

VVEC LINE LIFE

SEPTEMBER 2025 | PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | WWW.VVEC.COM

YOU'RE INVITED TO VVEC'S 87TH ANNUAL MEETING!

Thursday, October 23, 2025 | 5 PM
Tulsa Tech - Owasso Campus
10800 N 137th E Ave, Owasso, OK 74055

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening filled with great food, live entertainment, and a chance to connect with your cooperative community. Enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner, listen to live music by the Thomas Martinez Band, and snap a photo with the one and only Willie Wiredhand! Be sure to bring your electric bill to get registered and receive your member gift bag.

The official business meeting will begin at 7 PM, and a quorum of 5% of VVEC members is required to conduct business. Stick around afterward for door prizes and the grand prize drawing — a \$500 bill credit! We can't wait to see you there!



- **5:00 - 7:00 PM**
Enjoy a mouthwatering meal, catered just for our members.
 - **5:00 - 6:45 PM**
Kick back and listen to some live music by the Thomas Martinez Band!
 - **5:00 - 6:45 PM**
Snap a pic with our iconic co-op mascot, Willie Wiredhand!
 - **5:00 - 7:00 PM**
Bring your electric bill to get registered and receive your member gift.
 - **7:00 PM**
A quorum of 5% of members is required to conduct official co-op business.
- Stick around after the meeting for door prizes and a chance to win the \$500 BILL CREDIT!

VVEC encourages the safe, efficient use of electricity and actively supports community initiatives that benefit our members and the public.

IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

• First, check your fuses or circuit breakers. Every service is different. You may have fuses or circuit breakers in your house, on the side of your house, under your meter, or all three places. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity.

• Then, call the co-op at 371-2584 or 1-800-870-5948. Have your account number, name as it appears on the account, and address handy to give to the dispatcher. If you should get a recording, leave your information; every message will be answered.

• Download the SmartHub app at www.smarthubapp.com to report outages from your smartphone.

SUMMER RESIDENTIAL RATES

April through September usage;
May through October billing

Customer Charge	\$40.00
Energy Charge	1st 2000 kWh
	\$0.08279/kWh
	over 2000 kWh
	\$0.08789/kWh

A power cost adjustment (PCA) will be applied to all bills when the actual cost of power purchased exceeds or is less than 62.088 mills per kWh. In addition, a gross receipts tax of 2% of revenue will be included, plus additional taxes, if applicable.



Please join us in
congratulating

DISTRICT 9 TRUSTEE

Buddy McCarty

for earning his Board
Leadership Certification.

This achievement reflects a strong commitment to professional development and excellence. We appreciate your continued dedication and the expertise you bring to our team!



SIGN UP TODAY



Manage Your Account View and Pay Your Bill Monitor Usage 24/7 Report Service Issues Receive Important Updates

“YOU CAN NEVER GET ENOUGH
BOOKS INTO THE HANDS
OF ENOUGH
CHILDREN”



Verdigris Valley Electric Co-op is proud to partner with “Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library” to help ensure the young children in our communities have access to books!

How it works:

- Enroll your child (ages 0-5) online at <http://imaginationlibrary.com/>
- In 8-12 weeks, your child will receive their first book in the mail, “The Little Engine That Could”.
- Books arrive in the mail monthly until your child’s 5th birthday

**Dream More,
Learn More,
Care More,
Be More™**

To check availability in your area, scan this QR code or visit <https://imaginationlibrary.com/check-availability/>



Tulsa City-County
LIBRARY

VVEC
Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A National Rural Cooperative

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

CHANDLER HURST



Meet Chandler Hurst, Assistant Foreman at VVEC! Since joining the cooperative as an apprentice lineman in November 2021, he's worked hard, risen through the ranks, and continues to lead with hustle and heart.

He's been a lineman his entire career and says the best part of his job is simple—the people. "From the guys I work with every day to the management team, it's a great place to work," he says. His advice to anyone starting out in the industry? "Show up early. Jump in. If it needs done, do it. Don't wait to be told."

Outside of work, you'll find him spending time with his wife, Megan, and daughter, Ava—with a baby boy on the way! He also enjoys fishing, gardening, and helping out on the family dairy farm.

When asked what makes him smile, he didn't hesitate: "My wife and kids. I've always wanted to be a husband and father, and to have a job that takes care of my family—I'm just very grateful."

A man of faith, he lives by Matthew 19:26: "With God, all things are possible." Congrats on a job very well done, Chandler!



A Visit to Remember



We had the opportunity to visit the Nowata Nursing Center, where we delivered flowers and VVEC hats to the residents—and walked away with far more than we gave.

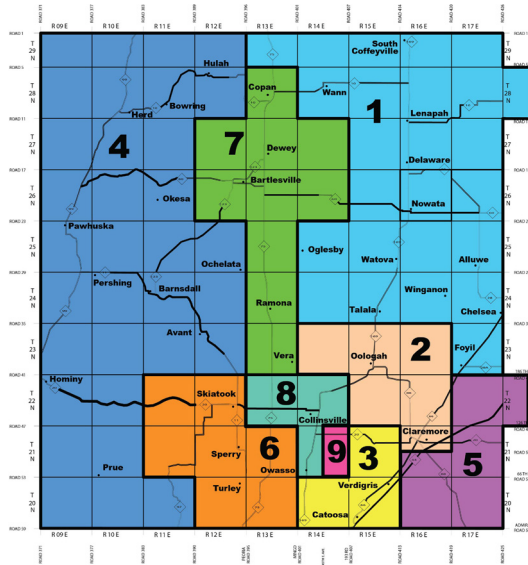
From the moment we stepped through the doors, we were greeted with warm smiles and open hearts. As we handed out flowers and chatted with the residents, it quickly became clear that these small gestures brought big joy.

These moments of connection are a reminder that community isn't just about service—it's about showing up. It's about making time for kindness, one conversation and one smile at a time.

Thank you to the staff and residents at Nowata Nursing Center for the hospitality, the hugs, and the chance to brighten your day.

We left with full hearts and a renewed appreciation for the people who make our communities so special.





DISTRICTS 7, 8 & 9 TO ELECT REPRESENTATIVES

VVEC members in Districts 7, 8, and 9 will soon gather to elect their board representatives. Registration will take place from 6 to 7 p.m., with the business session beginning at 7 p.m. A 5% quorum of members in each district is required to conduct official business.

If you're voting on behalf of an organization, such as a church or business, you'll need to present a completed Organization Certificate at the time of registration. The form is available below.

Not sure which district you're in? Check your monthly bill, view the district map, or call 918-371-2584 to speak with our office services team. All members will also receive a notice by mail with the specific details for their district's meeting.

DISTRICT 7 MEETING

Thursday, Nov 6th
Bartlesville Southern Baptist Church
5111 Nowata Rd.
Bartlesville, OK 74006

DISTRICT 8 MEETING

Monday, Nov 10th
VVEC Pavilion
8901 E 146th St N
Collinsville, OK 74021

DISTRICT 9 MEETING

Monday, Nov 17th
First United Methodist Church of Owasso
13800 E 106th St N
Owasso, OK 74055

ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATE

RESOLVED THAT _____
(Person's name typed or written in ink)
who is a member or officer of said organization, is hereby designated official
representative by _____
(Name of Organization)

to vote at the District Meeting of Members which said organization holds a
membership in the Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., to be held during
November 2025, for Districts 7, 8, and 9, on all matters which at said meeting
of Members may properly come before them; the action of said representative
and all that he or she may do in this behalf is hereby ratified and confirmed as
the act of

(Name of Organization)

(President)

(Corporate Seal)

ATTEST: _____
(Secretary)

Complete this form and present it when registering in attendance at district meeting.



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES!

**\$747,891.00 IN CAPITAL CREDIT REFUNDS
RETURNING TO MEMBERS IN OCTOBER!**

Cooperatives like Verdigris Valley Electric are unique in that they are a not-for profit business. What this means to our member owners is that they have a stake in the finances of Cooperative. The Cooperative answers to the members not unrelated stockholders. To this end, the Cooperative distributes its revenue in excess of expenses back to the members through margins or capital credits.

This year after carefully reviewing the financial matters of the Cooperative, your board of trustees approved the return of \$747,891.00 in capital credit or patronage refunds. This is the 32nd consecutive year capital credits have been returned to the members. A total of \$21,540,173 has been returned to the members since the Cooperative started business in 1938.

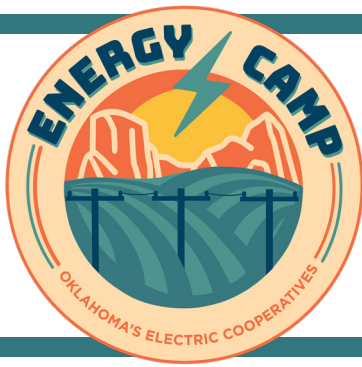
Capital Credits and Patronage refunds will be returned to members and former members that received power from the Cooperative in 1985.

For all active members a credit will appear as a "patronage refund" on their October 2025 bills. Members that have multiple accounts will receive one credit on the membership account; that one credit will reflect the total accumulated capital refunds from all of their accounts.

Former members that had service in 1985 will receive a check if the refund is greater than \$5.00; lesser amounts will be held in the account awaiting the time that accumulated capital credits reach the \$5.00 threshold.

If you have questions regarding your capital credit refund, please call one of our Office Services Representatives at (918) 371-2584 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.





YOUTHPower ENERGY CAMP

Sparkling Leadership, Teamwork & Summer Fun



This past May, a group of bright and enthusiastic eighth graders from across our service area kicked off their summer with an unforgettable experience at YouthPower Energy Camp—a hands-on leadership adventure hosted at Camp Canyon near Hinton.

Representing VVEC at this year's camp were Chance Jackson and Kolt Vickery, both eighth-grade students from Barnsdall. These two outstanding young men jumped headfirst into the experience, embracing every opportunity to learn, lead, and grow.

Designed to empower the next generation of leaders, the camp gave students a behind-the-scenes look at the world of rural electric cooperatives. From electing their own mock board of directors to tackling real-life issues in

group discussions, these young minds didn't just learn—they led.

Beyond the fun and games, campers walked away with stronger leadership skills, a deeper understanding of the cooperative model, and the kind of confidence that will carry them through high school and beyond.

VVEC has proudly sponsored this camp alongside the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives since it began in 1989 — and it remains one of our favorite ways to invest in the future.

YouthPower Energy Camp 2025 was truly electrifying—and we can't wait to see what these future leaders do next.

STAYING SAFE ON CAMPUS

DORM & COLLEGE SAFETY TIPS

Whether it's your first semester away from home or you're returning for another year of college life, campus safety is always worth a refresher. Living in a dorm or apartment brings new freedoms—and new responsibilities. From protecting personal belongings to preventing electrical hazards, a little preparation goes a long way.

PERSONAL SAFETY & SECURITY

- Lock your doors—even when you're home. Dorms can see a lot of foot traffic.
- Get to know your neighbors and stay aware of your surroundings.
- Keep valuables out of sight and avoid leaving electronics near open windows.
- Walk in groups at night and stick to well-lit paths.
- Save campus security's number in your phone, just in case.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY IN DORMS



College life often means plugging in laptops, mini-fridges, lamps, and more—but overloading your space can create serious risks.

Here's how to stay safe:

- Never overload outlets or power strips. Too many high-energy devices in one place can cause overheating.
- Use surge protectors, not extension cords, for computers and electronics.
- Don't run cords under rugs or furniture. It's a fire hazard and wears down the cord.
- Keep flammable items away from heat sources. That includes space heaters, coffee makers, and curling irons.
- Unplug small appliances when not in use—this helps prevent both fire risks and energy waste.
- Inspect cords regularly. If a cord is frayed, cracked, or damaged, stop using it immediately.



LOCK DOORS – EVEN AT HOME

- Get to know your neighbors
- Walk in groups at night
- Save campus security's number



FOLLOW ELECTRICAL SAFETY

- Don't overload outlets
- Use surge protectors
- Unplug small appliances
- Check cords for damage



KEEP BELONGINGS SECURE

- Keep valuables out of sight
- Avoid clutter near heat sources
- Back up your digital files
- Have a first aid kit & extinguisher



THINK SAFE, STUDY SAFE

Many dorms have specific rules about what appliances or extension cords are allowed. Check with housing staff before move-in day to make sure you're in compliance and avoid any surprises.

Heading off to college is an exciting new chapter—but safety should always be part of the plan. A few smart habits now can prevent accidents later.

From all of us at VVEC, we're wishing you a safe, successful, and power-filled school year!

BONUS TIPS



Keep a small fire extinguisher and first aid kit nearby if allowed.



Save emergency contacts in your phone—and memorize one, just in case.



Back up your digital files regularly in case of theft or damage.



Line Life is published monthly by Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, Collinsville, Oklahoma (ISSN 10884378) for its members in Tulsa, Rogers, Washington, Nowata and Osage counties.

VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

District 1:	Jim Brackett	720-4531
District 2:	Jack Bogart	371-9587
District 3:	John Brogan	810-7131
District 4:	John Hibdon	847-2320
District 5:	Jimmy Lambert	760-7029
District 6:	Dennis Lenox	289-5961
District 7:	Charles Huerter	914-1498
District 8:	Ken Howard	724-9965
District 9:	Buddy McCarty	272-5364

General Manager: Alice Lawson

CONTACT US

VVEC Main Office

P.O. Box 219
8901 E 146th St N
Collinsville, OK 74021
918-371-2584 | 800-870-5948

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon-Fri

Line Life Editor:

Megan Jackson

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CLASSIFIEDS

SUBMIT ADS to classified@vvec.com or send to ATTN: Classified, P.O. Box 219 Collinsville, OK 74021. Ads must be in writing. Your account number, name, address and a phone number is required on all ads. The deadline for all ads is the 1st of the month. Ads submitted by the 1st of the month will run in the following month's newsletter. *Classified ads are a free service to VVEC members only. As many ads as space allows will be included in each issue. VVEC reserves the right to delete or shorten items or descriptions.*

- Professional, personalized dog grooming at your home. Small dogs only. Most dogs only \$40.00. Over 40 years experience. 918-381-1170
- Handyman service to repair and remodel; affordable plumbing and electric. Call or text for free estimate; references available. 918-231-6385
- 24x33 McWick working wood cook stove with oven stove pipe and damper 918-531-2239
- New Holland Hay Liner 276; call or text 918-344-1127
- Standup freezer; 32 in wide 70 in high; frost free. Call or text 918-344-1127
- Potted Peony plants to transplant in the fall. 1 gallon and 2 gallons for \$25 and \$30 in colors of dark red shades, shades of pink and pure white. Currently sold at the Tulsa Farmers' Market on Saturdays but available in Collinsville at A.K.'s Bloomers. They are easy care and can live 50 to 100 years. Instructions with each purchase. Text 918-504-6264
- EKOL Viper 2.5" blank revolver \$65; New England Firearms blank starter .22 model B22 \$65. 918-637-0888

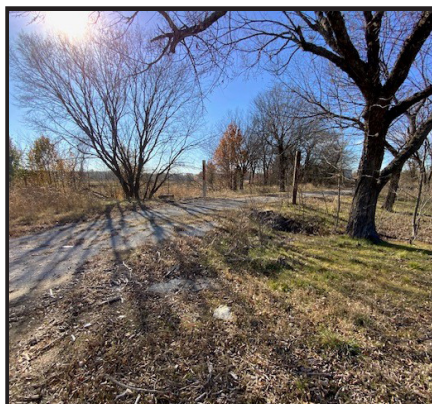


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Our offices will be closed on
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2025
in observance of Labor Day.

We will re-open on
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025 at 7:30 AM.



SEPTEMBER MYSTERY PICTURE

Think you recognize the location? Call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 **starting Sept. 1** to submit your guess. The **first** correct answer wins a \$50 bill credit! *Contest runs through the end of September.*

August's Mystery Location: Richard Kane Reservoir or Red Bud Lake. EW 2200 Rd.

Tree crews are working to clear right-of-way on the Elm Creek, Vera, and Ramona substations.

Brush Coordinator:
Chub Brewer
918-586-6208



IS YOUR
ACCOUNT
NUMBER
1821306201?

If so, call Megan Jackson at 918-586-6241 during the month of September and claim your \$50 bill credit! **CONGRATS!**