




A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
101 Main, P.O. Box 230, Scott City, KS 67871  
620-872-5885  
www.weci.net

## WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# NEWS

### Wheatland Electric Co-op Inc.

#### Board of Trustees

**Mark Arnold**

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**Katie Eisenhour**

Vice President

**Josh Young**

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Secretary

**Wes Campbell**

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Trustee

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Trustee

**Dustin Stansbury**

Trustee

**John Sullivan**

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Trustee

#### District Offices

**Garden City — 620-275-0261**

2005 W. Fulton, P.O. Box 973  
Garden City, KS 67846

**Great Bend — 620-793-4223**

200 10th St., P.O. Box 1446  
Great Bend, KS 67530

**Harper — 620-896-7090**

906 Central, P.O. Box 247  
Harper, KS 67058

**Leoti — 620-375-2632**

101 W. F St., P.O. Box 966  
Leoti, KS 67861

**Scott City-Main — 620-872-5885**

101 S. Main St., P.O. Box 230  
Scott City, KS 67871

**Syracuse — 620-384-5171**

206 N. Main  
P.O. Box 1010  
Syracuse, KS 67878

**Tribune — 620-376-4231**

310 Broadway  
P.O. Box 490  
Tribune, KS 67879

### FROM THE MANAGER

## Protect Yourself: Know the Signs of a Scam

It's no secret that consumers with a water, gas or electricity connection have long been targets for utility scams. However, fraudsters have changed their tactics since the COVID-19 pandemic and become more and more sophisticated. As consumers became more reliant on technology for work, school and commerce, scammers noted these shifts and adapted their tactics to this changed environment.

In fact, imposter scams are the number one type of fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission. While scam artists may come to your door posing as a utility worker who works for the "power company," in today's more connected world, chances are that attempts are more likely to come through an electronic device, via email, phone or text.

### Common Types of Scams

At Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc., we field calls weekly, if not daily, from our members about suspicious phone calls. We appreciate our cooperative membership reaching out to inform us

when these calls come in, and we do our best to try and notify members through social media, our website, and here in the *Kansas Country Living* regarding how to protect yourself and your loved ones from becoming victims.

Most recently, we've received numerous tips from our members that scammers are calling, falsely claiming that they have been overcharged on their bills and that they can be issued a refund.

It sounds easy. Scammers will tell you that all you have to do is click or press a button to initiate the process. And if you proceed, you will be prompted to provide banking or other personal information. However, instead of the money going into your bank account, the scammers can drain your account and use personal information such as a social security number for identity theft.

**IT'S A SCAM. DON'T BECOME A VICTIM!** If you or someone you know receives a call like this, simply hang

*Continued on page 12G ▶*



**Bruce W. Mueller**

## SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Wear a wide-brimmed hat, sun block and light-colored, loose-fitting clothes when outdoors. At first signs of heat illness (dizziness, nausea, headaches, muscle cramps) move to a cooler location, rest for a few minutes and slowly drink a cool beverage. Seek medical attention immediately if you do not feel better.



# Energy Smart Rebates for Energy Smart Choices

## Rebate Program Eligibility

- ▶ Participants in our rebate programs must be a WEC residential member or WEC landlord revert in good standing. (Dealers may not participate.)
- ▶ Installation site must be an existing single-family home (new construction is not eligible).
- ▶ Installation site must be located within WEC's service area and receive electric service from WEC.
- ▶ Purchase/installation is for new equipment only.
- ▶ Participant must complete and submit appropriate rebate application(s) within deadlines.
- ▶ Participant or residential site may not receive more than \$1,500 in rebates in any given rebate year.
- ▶ Other criteria as outlined for specific rebates.
- ▶ Rebate year/program is based on date application is received.
- ▶ Rebates are only available while funds last.

Smart energy choices make a home more comfortable and power bills more affordable

That's why at Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc., we're offering a new slate of revamped rebates for our residential members, to help you make your existing homes more energy efficient — and put a little money back in your pocket!

Check out all our new and updated rebate programs below and visit our website ([www.weci.net/rebates](http://www.weci.net/rebates)) for additional details or to download a rebate application today.

### HVAC System

WEC is offering an HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system rebate in the amount of \$200 per unit, with a minimum Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) of 14.5 or higher.

Both gas and electric units are eligible, although window units are not, and members are limited to two rebates per installation site per year.

Installation must be performed by a licensed HVAC contractor who is responsible for obtaining proper

permits and meeting all required local code requirements.

### Heat Pumps

A heat pump is an energy-efficient alternative to other types of home heating systems, such as a natural gas furnace or electric baseboards. Unlike HVAC systems, heat pumps use electricity to move heat from one place to another, efficiently heating and cooling your home year-round.

That's because in the winter, heat pumps pull warm air from outside and moves it indoors to heat your home. And in the summer, they act like an air conditioner by moving warm air outside while circulating cool air inside your home.

WEC is offering a \$50 per half ton rebate available for the installation of a heat pump with a SEER of 14.5 or higher. As with our HVAC rebate, installation must be performed by a licensed contractor who is responsible for obtaining proper permits and meeting all local code requirements.

### Electric Water Heaters

WEC is offering a \$100 per unit rebate for both lifetime and non-lifetime electric water heaters of 40-gallon capacity (or larger) with a minimum Energy Factor (EF) of 0.9.

Installation must be performed by a licensed contractor who is responsible for obtaining proper permits and meeting all local code requirements.

Gas, thermal and tankless water heaters are not eligible for this rebate, and members are limited to two rebates per installation site per year.

### Radiant Floor Heating

Members can apply for a rebate for installation of an electric radiant flooring system in the amount of \$3 per square foot (up to \$500 per system). A minimum of 50 square feet is required for rebate eligibility.

Licensed contractors are responsible for obtaining proper permits for equipment installation and ensuring that all local code requirements are satisfied.

Members are limited to one rebate per

installation site per year, and the rebate may not exceed the cost of the system or installation. Water systems are not eligible for the rebate.

### New Electric Vehicles

WEC is offering a \$250 rebate for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle (BEV) or \$150 rebate for purchase of a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV).

The primary charging location of the vehicle must be within WEC's service territory, and the vehicle must use a mobile charging cord with a 220-volt outlet or a Level 2 charging wall-mounted system.

### Smart Thermostats

WEC is offering a rebate on the purchase of a new advanced programmable thermostat with Wi-Fi capability.

The rebate can cover up to 50% of the thermostat's cost up to \$25 per unit. Members are limited to two rebates per installation site per year.





# INTRODUCING YOUR

One of our top priorities at Wheatland Electric is to find new ways to better serve our consumer-members. WEC has re-designed our bills to give our members more information about their electrical usage and accounts. The bill will provide a detailed explanation of charges along with a message center that will contain important messages from WEC. This new design goes into effect in August, and we hope it empowers our consumer-members with more information to monitor usage and explore cost-saving opportunities. Check out all the features of our new bill below!



## Customer Service

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST  
Toll Free Pay-By-Phone: 1-844-262-2417  
Billing Inquiries: 620-275-0261  
Web: www.weci.net

## Message Center

Our 4th Annual Co-ops Care Charity Golf Tournament will be held Friday, September 16, 2022 at Southwind in Garden City, KS. We hope to see you again at this charity event with a kickoff event for Cram the Van!

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** Summarizes total amount or budget amount due. AutoPay will be indicated if the member is enrolled.

## MEMBER NAME

JOHN A DOE

JANE B DOE

Bill Date:

01/01/2022

Account Number:

999999999

Page:

**ACCOUNT INFORMATION:**  
Your account number, name, service description, bill date and billing period.

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE**  
**\$203.90**

Due Date  
02/01/2022

## MESSAGES:

Messages directly related to your account or service. Also features information on co-op programs and events.



## Billing Summary

Balance From Last Billing \$173.7  
Payment Received - Thank you! -\$173.7

## Service Summary

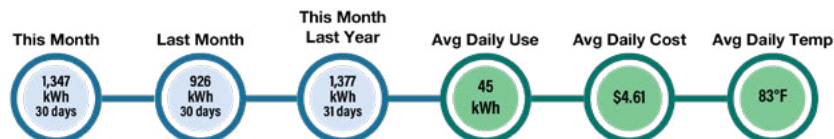
Electric \$203.9  
Current Charges Due By 02/01/2022 5:00 PM CST \$203.9

**BILLING SUMMARY:**  
Information about past payments, current and total charges. Includes any activity since your last statement.

## ENERGY USAGE COMPARISON:

Displays the amount of energy used during the current billing period compared to the same billing period last year.

## Energy Usage Comparison



**KEEP** Please do not staple or paperclip payment.

**SEND**



2005 WEST FULTON  
PO BOX 973  
GARDEN CITY KS 67846-0973

Account Number

999999999

Total Amount Due

\$203.90

Please pay by 02/01/2022 5:00 PM CST

\$3.89 penalty applied if paid after 02/01/2022 5:00 PM CST

**PAYMENT STUB:**  
If mailing your payment, detach this section and mail it with your check. The payment stub can also be used to pay at automated kiosks.

1 1 SP 0.470  
JOHN DOE  
1175 Elm Street  
Scott City KS 67871

C-1 P-1 5 1  
##  
##  
##

WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
200 10TH STREET  
P.O. BOX 1446  
GREAT BEND KS 67530-1446



Kiosk



Amount Paid

\$

# NEW BILL

**METER INFORMATION:** This area displays the meter number, rate, service address, reading dates, number of days, readings and usage for the current billing period.

**kW DEMAND:** Demand is the rate at which a member uses electric energy. Wheatland Electric does not currently charge for kW demand on residential accounts, but this line item will be added to future residential bills.

Account Number: 999999999			Rate: 203-Small Commercial (Rural) (W)			Service Address: 1234 N MAIN ST			
Meter	Location	Billing Period From	To	Days	Readings Previous	Present	Meter Multiplier	kWh Usage	kW Demand
07-102	123456	03/31/20	04/15/20	15	82051	84381	1.0	2330	7.2

**SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGE:** A fixed monthly charge designed to recover the costs of providing equipment, materials, labor and business overhead necessary to serve each meter, regardless of the amount of electricity (kWh) consumed. These fixed costs are the same for a member using 10 kWh or 5,000 kWh.

**ENERGY CHARGE:** The total energy used over that billing period measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) multiplied by the per kWh rate.

**PROPERTY TAX SURCHARGE:** Passed through to members and includes charges in the property taxes paid by WEC. It too is being restated so that the factor will become smaller, and this difference is moved into rates. And as is the case with the PCA, there is no difference to the total bill paid by the member because of this change.

**POWER COST ADJUSTMENT (PCA):** A rate mechanism electric utilities use to recover fluctuating purchased power costs. The PCA fluctuates monthly and serves as a pass-through charge (or credit) related to the cost of producing electricity.

Service Availability Charge		25.50
Energy Charge	573.0 kWhs @ \$0.100095	57.35
Power Cost Adjustment		
Winter Weather Event PCA		
Property Tax Surcharge	@ 1.5%	0.37
City Tax	@ 1.5%	1.05
Franchise Fee	@ 1.5%	5.00
County Tax	@ 1.5%	1.05
<b>Current Charges</b>		<b>203.90</b>

## Monthly Energy Use



## Sign Up Today for smart hub

- Paperless Billing**  
Save time, money and trees — go paperless!
- Energy Use Data**  
Track your monthly usage.
- Outage Information**  
To report an outage call 802-228-3721.
- Address and phone number changes**  
New address or phone number? SmartHub makes updates easy. You can also call 1-802-228-7766 or email customerservice@ludlowelectric.com.

## Help Us Keep Your Contact Information Current

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Update to change service address, contact our office.

## Other Ways to Pay Your Bill



**Online**  
Pay your bill at  
weci.net



**Phone**  
Call 844-262-2417  
for Secure Pay



**Mobile App**  
Download the SmartHub app  
on iTunes or Google Play Store



**In Person**  
Visit one of our  
7 local offices

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Help us keep your contact information current. Detach this section and mail it with your check.



**USAGE/TEMPERATURE GRAPH:** Displays monthly energy use for the billing period compared to average monthly temperatures. The greater the difference between the outside temperature and inside thermostat setting, the greater amount of energy used by the HVAC system — even if you do not adjust the thermostat.

**SMARTHUB:** Take control of your electric account!

- Check your usage daily.
- Pay your bill anywhere and at any time.
- Compare your usage month-to-month or year-to-year.
- View graphs showing how the weather affects usage.



## Wheatland Electric Announces Renewal of Sharing Success with \$10,000 Matching Contribution

Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. is proud to announce that we are once again renewing our **SHARING SUCCESS** program, a grant-giving initiative, in partnership with CoBank and the Scott Community Foundation.

As in years past, Wheatland Electric and CoBank have each contributed \$10,000 this year to the fund, meaning \$20,000 in grant funds is available for deserving community organizations across our service territory.

To date, our cooperative has awarded individual grants in the amount of \$1,000 to many non-profit and community-oriented organizations across southwest and central Kansas for community-based projects. A total of **\$125,000 HAS BEEN AWARDED TO DATE** over the past decade.

The Scott Community Foundation

began formally accepting applications for grants from the Wheatland Electric Sharing Success Fund from non-profit organizations on Dec. 1, 2012. The program will continue to run until the funds are exhausted.

"The Sharing Success program allows us to give back to the communities we serve," said Wheatland's CEO/General Manager Bruce W. Mueller. "We're excited to continue partnering with CoBank and the Scott Community Foundation."

Community organizations interested in receiving funding from the Wheatland Electric Sharing Success Fund can apply online at <https://www.weci.net/sharing-success-program>. Questions should be referred to Alli Conine, director of member services and corporate communications, at 620-874-4563 or [aconine@weci.net](mailto:aconine@weci.net).



Alli Conine, director of member services and corporate communications (left), presents a \$20,000 check to representatives of the Scott Community Foundation on June 10, 2022.

# Ride+Drive

100% ELECTRIC  
100% POWERED BY  
YOUR CO-OP

**WHEATLAND ELECTRIC**  
Driving Energy for all

100% ELECTRIC POWERED  
BY YOUR CO-OP

**Come TEST DRIVE our ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLE at any one of these SUMMER events!**

	<b>07.23.22 DEERFIELD</b> <i>Deerfield Summer Celebration</i>	On Main Street immediately following 10 AM parade to 12:30 PM
	<b>07.27.22 GARDEN CITY</b> <i>GC Wind Baseball Game</i>	At Clint Lightner Field, 706 E Maple from 6:30 to 8 PM
	<b>08.20.22 SCOTT CITY</b> <i>Lake Scott Rod Run &amp; Car Show</i>	At Patton Park, 1200 S. Main from 10 AM to 12 PM

## Protect Yourself: Know the Signs of a Scam *Continued from page 12A* ▶

up and block the phone number, if possible, to avoid future robocalls.

If you're at all concerned about your account, you can call your local WEC office directly after hanging up. Our phone number can be found on your monthly bill and on our website (**WWW.WECI.NET**), and a list of our local office numbers is available on Page 12A.

If the scam is by email (known as a "phishing" attempt), or by text ("smishing"), do not click any links. Instead, delete it, and if possible, block the sender. Remember, when in doubt, you can always contact us directly before taking any action.

Typically, scammers claim that you're overdue on your electric bill and threaten disconnection if you don't pay immediately. Whether this is done in-person, by phone, text or email, the scammers want to scare you into immediate payment so you don't have time think clearly.

I can assure you our team at **WEC WILL NEVER** call you directly asking for payment. In the event of a delinquency, notices are made **ONLY BY MAIL OR EMAIL** (if you're signed up through SmartHub).

As always, be wary of call or texts from unknown numbers. Be suspicious of an unknown person claiming to be a utility worker who requests banking or other personal information. And never let anyone into your home that you don't know unless you have a scheduled appointment or have reported a problem.

At WEC, we want to help protect our community against utility scams, and you can help create the first line

of defense. Please report any potential scams to us so we can spread the word to prevent others in the community from falling victim.

### Revamped Rebate Program

As a proponent of efficient energy use and energy savings, we have offered rebates and incentives for members to improve and update their home heating and cooling systems for many years.

Most recently, we've revamped our member rebate programs for these types of systems and added additional incentives for members like you who are interested in investing in programmable thermostats, electric radiant floor heating, and electric vehicles.

Learn more about our new and exciting rebate services and how you can take advantage of these offers on Page 12B-C and put a little money back in your pocket for being energy smart. Applications for these rebates are available on our website and at local WEC offices.

### New Design for Your Electric Bill

If you receive a hardcopy of your electric bill, you will notice that starting this August our bill has a new look! The new paper still has all the same important information — we've just redesigned it to make it easier to read and understand your electric usage.

Check out the new features of our revamped bill design on Page 12D-E. As always, you can still pay your electric bill by phone, by mail, with your credit card or auto-pay, via SmartHub, or in person at any of our WEC locations.

**UNTIL NEXT TIME, TAKE CARE.**

## Wheatland Trustees Appoint New Officers

The Wheatland Board of Trustees has appointed a new president and treasurer and renewed appointments for its vice president and secretary.

**MARK ARNOLD**, director of the Stock Exchange Bank in Caldwell who represents WEC's District 7 territory, was appointed board president by fellow trustees at the May 31 board meeting in Great Bend.

District 7 represents territory of southcentral Kansas across Kingman, Harper, Sumner and Sedgwick counties and was acquired following the 2007 Aquila purchase.

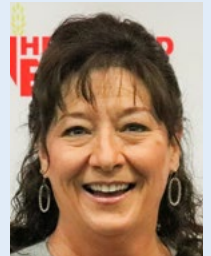
In addition, trustees voted to appoint **JOSH YOUNG**, senior vice president with Security State Bank in Leoti, as the board's new treasurer, an executive position held previously by Arnold. Young represents District 2, which comprises primarily Wichita County.

In addition, trustees voted to renew appointments for **KATIE EISENHOUR**, District 1, as vice president, and **STACEY ADDISON-HOWLAND**, District 4, as secretary of the board. District 1 encompasses western Scott County and District 4 comprises most of Hamilton County and western Kearny County.

Executive officers on the board hold their positions for four-year terms. For more information, visit [www.weci.net/board-trustees](http://www.weci.net/board-trustees).



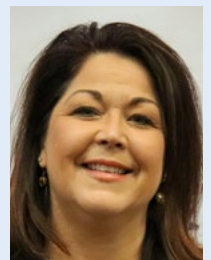
Mark Arnold



Katie Eisenhower



Josh Young



Stacey Addison-Howland





4TH  
ANNUAL

# Co-ops Care

CHARITY  
GOLF

TOURNAMENT

*Hosted by:*



REGISTER  
NOW

[www.weci.net/coops-care](http://www.weci.net/coops-care)

*Questions?*

620-874-4563  
ACONINE@WECI.NET

4-MAN  
SCRAMBLE  
\$100/PLAYER  
\$400/TEAM

8 AM  
REGISTRATION

9 AM  
SHOTGUN START

Sept. 16, 2022

*Golf Club at Southwind  
Garden City, KS*

BENEFITING

