

# the Kilowatt

JULY 2012

published monthly for members of  
Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A SUPPLEMENT TO OKLAHOMA LIVING

## Save the date!

Join us for the Kiwash Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on August 16, 2012. Cash prizes, prize drawings and live music make it fun for the whole family. Watch your newsletter for more details, and make plans to attend.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### Tip of the Month

Water heating ranks as one of the top three energy-related expenses in your home. Save energy and money by installing a water heater blanket, using low-flow showerheads and faucets, and lowering the thermostat on your water heater to 120°F. Learn more at [EnergySavers.gov](http://EnergySavers.gov).

—US DEPT OF ENERGY



## BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Kiwash Electric  
120 W. 1st Street  
Cordell, Oklahoma

Pay online:  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

Custer City Hall  
Custer City, Oklahoma

First National Bank  
Thomas, Oklahoma

# It's election time for Kiwash Electric

## Districts 3, 4 and 5 to vote on cooperative trustees

It's election time across the country—and in Kiwash Electric Cooperative territory, too. This year, members in Kiwash Electric Districts 3, 4 and 5 will meet to elect their cooperative trustee. If you live in one of these districts, you will receive an official meeting notice in the mail (or refer to the map on the right).

The Kiwash Electric Cooperative system is divided into seven districts. Each district is represented by a locally elected trustee. Through local ownership and democratic control, your co-op remains focused on what's best for local members. All Touchstone Energy Cooperatives abide by these principles.

Any member living within the designated districts may run for the position of trustee, however, candidates must meet certain qualifications. If you are interested in running, please request a bylaw booklet from Kiwash Electric prior to your district meeting date, and be sure to attend the meeting. An excerpt from the bylaws is printed on page 3.

A quorum must be present at each district meeting to hold an election. If no quorum is present, the current board of directors will appoint a suitable candidate. Please make plans to attend!



### ■ DISTRICT 3

The District 3 meeting will be held on Monday, July 23 at 7 pm at Kiwash Electric Cooperative in Cordell. Members in District 3 are represented by Jack Sawatzky. Jack was appointed trustee in August 2004. He and his wife Karen reside on a farm north of Cordell.



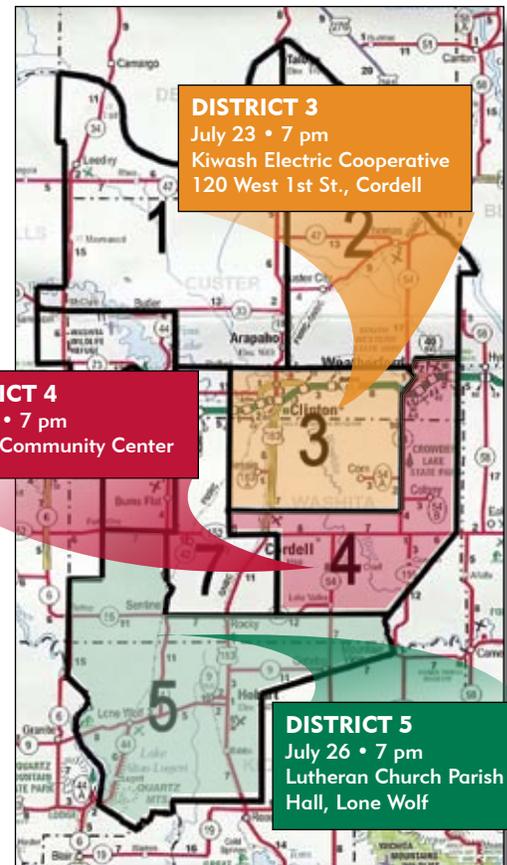
### ■ DISTRICT 4

Members in District 4 will meet at 7 pm on Tuesday, July 24 at Community Center in Colony. Virginia Walker represents members in District 4. Virginia was appointed trustee in May 2000. Virginia and her husband Paul live northeast edge of Cordell, where they have lived since 1964.



### ■ DISTRICT 5

District 5 members will meet at 7 pm on Thursday, July 26 at the Lutheran Church Parish Hall in Lone Wolf. John Schaufele represents members in District 5. He has served as a trustee since September 2008. John and his wife Beverly live east of Lone Wolf.



#### DISTRICT 3

July 23 • 7 pm  
Kiwash Electric Cooperative  
120 West 1st St., Cordell

#### DISTRICT 4

July 24 • 7 pm  
Colony Community Center

#### DISTRICT 5

July 26 • 7 pm  
Lutheran Church Parish  
Hall, Lone Wolf



A Touchstone Energy  
Cooperative

KIWASH ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

*Providing the service  
that lights up your life.*

**Office Location**

PO Box 100  
120 W. 1st Street  
Cordell, Oklahoma

(888) 832-3362  
[www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop)

 Find us  
on Facebook

**STAFF**

Dennis Krueger  
MANAGER

Gene Smith  
DIRECTOR OF  
FINANCE

Lisa Willard  
DIRECTOR OF  
COMMUNICATIONS

Roy Dewees  
DIRECTOR OF  
OPERATIONS

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OFFICERS**

Jack Sawatzky  
PRESIDENT

Robert Travis  
VICE PRESIDENT

Virginia Walker  
SEC.-TREASURER

John Schaufele  
ASST. SEC.-TREASURER

**DIRECTORS**

Ralph Cunningham  
Leslie Hinds  
Rex Eagan

INSIDE YOUR CO-OP



**By Dennis Krueger**  
GENERAL MANAGER

# Making hay? Don't let it spark a fire.

## Easement rule protects public from arcs and sparks.

**B**ig round bales of hay are a sure sign that summer is here.

While the abundance of hay this year is a welcome sight, it's important that hay bales are kept away from electric lines.

Lightning storms, farm equipment and varmints have been known to spark power lines causing an arc that can quickly torch hay bales that are located in the utility easement.

It is the every member's responsibility to honor the utility easement (normally 10 feet each side of the pole) and protect their property from potential fire problems. Kiwash Electric Cooperative is not responsible for hay bale damage within the easement.

**The 10 Foot Rule**

The 10 foot rule refers to the distance extending ten feet in every direction from any power line. It's the distance you should observe when you're working outdoors with equipment or machinery such as a crane, forklift, backhoe, dump truck, television antenna, drilling rig or skid loader. Keeping machinery, tools, and any other item you might be carrying at least 10 feet from power lines protects you from accidentally touching the line and fatally electrocuting yourself.



**Downed Power Lines**

*Stay away from downed power lines and poles! No matter how well Kiwash Electric Cooperative prepares, we cannot avoid occasional downed power lines.*

Weather conditions and car accidents are the main causes of downed power lines. If you come across a downed line or broken pole, please stay as far away from it as possible. Treat all downed wires as if they are "live" and have the potential to electrocute anyone close to them.

*Never attempt to touch or move a downed power line or remove trees from power lines. Remember even a "dead" line may be re-energized unexpectedly using automated equipment. All downed power lines*

and broken poles should be reported to Kiwash Electric Cooperative immediately.

**Water and Electricity Don't Mix**

It's a basic rule that bears repeating: Don't leave appliances plugged in where they might fall in contact with water. If a plugged-in appliance falls into water, NEVER attempt to retrieve the submerged appliance— even if it's turned off. First turn off the power source at the panel board, and then unplug the appliance. If you have an appliance that has gotten wet, don't use it until it has been checked by a qualified repair person.

Have a great summer, and please stay safe!

CO-OP VALUE

# Make the switch to eBill!

**M**embers who use Kiwash Electric's eBill service appreciate the online advantages:



- The secure, password-protected billing site reduces your risk of identity theft. (A study of identity theft revealed that crooks' two favorite non-tech tactics involved rerouting mail and stealing mail out of mailboxes.)
- Less paper to keep, file and handle. With eBill you can see your past bills on demand, so you don't have to keep paper copies.
- Less wasted time for you—and the less energy your co-op and the U.S. Postal Service must spend in delivering paper bills.
- More information. With eBill, you can check your account status, current balance, payment due date, receipt of payment or review your billing history. You can also view and print your paper bill, and review a record of your cooperative capital credit refund.
- Faster bill delivery. eBill is available the same day your co-op posts it.
- More time to pay. Your eBill will tell you the due date, so you can make your payment that day without being late.
- More payment options. With eBill pay by electronic check, Visa and Mastercard, or debit card. Pay 24 hours a day, when it's convenient for you.
- Easy to use. Simply logon to [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop) and follow the "Pay your Bill Online" link. The link will carry you to eBill's secure online bill payment site. Register once and you can return to eBill at any time and access your account in seconds.

## Recipe Box

### Easy Potato Salad with Dill

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. red potatoes, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 2 sprigs chopped fresh dill, or to taste

- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cucumber, peeled, seeded, and finely chopped
- 4 green onions, sliced

DIRECTIONS

Place the potatoes into a large pot and cover with salted water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until tender, about 12 minutes. Drain and allow to steam dry while you prepare the dressing.

Whisk together the mayonnaise, apple cider vinegar, dill, salt, and pepper. Stir in the cucumber and green onions. Add the warm potatoes to the dressing and toss gently to coat with the dressing. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours before serving. Yield: 5 servings.



CO-OP YOUTH



## Teens return from Energy Camp

**A**lie Merkey and McKinsey Hines, both of Cordell, recently returned from the 2012 Youth Power Energy Camp, where they represented Kiwash Electric Cooperative.

Alie, daughter of Mark and Debi Merkey, and McKinsey, daughter of Carol Hines and Steve Hines, were among 79 outstanding eighth graders chosen from across the state to attend the four-day camp, which was held at Canyon Camp, just east of Hinton.

Both teens agreed the most exciting part of the trip was the visit to Celebration Station. They also enjoyed the ropes course and the dance.

While at the camp, the teens attended sessions on energy, electrical safety and rural electric careers. They also elected their own board of directors and operated a coke and candy cooperative. Other special activities included hands-on electrical demonstrations, pole-climbing and bucket truck rides, a ropes course, swimming, an energy battle tournament, and a trip to Celebration Station for video games and go-cart rides.

Youth Power Energy Camp is coordinated by the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives and Kiwash Electric Cooperative in Cordell. For more details, please visit [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop) or [www.oaec.coop](http://www.oaec.coop), or contact Lisa Willard at Kiwash Electric, **888-832-3362**.

## YOUR BUSINESS

## Co-op trustees must meet certain qualifications

Qualifications of a trustee, as listed in the Kiwash Electric Cooperative bylaws, Article IV, section 2, states that no person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who: (a) is not a member of the Cooperative and bona fide resident of the particular district which he is to represent; or (b) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the Cooperative; or (c) is the incumbent of or candidate for an elective public office in connection with which a salary or compensation in excess of one hundred dollars per annum is paid; or (d) is an employee of the Cooperative, or has been employed by the Cooperative and termination of his employment has been less than five years; or (e) is a close relative of an incumbent Trustee or an employee of the Cooperative. As used in these bylaws, "close relative" is defined as a person who is related to the principal person by consanguinity or affinity within the third degree, including but not necessarily limited to a person who is either a spouse, child, grandchild, great grandchild, parent, grandparent, great grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece, by blood or in-law of the principal; or (f) has been convicted or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony.

The procedure for nominating and electing trustees is outlined in Article III, Section 7, of the bylaws and states as follows: At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, not less than sixty days preceding each annual meeting of the members, the trustees shall fix a date which shall not be less than

fourteen or more than thirty days preceding the annual meeting of the members for the holding of a district meeting for the members residing therein in each of the nine districts for the purpose of electing by ballot by and from the members of each district a trustee to serve as a trustee of the Cooperative. The Board of Trustees shall call the meetings and cause notice of each district meeting to be mailed by the secretary to each member not less than ten days before the meeting, which call and notice shall indicate the district, which each member belongs. Each district meeting shall be called to order by the trustee, or in his absence, by any member residing within the District. The members shall then proceed to elect a chairman, who shall be someone other than a trustee, and a secretary, each to act for the duration of the meeting.

Each trustee shall serve for the period of time for which he is elected or until a successor shall have been elected and shall have qualified.

A quorum is five percent (5%) of fifteen members, whichever is the greater, of the members residing in the district present at such duly called district meetings. Members of other districts at the meeting may be heard, but shall have no vote.

Voting by Proxy shall not be permitted at such district meetings. The member in each voting district receiving the highest number of votes at the election held at such district meeting shall be elected a trustee of the Cooperative to take office immediately following the ensuing annual meeting of the members.



### in *Kiwash Country*

#### ■ JULY

- Weekly Hobart Farmer's Market, every Wednesday and Saturday at 8 am, through September.
- 4 Weatherford July 4 Celebration Rader Park, Weatherford. All day festival w/ fireworks at 9:30pm.
- 4 Independence Day. Kiwash Electric office closed for the holiday.
- 7 Clinton Country Jamboree Variety Show, 6:30 pm, I-40 and Custer City Exit, #71 on Custer Road. 580-323-6117 or 580-323-8153
- 18 Cordell Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, 7:15 am, Cordell Memorial Hospital
- 20 Quartz Mountain Music Festival Quartz Mountain Lodge, Lone Wolf 580-482-0210
- 21 Clinton Country Jamboree Variety Show, 6:30 pm, I-40 and Custer City Exit, #71 on Custer Road. 580-323-6117 or 580-323-8153
- 28 Crazy Days and Clinton Rodeo

#### ■ AUGUST

- 16 **Kiwash Electric Annual Meeting** Cordell High School Auditorium Prize drawings, cash prizes, live entertainment!

#### SUBMISSION DETAILS:

Kiwash Electric Cooperative promotes local festivals, rodeos, fairs and other events in our monthly newsletter, the *Kilowatt*. Calendar listings are free.



Please send details to: Lisa Willard, Kiwash Electric, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, or send e-mail to: [lwillard@kiwash.coop](mailto:lwillard@kiwash.coop). Please send event listings by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

If you have questions about submitting an event, or need to speak with a Kiwash representative about other matters, please call **888-832-3362**, or visit [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop).



Protect your property with a new

## SECURITY LIGHT AND GET CASH BACK!

Security lights from Kiwash Electric Cooperative operate automatically from dusk to dawn, casting a warm glow around your home, barns and buildings. Plus, Kiwash Electric offers a \$25 rebate for the first time installation of a 150-watt high pressure sodium security light. A \$40 rebate is available to members for a first time installation of a 200 to 400-watt high pressure sodium security light. Kiwash will maintain and replace the bulbs whenever necessary. Contact us today for more information. **888-832-3362** or visit [www.kiwash.coop](http://www.kiwash.coop).