



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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620-767-5144
www.flinthillsrec.com



FLINT HILLS
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**FLINT HILLS RURAL
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

Flint Hills RECA

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Shawn Potts
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James Witt
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Dale Andres
Trustee

Cary Granzow
Trustee

Trey Hinkson
Trustee

Terry Olsen
Trustee

Roger Zimmerman
Trustee

Staff

Chuck Goeckel
General Manager

Member Services

- ▶ Viasat Internet Services
- ▶ Online Payment Options
- ▶ Outside Security Lighting
- ▶ Power Surge Protection
- ▶ Rebate Programs

For more information, call us at 620-767-5144 or visit our website at www.flinthillsrec.com.

**This institution is an
equal opportunity
provider and employer.**

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

FROM OUR CO-OP FAMILY TO YOURS



*Wishing you a wonderful holiday season
from Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative!*

To celebrate the holidays and allow our employees time with family and friends, our office will be closed Dec. 25, Dec. 26, and Jan. 1.

For emergencies or outages, please call 620-767-5144.

APPLY FOR A
**TRIP OF A
LIFETIME**




JUNE 14-20, 2024
AN ALL-EXPENSES-PAID TRIP
TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHAT IS YOUTH TOUR?

An all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by your local electric co-op.

A week of visiting historic monuments, touring world-class museums and meeting elected officials.

An opportunity to develop lifelong friendships with delegates from across the country!

FIND OUT MORE



EMPOWER 
SAVE THE DATES!



JULY 12-18, 2024
★★★★ COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP ★★★★★



**•COLORADO•
Camp**

COMMUNITY | LEADERSHIP | MEMORIES
FIND OUT MORE



SPEAKERS
RIVER RAFTING

EXPLORE
STEAMBOAT
SPRINGS

COORDINATED BY  **KEC**
KANSAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, INC.
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

SPONSORED BY
YOUR LOCAL
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE

Students Invited to Apply for Leadership Opportunities

Flint Hills REC has a strong tradition of promoting youth leadership and that tradition will continue with two in-person leadership programs this summer.

Flint Hills REC will select two individuals and they will have their choice to attend one of two all-expenses-paid trips to either the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

The **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR** will be June 14-20, 2024. Students will join 1,700 youth from across the nation in Washington, D.C. They will see the monuments and other attractions, as well as visit Capitol Hill to learn more about how our government works. Those selected for this experience also can apply for the Kansas seat on a national youth leadership council.

The **COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP** will be held July 12-18, 2024, near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. High school students from electric cooperative communities in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming

“Seeing the nation’s memorials and monuments had a large impact on me, making me realize that this land has had a love of struggles for freedom.”

KARSEN KROUPA, 2023 YOUTH TOUR



participate in this leadership camp. Together, they will create a candy cooperative, hear from dynamic speakers, and raft down the Colorado River.

If you know of a student with strong leadership potential who is ready for new experiences, would like to network with other student leaders, and is

willing to learn more about themselves and their communities, encourage them to apply for these incredible leadership opportunities.

“All the people showing me I can meet new people and not be so nervous was inspiring to me.”

KARL ZIMMERMAN, 2023 CYLC

Ways to Apply

- ▶ **CALL** 620-767-5144
- ▶ **EMAIL** memberservices@flinthillsrec.com
- ▶ **VISIT** <https://flinthillsrec.com/youth-tour>

APPLY TODAY

<https://flinthillsrec.com/youth-tour>



2024 Nominating Committee Announced

The members listed below were appointed by the Flint Hills REC Board of Trustees to serve on the 2024 Nominating Committee.

Each of the district Nominating Committees are to propose two trustee candidates from their respective district. The Nominating Committee will receive a list of qualified members in their district, which will be of assistance in seeking nominations. District nominees will be voted on by the membership with a mail-in ballot that will be mailed to members the first week of March 2024.

Trustees whose terms will expire at the 2024 annual meeting are: **DALE ANDRES**, District 1; **JAMES WITT**, District 3; and **TERRY OLSEN**, District 4.

All Nominating Committee meetings will be held at the Flint Hills RECA offices 1564 S. 1000 Road, Council Grove on Thursday, Jan. 4, at 11:30 a.m.

Nominations for a qualified candidate may also be made by petition, filed at the Council Grove office on or before the close of business

on the fifteenth day following the nomination committee's selection of trustee nominees.

For more information on the cooperative's voting process, visit Article V in the member bylaws located on our website www.flinthillsrec.com.

2024 Flint Hills Nominating Committee

► DISTRICT 1:

DALE ANDRES, *Trustee (3 year term)*

- **CRAIG DIBBEN** – 785-238-2531
- **KAREN ERICHSEN** – 785-238-7562
- **CHARLES LONG** – 785-499-6670

► DISTRICT 3

JAMES WITT, *Trustee (3 year term)*

- **RICH BANDY** – 620-628-4566
- **BRIAN HELGESON** – 620-654-6107
- **FRANCIS JIRAK** – 785-965-7244

► DISTRICT 4

TERRY OLSEN, *Trustee (3 year term)*

- **TIM MISER** – 620-273-6283
- **JOEL SUDERMAN** – 620-382-4284
- **BRAD TALKINGTON** – 620-794-1896

THE IMPORTANCE OF RELIABILITY

American families and businesses expect the lights to stay on at a cost they can afford. But that's no longer a guarantee.



Nine states saw rolling blackouts in December 2022 as the **DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY EXCEEDED AVAILABLE SUPPLY.**

Electric cooperatives are working toward meaningful solutions to **ADDRESS THE RELIABILITY CHALLENGES** spreading across the nation. Policymakers should recognize that the electrification of the economy, disorderly retirement and insufficient replacement of existing generation, permitting challenges, supply chain shortages, and the availability of natural gas all **IMPACT THE RELIABILITY OF THE ELECTRIC GRID.**

SAFETY TIP

Individuals attempting to steal copper from electrical equipment can lose their lives over what they believe to be "easy" money. If you see suspicious activity, contact your local electric cooperative.



SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.COM

ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

Get smart with a better way to heat and cool your home! Smart thermostats are Wi-Fi enabled and automatically adjust heating and cooling temperature settings in your home for optimal performance. Smart thermostats learn your temperature preferences and establish a schedule that adjusts to energy-saving settings when you're asleep or away. For maximum energy savings, look for smart thermostat models with the Energy Star® label.

SOURCE: WWW.ENERGY.GOV



HOLIDAY EFFICIENCY WORD SEARCH

The holidays are a fun, festive time of year! With more people in our homes and more things to do, we typically use more electricity during the holiday season.

Read the holiday efficiency tips below, then find and circle the **bolded words** in the puzzle.



- ▶ Decorate your tree with energy-saving **LED lights**.
- ▶ Control home heating costs with a smart or programmable **thermostat**.
- ▶ Save energy by using a **timer** to turn off holiday lights when you're sleeping.
- ▶ If you have a **fireplace**, ask an adult to close the damper when a fire is not burning.
- ▶ Open blinds and curtains during the day to let **sunlight** in to warm your home.
- ▶ Lower the thermostat when you invite **friends** and **family** over. (The extra people in your home creates additional warmth.)