

VVEC LINE LIFE

APRIL 2026 | PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF VERDIGRIS VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING | WWW.VVEC.COM

WHEN THE STORMS ROLL IN, LINEMEN ROLL OUT.



When the sky turns dark and the wind starts howling, most people head for cover. Our linemen grab their gear.

Being a lineworker isn't for the faint of heart. It takes grit. It takes strength. It takes the kind of mindset that doesn't flinch at 3 a.m. alarms, sideways rain, or climbing poles in freezing wind.

The danger is real: high voltage, heavy equipment, unpredictable weather, and long hours that test both body and mind. Every move demands focus. Every job demands trust in the crew beside you. There's no room for shortcuts.

But what truly sets our linemen apart is their attitude. They don't complain about the storm - they move toward it.

They understand that behind every outage is a family waiting on lights, power, and normalcy and they take that responsibility personally. It's not glamorous. It's not easy. But it's work that matters.

When storms roll in, our linemen roll out - ready to work, ready to restore, and ready to bring the power back home. And when the lights come back on, most people never see the miles driven, the hours climbed, or the exhaustion behind the scenes. That's the nature of the job.

Our linemen don't do it for recognition... they do it because serving their neighbors is part of who they are. Through every storm, every outage, and every long night, they keep showing up. That quiet dedication is what keeps our cooperative strong.

At Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative, our linemen are second to none, and we are proud - and thankful - to stand behind the men who stand on the line for us.



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.

WINTER RESIDENTIAL RATES

October through March usage;
November through April billing

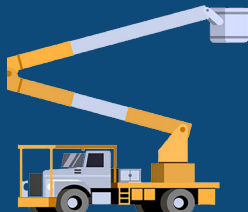
| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Customer Charge | \$40.00 |
| Energy Charge | \$.08279/kwh |

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.

Tree crews are working to clear right-of-way on the Oologah and Javine substations.

Brush Coordinator:
Chub Brewer
918-586-6208



MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCH!

JUNE 5, 2026 | 11 AM - 1 PM

8901 E 146TH ST N
COLLINSVILLE, OK 74021

Two yellow cartoon utility characters with large eyes and friendly expressions. The character on the left is wearing a black and white striped apron and holding a large silver bell. The character on the right is wearing a white chef's hat with 'VVEC' on it and a red and white striped apron, holding a wicker basket filled with a water bottle, a bag of chips, a sandwich, and cookies. They are standing on a green grassy field under a blue sky with white clouds.

LOOK! A NEW WAY TO PAY!

MEMBERS CAN NOW CALL:

(855) 941-3586

- TO MAKE A PAYMENT, WITHOUT FEES. NO MORE THIRD-PARTY PAYMENTS!
- TO CHECK YOUR BALANCE
- TO SIGN UP FOR AUTO-PAY ...AND SO MUCH MORE!

WAYS TO PAY

IN OFFICE | BY MAIL | AT KIOSK
AUTO-PAY | SMARTHUB
BY CALLING 855-941-3586
ONLINE AT WWW.VVEC.COM

A yellow cartoon utility character holding a sign that says "WANT TO USE A KIOSK? SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND KIOSK LOCATIONS!". To the right of the character is a QR code. The background is dark blue with a yellow lightning bolt icon.

Scan the QR code to the left on a mobile device to download the SmartHub App.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



ARCHIE AGNEW



Archie Agnew has been serving VVEC members as a lineman since October 2020. During his time at the cooperative, he has worked in both construction and maintenance, gaining valuable experience while helping keep the lights on for our communities.

One of Archie's favorite parts of the job is working alongside the other linemen each day. He says helping members and solving problems in the field makes the work especially rewarding. What he enjoys most about working at VVEC is the strong team atmosphere—everyone works well together and is always willing to lend a hand.

When he's not on the job, Archie enjoys spending time with his family and heading outdoors for hunting and fishing. He and his wife, Suzanne, are proud parents to their daughters, Grace and Scottie.

Congrats on a job very well done, Archie!

*"Ask questions. The more you ask, the more you'll learn."
- Archie Agnew*



BEHIND EVERY LINEMAN
is a family waiting for them to come home safe.

Pictured is VVEC Lineman Garrett Laughlin and family

GOOD FRIDAY

Our offices will be closed on Friday, April 2, 2026 in observance of Good Friday.

We will re-open on Monday, April 6, 2026 at 7:30 AM.



Tornado safety & electrical hazards

Oklahomans know what Spring means for us: longer days, warmer temperatures... and an increased risk of severe weather and tornadoes. Being prepared isn't just about watching the forecast; it's also about knowing how to stay safe around electrical hazards that can follow powerful storms.



Tornadoes can strike with little warning, leaving behind downed power lines, damaged electrical equipment and dangerous debris. Preparing before a tornado, and knowing how to stay safe afterward, can help prevent electrical shock, fire and injury. Make sure your emergency plan includes electrical safety steps so you and your family are ready to act quickly and safely.

BEFORE A TORNADO:

- Prepare an emergency kit with water, battery-powered flashlight, radio, extra batteries and portable phone charger.
- Keep your electric utility's phone number handy in case you need to report an outage or downed line.
- Fully charge cell phones and backup power banks before severe weather hits so you can use them in an emergency.

DURING A TORNADO:

- Seek shelter immediately in a basement or a small, interior room with no windows, such as a bathroom or closet.
- Turn off and unplug appliances and electronics to protect them from power surges. Leave one light on so you'll know when power is restored.
- Do not stay inside a vehicle or try to outrun a tornado. Exit the vehicle and seek shelter in a sturdy building. If none are available, lie flat in a low-lying area away from the vehicle and power lines.

AFTER A TORNADO:

- Stay away from downed power lines and anything they could touch, such as trees, fences or debris. Always assume they are energized.
- If you see a downed line while driving, do not exit your vehicle. Call 911 and your utility, and warn others to stay away.
- Do not touch anyone who is in contact with a power line. Call 911 immediately and wait for emergency responders.
- Do not enter damaged buildings until electricity and gas are shut off by professionals. Never attempt to turn off power if you must stand in water to reach the breaker.
- Avoid flooded areas with electrical outlets, appliances, or cords, and never touch electrical equipment when wet or standing in water.
- Have all water-damaged electrical systems, appliances, and devices inspected by a licensed electrician before use.



POWER OUTAGES AND GENERATOR SAFETY:

- Never use a generator indoors or in partially enclosed spaces such as garages, porches, or near open windows and doors. Place it at least 20 feet away from your home to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Keep the generator dry by placing it on a tarp or under a canopy, and follow all manufacturer's instructions.
- Never plug a generator directly into a wall outlet. This can inadvertently energize power lines and pose a lethal risk to you, neighbors and utility workers.

Stay informed, stay alert, and share this information to help protect your family and community during severe weather events. No matter what comes our way, your cooperative family is working for you.



TORNADO SAFETY

& Electrical Hazards

BEFORE THE TORNADO:

- Prepare an emergency kit and keep your devices charged.
- Know your utility company's contact info.

DURING THE TORNADO:

- Take shelter in a basement or windowless room.
- Unplug appliances to avoid power surges; leave one light on to signal power return.
- Avoid power lines if outside or driving; seek shelter immediately.

AFTER THE TORNADO:

- Avoid basements and other flooded areas that are in or near electrical outlets or appliances.
- Do not use water-damaged electrical items until a qualified electrician has inspected them and ensured they are safe.
- Stay at least 50 feet away from downed power lines and any debris they touch.
- Call 9-1-1 for electrical injuries; don't touch victims of electrical contact.

GENERATOR SAFETY:

- Use outdoors, 20+ feet from the home and away from windows and doors.
- Keep the generator dry by placing it under a canopy.
- Never plug it directly into wall outlets. This could energize power lines and injure yourself, neighbors or utility workers.

Safe
Electricity.org®



**APRIL IS “LINEMAN APPRECIATION MONTH”
AND WE SURE LOVE OUR LINEMEN!**



Progression of a Lineman

Safety is our TOP priority on the job which is why our linemen spend thousands of hours training as they advance their skills.

GROUNDMAN

Assist line crews with tools, keep job sites safe and operate smaller equipment.

APPRENTICE LINEMAN

Earn competitive wages while receiving hands-on training and experience in the field. They typically spend four years in their apprenticeship.



JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN

Post-apprenticeship with roughly 7,000+ hours of training: they are fully trained in their field. They repair, update, and install overhead and underground power lines, as well as other electrical equipment.


FOREMAN

Advanced position that requires supervising lineworkers on job sites, coordinating with contractors and directing daily activities for crews.

VVEC IS LOOKING FOR LOST MEMBERS – CURRENT ADDRESSES NEEDED

From time to time members move out of VVEC’s service territory or pass away but Capital Credits still have to be allocated for the energy used while members had active service. Sometimes VVEC’s last known address is not correct and the capital credit checks that are sent out come back to the cooperative. We need your help to find these former members. If you see a name on the list that you recognize and you have information about a current address, please contact us at 918-371-2584.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| STOKLEY LESTA | THOMAS SUE | VAIL ROD | WEATHERLY JR JOHN M | WOOD MARTY |
| STONE CHRIS | THOMAS PATRICK | VALE JOYCE C | WEBB JOYCE | WOOD LYNETTE |
| STONE JR JAMES A | THOMAS MATTHEW J | VALENTINE CURTIS R | WEBB JAMES | WOOD LAVERN |
| STOTTS DOYAL | THOMAS LAQUITA | VANAMAN JOHN | WEBBER W P | WOOD ERNEST L |
| STOVER DAVID A | THOMAS JOHN R | VANCE LULA S | WEBSTER WILLENE | WOOD DAVID |
| STRICKLAND TERRY | THOMAS J ASHLOCK OIL | VANDEVER HARRY R | WEBSTER JAMES H | WOOD III J W |
| STRICKLAND KEVIN | THOMPSON LULA | VANHOOSE TOM D | WEHMAYER JOHN D | WOODALL CONNIE J |
| STRIKE AXE OIL & GAS CORPO- RATION | THOMPSON DAN J | VANN HAZEL | WEINTRAUB DAVID | WOODS SETH |
| STRITZKE KENNY | THOMPSON BRENDA | VAUGH FRANK | WELCH CHARLES V | WOOLERY DAN |
| STRITZKE JERRY | THOMPSON AUDY L | VAUGHAN GARY | WELLS KATHRYN S | WORKMAN BOBBY L |
| STRONG WILLIAM S | THORNBRUGH W H | VAUGHN A C | WELLS DALE R | WORLEY EARL R |
| STRUCTURAL DESIGNS | THORNTON TODD S | VAVERKA DON | WENDT VICCI R | WORLEY DARYL L |
| STUBBLEFIELD M F | THRASHER ROBERT W | VIAL JAMES | WENTWORTH A R | WRIGHT ROGER |
| STUCKENBERG JIM | THURMAN JAMES R | VICTOR FEDERAL SAVINGS | WERTS BETTY J | WRIGHT LYNNE A |
| STUCKS JAMES M | THURMAN JACK C | VILLARREAL CAROL | WESSELL MARK | WRIGHT JOHN T |
| STULTS EDWARD | THURMAN GARY | VINSON RON E | WEST C L | WRIGHT J R |
| | TIPTON JERRY A | VINSON R A | WESTBROOK B R | WYNN MARK |
| | | | WESTMORELAND DAVID A | WYRE LEONA |
| | | | WHEAT ROBERT | YAGER KENNETH L |
| | | | WHEATLEY J N | YAIR MASHIAH |
| | | | WHISENHUNT DARWIN | YARBROUGH KAREN |
| | | | WHITAKER RANDY R | YEAGER RICK |
| | | | WHITE MARY J | YORK GEORGE |
| | | | WHITE HERMAN L | YOUNG VICKIE |
| | | | WHITE JR RAYMOND A | YOUNG ROGER |
| | | | WHITLOCK LINDA | YOUNG PAUL A |
| | | | WIGGS GLENNIS V | YOUNG LUCIEN |
| | | | WILEMON HELEN E | YOUNG JASPER |
| | | | WILES PAT | YOUNGER KIM |
| | | | WILKERSON LORENE | YOUNGER BETTY C |
| | | | WILKERSON JAMES M | YOUNT JOHN W |
| | | | WILKINS & SOWERS | YUST DENIS |
| | | | WILLIAMS SANDRA | ZINN JUDY |
| | | | WILLIAMS RICHARD L | ZUMWALT MARK E |
| | | | WILLIAMS LEON | |
| | | | WILLIAMS LARRY | |
| | | | WILLIAMS KIRK M | |
| | | | WILLIAMS BRITT | |
| | | | WILLIAMS BETTY J | |
| | | | WILLIAMS BERNEICE | |
| | | | WILLIAMS AMOUS | |
| | | | WILLIAMS JR CHESTER | |
| | | | WILLS MIKE | |
| | | | WILMATH ARLENE | |
| | | | WILSON WARREN | |
| | | | WILSON MIKE | |
| | | | WILSON JANICE | |
| | | | WILSON HAL E | |
| | | | WILSON GREGORY | |
| | | | WILSON FRED | |
| | | | WILSON DELORES | |
| | | | WINFREY RICHARD L | |
| | | | WINKLE DEAN VAN | |
| | | | WINN WILLIAM W | |
| | | | WINSSELL MICHAEL W | |
| | | | WISELY STEVE | |
| | | | WITWER LARRY J | |
| | | | WOOD ROSALEE | |
| | | | WOOD ROBERT | |
| | | | WOOD PATSY R | |



DID YOU KNOW?



[HTTPS://WWW.VVEC.COM/
CAPITAL-CREDITS](https://www.vvec.com/capital-credits)

YOU CAN SEARCH FOR LOST MEMBERS ON OUR WEBSITE!

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| SUBURBAN TULSA | TIRY JACK | VOGT ROY F | WILKINS & SOWERS |
| CABLE | TOBEY WENDELL | WAGNER STEPHEN | WILLIAMS SANDRA |
| SUMMITT KAREN | TODAYS OAK CREEK HOMES | WAGNER DAVID | WILLIAMS RICHARD L |
| SUMTER SETH | TOLIVER JUDY | WAHNEE JIM C | WILLIAMS LEON |
| SUMTER KENNETH | TOMLINSON WILLIAM | WAID DEE | WILLIAMS LARRY |
| SUMTER CHARLES M | TOOFAN MASOUD | WALKER SHANNON | WILLIAMS KIRK M |
| SUPERIOR FEDERAL BANK | TOPPING WALTER | WALKER RAYMOND L | WILLIAMS BRITT |
| FSB | TOWNLEY EDDIE | WALKER M E | WILLIAMS BETTY J |
| SURGUY DAVID N | TRAILOR RL | WALKINGSTICK | WILLIAMS BERNEICE |
| SUTHERLAND C E | TRANHAM KEVIN | DORENE | WILLIAMS AMOUS |
| SUTTERFIELD TOM | TRAXSON OIL | WALLACE WADE | WILLIAMS JR CHESTER |
| SWEENEY J E | PROPERTIES | WALLACE MIKE | WILLS MIKE |
| SWIFT CARL E | TRIANGLE MANUFACTURING | WALLIS R C | WILMATH ARLENE |
| SWIM MARVIN | TRI-D OIL COMPANY | WALTERS EDWARD | WILSON WARREN |
| SWINFORD LEON | TRIMBLE MARIE | WALTON WILLIAM L | WILSON MIKE |
| SWITZNER BEN | TRIPLE E OIL | WALTON KATHY | WILSON JANICE |
| TAGUE DONALD | TROTTER CARL | WALTON JOHN | WILSON HAL E |
| TATE THOMAS W | TRUST WILMA MCDANIEL | WALTON J T | WILSON GREGORY |
| TATE M T | TUCKER TIMOTHY L | WARCO ENTERPRISES | WILSON FRED |
| TATE EDNA | TUCKER J E | WARD GARY | WILSON DELORES |
| TAYLOR RONALD L | TURNER TERRY | WARD BECKY | WINFREY RICHARD L |
| TAYLOR GARY B | TURNER LESLEY | WARDEN ARNOLD | WINKLE DEAN VAN |
| TECAM MANAGEMENT | ULLRICH STEVE C | WARFORD CARLA | WINN WILLIAM W |
| TEMPLETON CLIFFORD | ULLRICH SANDY J | WARNER K D | WINSSELL MICHAEL W |
| TENNYSON WALTER W | U-NAME-IT-TRAILERS | WASHINGTON SHERRI | WISELY STEVE |
| TERRY JOHN C | UNDERWOOD DOROTHY K | WASHINGTON BILLY V | WITWER LARRY J |
| TERRY J B | UNION BANK & TRUST | WASHOM RONNIE | WOOD ROSALEE |
| THE PRODUCTION TEAM | UPKY PATRICK K | WASSOM SAM | WOOD ROBERT |
| THOMAS WARREN M | USSERY B L | WATTERS TRICIA | WOOD PATSY R |



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VVEC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Megan Jackson

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APRIL 2026

VOLUME 85 | NUMBER 4

8 | LINE LIFE

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
- Ford New Holland Hay Rake; 1988 model 256; \$1875. Would consider trade. Call or text for more info or pictures. 918-231-6385
- 18' Buck Dandy Car Hauler. Good wood bed, matching tires and wheels, toolbox and lock. Call or text for more info or pictures. 918-231-6385
- Digital photo organizing, home movie conversions (VHS, Hi-8, 8mm, mini DVD, etc), and photo scanning. Preserve your most meaningful moments. 918-948-4771.
- 10 ft 3 pt Harrow \$500
- 3 pt. Rear Hay Spike HD; \$150. 918-640-7639
- Motor Home - 26', 11,900 miles 2020 Jayco Alante; 2 slides, outside TB, electric awning; Like New. \$75,000. 918-906-0113
- 4 Poster Bed Frame; solid wood, king size, headboard and foot board. Good condition \$300. 918-906-0113
- LG Dishwasher - Like New
- Hay 4' x 6' net wrap \$30 per bale
- Walker Zero turn lawn mower 27 HP 61" cut
- Reese Hay Mower 8' cut - 3 pt.
- 9 Wheel inline hay rake
- 1930 Prosperity gas cookstove
- Kubota RTV 1140 side by side; 2 seater 918-255-6508
- NH H7230 Diskbine 10ft 4 inch cut; NH BR 7070 baler with monitor; 8 Wheel hay rake; all barn kept, very low hours. \$42,000 for all. 918-640-7639



APRIL MYSTERY PICTURE

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

March Mystery Location:

Tin Horn Tunnel under railroad to Yonkipin Lake off Highway 66