



LEAVENWORTH-JEFFERSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Powerline

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Tip of the Month

During summer months, our homes can be hot and uncomfortable. Before you fire up your air conditioner, try cooling off with a ceiling fan first. Using ceiling fans can actually raise your thermostat setting by four degrees and still feel just as comfortable.

Holiday Office Closing

In observance of Labor Day the LJEC offices will be closed on Monday, September 1.

Have a Safe Holiday!

FROM THE MANAGER

Teach Children About Electrical Safety

Electricity is a dynamic power source. We live our lives surrounded by it, but sometimes we forget just how dangerous electricity can be. Many home electrical fires, injuries, and electrocutions can be prevented when we understand and practice electrical safety. This is especially true for our youngest co-op members.

Throughout the year, LJEC offers many benefits to help teach youngsters about electricity. But as your child's first and most important teacher, perhaps it's time to have a talk with your sons and daughters to reinforce those lessons.

At an early age, start teaching them about the physical dangers associated with electrical components and how to handle electrical plugs, outlets, switches, and other devices. Keep in mind, talking to your children about electrical safety should also include fun activities and facts about the basics: what is electricity, the need to respect its power, and how to use it efficiently as they study, work and play.

As we all know, kids will be kids. Getting them to show interest in some of these lessons isn't always easy. Just remember that what your children learn from you today can be a lifesaver later when they encounter potential hazards like downed power lines in their path, play hide-and-seek behind those big metal electrical boxes, or are tempted to climb up a utility pole.

Gather your youngsters around the kitchen table or on the front porch—some of the best teachable moments about electrical safety can happen in and around your

home. There are plenty of opportunities to demonstrate safety that are as close as the electrical outlet on your living room wall. Show young children how plugs work, and let them know that even if they are curious about the slits of an electrical outlet, nothing else should be placed inside.

Each year about 2,400 children end up in the emergency room after suffering injuries caused by inserting objects—paper clips, pens, screws, nails, forks, hair pins, coins and more—into electrical receptacles. That's about seven children a day who sustain injuries ranging from electric shock to burns.

Our reliance on electronics and gadgets have left both youngsters and their parents at risk when they overcrowd electrical outlets, continue to use frayed wires, place devices near liquids, or leave electronics on for long periods of time. Some of the same guidelines LJEC offers to protect adults also help protect children. We should all set good examples for our youngsters.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (www.esfi.org) offers free kits, videos, and interactive online tools that make learning and practicing electrical safety fun for you and your children. And as they grow older, remember to keep teaching them about the power of electricity and how to use it safely.



Steve Foss

Youth Tour the Trip of a Lifetime BY LEAH PARSONS

The title to this story just about says it all. The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., was definitely the trip of a lifetime. Thanks to LJEC and the cooperative members, I had the opportunity to participate in this trip with 34 other students from across Kansas and four from Hawaii.

As June 12, the night of the banquet and official first day of the trip, sped closer and closer my excitement, anticipation and nerves steadily mounted. Here I was getting ready to spend an entire week with 38 students (plus chaperones) I did not know and had only vague hopes of ever keeping all their names straight! Our first full day together proved to hold several surprises and a lot of time to get to know each other.

We started our first full day of the trip (Friday, June 13) at Kaw Valley Electric Cooperative with a safety demonstration, then headed to the Kansas State Capitol Building for a tour. We then headed to the Kansas City airport as our scheduled departure was 4:15 p.m. We arrived in plenty of time as we had 43 people we had to get through security.



The 2014 delegation included 35 Kansas students and four students from Hawaii.

Shortly after we arrived we learned our flight had been delayed. It was delayed two more times before the dreaded words flashed on the screen... cancelled. Words could not describe how disappointed we all were. Looking back now though, the time we spent in the airport really helped us to get to know each other.

It took five different flights and all-day Sunday before we were all back together in D.C. Since we missed out on some of our scheduled events, we squeezed a few more things into an already tight schedule. I'm glad we did because there are so many things to see and places to visit!

One of my favorite places we visited was the Lincoln Memorial. It stands directly in line with the U.S. Capitol and Washington Monument which adds to the intriguing history of the memorial. To me, the words



Parsons talks with Sen. Pat Roberts on Capitol Hill.



Leah Parsons poses in front of our nation's capitol.

that describe it best are engraved directly above Lincoln's statue... "In this temple as in the hearts of the people for whom he saved the union the memory of Abraham Lincoln is enshrined forever."

We visited numerous memorials, several museums, took a cruise on the Potomac River, attended a performance by the Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Silent Drill Team, as well as toured places that hold so much of our country's history. We also visited with Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran and toured the U.S. Capitol.

Another favorite memory of the trip for me is the Washington Monument, which I saw almost every time I looked up. It is a majestic part of the Washington, D.C., skyline.

Thank you again to the LJEC Board and Members for offering this trip. This is a trip I will never forget and I am grateful for the opportunity to attend, making new friends and memories that will last a lifetime.

Save the Date Member Appreciation Day = Free Meal

September 23 from 4-7 p.m. at the LJEC Office

Mark your calendar for LJEC's Member Appreciation Day and Health Fair that will be held Tuesday, September 23, 2014, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the cooperative's office (507 N. Union, McLouth)

In addition to a free meal, LJEC members can take advantage of valuable tests and information to get their physical and financial matters in to tip-top shape.

We host this event at this time of year because it is the beginning of flu season. The Jefferson County Health Department will be on hand offering flu shots to help get you through what promises to be an active flu season.

Lawrence Memorial Hospital will be on hand offering free cholesterol and blood pressure screenings. In addition, there will be free hearing tests, information on chiropractic care, eye and dental health, as well as many other topics concerning your physical and financial well being.

Watch for more detailed information in the September issue of *Kansas Country Living* magazine.



Exede Satellite Internet Service Available Through LJEC

LJEC is committed to bringing you not only your electricity, but also other services that meet our members' needs and provide value in the communities we're proud to serve.

LJEC has partnered with National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative to offer LJEC members Exede satellite broadband service.

With download speeds up to 12 Mbps and the ability to choose your monthly service based on how much you use the internet, Exede offers speed and flexibility to watch streaming videos, TV and movies; share photos remarkably fast; or just browse websites and email much faster than you could before.

Exede brings together the highest capacity satellite in the world, state-of-the-art ground equipment and breakthrough web acceleration technology. The new satellite (ViaSat-1) represents the most significant capacity leap in the history of satellite technology. The equipment in your home is all new, too, including a new modem with built-in web acceleration technology, which allows you to:

- ▶ Watching streaming videos, TV shows and movies with fewer delays from buffering
- ▶ Send and receive files quickly
- ▶ Experience exceptionally fast web browsing and email

Every Exede plan comes with fast speed for a great experience – no matter which plan you select. Choose your service based on how much you use the internet, not how fast you want to go. Standard installation is completed by a certified technician.

LJEC has a demo unit up and running in the lobby of the office. We encourage members to stop by and take Exede for a test run to see just how fast internet service can be in our rural areas.

For more information on installation, packages & coverage call 855-797-7856.

All our **exede12** plans are super fast.
Just choose how much you need.

UP TO **12Mbps** Download | UP TO **3Mbps** Upload

| 10 ^{GB} PER MONTH | 15 ^{GB} PER MONTH | 25 ^{GB} PER MONTH |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FREE LATE NIGHT FREE ZONE Unmetered usage 12 midnight - 5 a.m. | FREE LATE NIGHT FREE ZONE Unmetered usage 12 midnight - 5 a.m. | FREE LATE NIGHT FREE ZONE Unmetered usage 12 midnight - 5 a.m. |
| MODERATE Perfect for occasional video downloads, photo sharing, music streaming, social networking and email. | MORE Great for those who spend more time on the Internet, use more data, and watch online videos more frequently. | MOST Gives you the most of all the things you love to do. This is the plan for those who depend on the Internet for work, entertainment, social networking and more. |

To find the best plan for you, check out our Exede Plan Selector Tool at www.localexede.com

\$49⁹⁹ MONTH

\$79⁹⁹ MONTH

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BUY MORE

Our BUY MORE feature gives you the flexibility to purchase more data in 1 GB increments.

Suggested retail prices. Plans may require a customer commitment. One-time setup fee and equipment/service lease fee may apply.

Speeds are "up to" and not guaranteed. Actual speeds will vary.

School Bus Safety for Your Children

For millions of students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. Unfortunately, many children are injured and several are killed each year in school bus incidents.

Although drivers of all vehicles are required to stop for a school bus when it is stopped to load or unload passengers, children should not rely on them to do so. The National Safety Council encourages parents to teach their children these rules for getting on and off the school bus.

Getting on the school bus

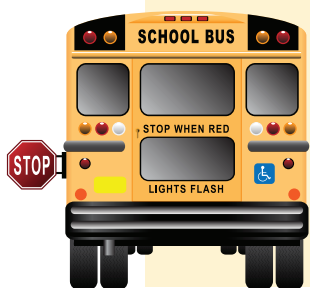
- ▶ When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic.
- ▶ Do not stray into streets, alleys, or private property.
- ▶ Line up away from the street or road as the school bus approaches.
- ▶ Wait until the bus has stopped and the door opens before stepping onto the roadway.
- ▶ Use the hand rail when stepping onto the bus.

Getting off the school bus

- ▶ If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk at least 10 feet ahead of the bus along the side of the road until you can turn around and see the driver.
- ▶ Make sure that the driver can see you.
- ▶ Wait for a signal from the driver before beginning to cross.
- ▶ When the driver signals, walk across the road, keeping an eye out for traffic.
- ▶ Do not cross the center line of the road until the driver has signaled that it is safe for you to begin walking.
- ▶ Stay away from the wheels of the bus at all times.

Crossing the street

- ▶ Children should always stop at the curb or the edge of the road and look left, then right, and then left again before crossing. They should continue looking until they are safely across the street.



Storm Damage Throughout LJEC Territory Causes Widespread Outages



Storms in LJEC's territory on July 7 caused downed trees and poles, which resulted in 1,580 meters without service.

No sooner than the Fourth of July holiday weekend ended, our line and tree crews had their hands full with a major storm that moved through LJEC's territory the night of July 7.

Around 10 p.m., LJEC received our first calls reporting outages on the western side of our service territory in Jackson County. Calls continued to come in from across our entire service territory during the next few hours as the storms moved through. The cooperative had widespread outages with an area in Atchison County being hardest hit.

LJEC crews were out all night July 7 and through most of the day on July 8. During the height of work, the cooperative had 1,580 meters out of service.

The majority of outages were caused by downed trees and broken limbs which, in turn, resulted in downed primary and secondary lines. This is one reason the LJEC tree crews continuously work to clear right-of-way areas under and

around our poles. Without their work, this storm would have resulted in many more outages.

Storms were severe enough that the cooperative did have downed poles and several broken cross arms.

Most everyone that lives in the Midwest is used to these kinds of storms, but living without electricity can be a real burden for some.

The entire staff at LJEC would like to thank our members for their patience during this outage, allowing our line and tree crews to restore power safely and as quickly as possible.

As a reminder, LJEC's normal business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., but phones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For emergencies after normal business hours, simply call the LJEC office 888-796-6111 and follow the prompts. Your call will be directed to our answering service that can assist you.