

SHARE the ROAD with Farmers

Be safe. Be courteous.

Farm season means sharing the road with large farm equipment. Farmers must move slowly in large equipment, but public roads are often the only available routes.

When you find yourself following or meeting large farm equipment on the road, do the following to keep everyone safe:

- Be alert and cautious, and give large farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles space.
- Do not pass if you are in a "No Passing Zone," or in any area where it is not safe to do so, such as intersections, bridges and railroad crossings, among others.
- Be careful when you do get the chance to pass. Oftentimes, farmers will move their equipment over when it is safe to do so.
- Do not tailgate.
- Make sure the tractor is not trying to make a left turn before you pass on the left.

Share the road with care. Farmers are just trying to get to and from their job, too.

Source: Texas Table Top (Texas Farm Bureau)

SafeElectricity.org®

Property Taxes for Fiscal Year 07/01/2025-06/30/2026	
Osceola County: building, poles & wire	\$39,534.00
O'Brien County: wire & poles	\$92.00
Lyon County: wire & poles	\$133.00
Dickinson County: wire & poles	\$183.00
Total Taxes Paid	\$39,942.00

2026-2027 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2026-2027 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply you can **Dial 2-1-1**, visit <https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/liheap> to locate and contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

Income Maximums	
Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$31,920
2	\$43,280
3	\$54,640
4	\$66,000
5	\$77,360
6	\$88,720
7	\$100,080
8	\$111,440
For households with more than eight members, add \$11,360 for each member.	

WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:**
October 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027
- **All other households:**
November 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027

WHAT TO PROVIDE:

- **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 18 and over) Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.
- **Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members** (documentation required)
- **Most recent heat bill**
- **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS:

Please provide copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Veteran's Assistance and pensions. Please provide copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please provide a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

Note - Additional countable income and/or income verification not listed above may be required for eligibility determination.

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: Devin Ackerman, Phil Hibma, & Val Janssen

1. The 2027 Basin Tour will be _____ 22-24.
2. October is National Cooperative Month name a co-op _____.
3. _____ is a consumer contribution fund in which members like you assist other members who need help.

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Operating Statistics

August	2025	2026
Single Phase Consumers	1,156	1,155
Commercial Consumers	125	121
kWh Sold, Single Phase	2,684,543	2,712,196
kWh Sold, Commercial	7,463,770	5,537,201
KW Sold, Single Phase	11,515	11,499
KW Sold, Commercial	9,668	9,778
Average Single Phase Consumption	2,322	2,348
Average Commercial Consumption	60,681	45,762
Average Single Phase Statement	\$289.32	\$313.57
Average Commercial Statement	\$4,846.43	\$4,362.50
Outage Time Per Member	9 4/9	10 1/8