

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
 P.O. Box B
 1564 S. 1000 Rd., Council Grove, KS 66846
 620-767-5144
 www.flinthillsrec.com



FLINT HILLS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

Flint Hills RECA

Board of Trustees

Roger Zimmerman
President

James Witt
Vice President

Korby Effland
Secretary/Treasurer

Dale Andres
Trustee

Cary Granzow
Trustee

Trey Hinkson
Trustee

Terry Olsen
Trustee

Shawn Potts
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

FROM THE MANAGER

Tree Trimming Improves Service for All



Chuck Goeckel

One of the things I love best about our community is the natural beauty that surrounds us. We are fortunate to have so many trees that offer beauty, shade and a habitat for all sorts of birds and other wildlife. We know that you appreciate our community for many of the same reasons.

At Flint Hills REC, we strive to balance maintaining beautiful surroundings and ensuring a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in rights-of-way (ROW).

While we recognize and appreciate the beauty of trees, there are three

main benefits to tree trimming in ROW areas. However, before touching on the main reasons, let me explain what a “right-of-way” is and how it may impact you. A right-of-way is the land we use to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Rights-of-way enable the co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder the power line installation, maintenance or operation. ROW areas are typically on public lands or located near a business or home. Regardless, Flint Hills REC must be able to maintain the power lines above and below the ROW. The overall goal of our vegetation management program is to provide reliable power to our members while main-

Continued on page 16B ▶

2021 Board of Trustees Election Results

Thank you all for sending in your ballots to the 2021 board of trustees election. We normally announce the election results at the annual meeting.

The election results for 2021 board of trustees are as follows; **DALE ANDRES**, District 1, **JAMES WITT**, District 3, and **TERRY OLSEN**, District 4 were all re-elected. Also, all suggested bylaw changes were passed.



Dale Andres
District 1

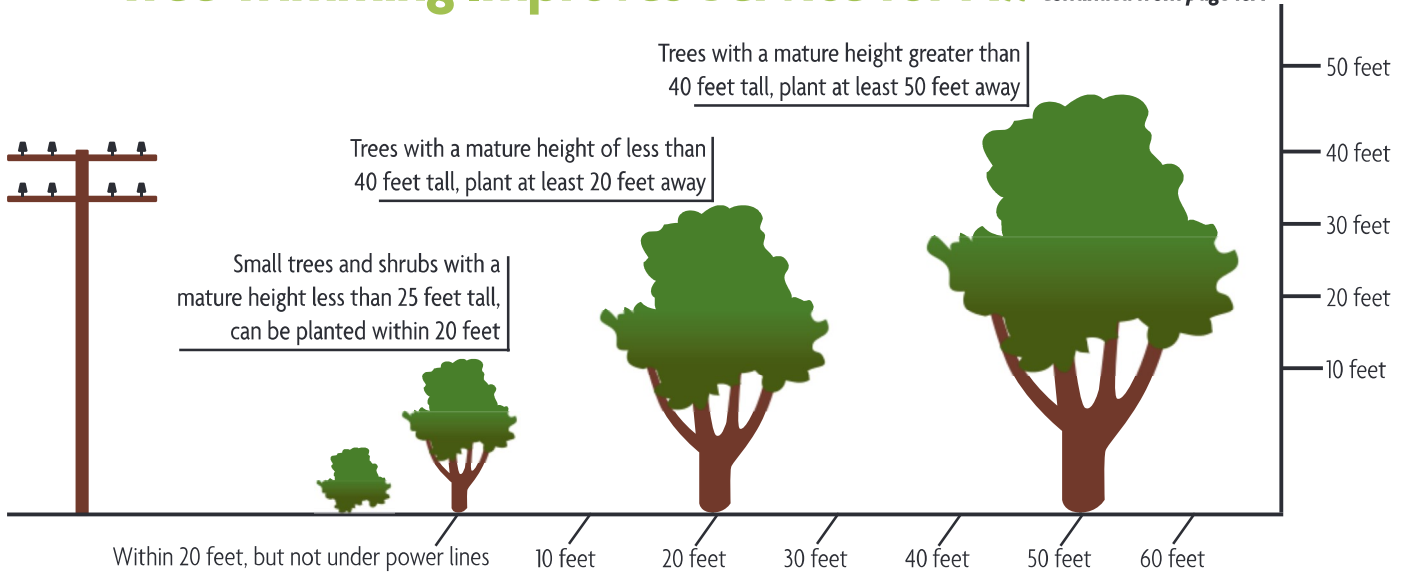


James Witt
District 3



Terry Olsen
District 4

Tree Trimming Improves Service for All Continued from page 16A ▶



taining the beauty of our community. Proactive vegetation management benefits co-op members in three tangible ways.

Safety

First and foremost, we care about our members and put their safety and that of our lineworkers above all else. Overgrown vegetation and trees pose a risk to power lines. For example, if trees are touching power lines in our members' yards, they can pose grave danger to families. If children can access those trees, they can potentially climb into a danger zone. Electricity can arc, or jump, from a power line to a nearby conductor like a tree. A proactive approach also diminishes the chances of fallen branches or trees during severe weather events that make it more complicated and dangerous for lineworkers to restore power.

We also want to ensure member safety by completing the tree trimming near power lines by using professional tree trimmers. Trimming tree limbs near power lines is a dangerous job and has many hazards. We do not want our members attempting to trim any limbs near power lines.

Reliability

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. Generally speaking, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Proactive trimming and pruning keeps lines clear to promote reliability.

Affordability

As you know, Flint Hills REC is a not-for-profit cooperative, and that means we strive to keep our costs in check to keep our rates affordable. This extends to our approach to vegetation management. If trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs also increases. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs down for everyone.

Our community is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid.

REMEMBER AND HONOR

MEMORIAL DAY

— ★ ★ ★ —

Our office will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day.

Help Us Locate Former Flint Hills REC Members

Flint Hills REC has former members listed below who have unclaimed capital credit refunds that were retired more than three years ago. If you know any of these former members, please have them call us at 620-767-5144. In accordance with the cooperative's bylaws, failure to claim the refunds within 60 days of notice will cause the total amount of the refund to be irrevocably gifted back to the cooperative. This list is also on www.flinthillsrec.com, which includes the city and state of the last known address listed on the cooperative's records.

JAMES C ADKINS	CATHIE M CORBIN	EDWIN K HOSKINS	DON PALMER	JOHN W SMULKA
ZITA P ALICEA	MARGARET L CORFMAN	BELLE HUBBARD	KEVIN PEAN	KENNETH P SOLOFF
EDWARD S ALLEN	LARRY R CORY	TANYA HUGGINS	MILTON A PENNER	JAMES SPEXARTH
KORENA ANDERSON	LOREN D COSAND	BERNARD L INGLE	LINDA PHILBRICK	L A SPRADLING
NANCY A AVERY	CHARLES W CRAMB	TED C IRWIN	JOHN D PHILLIPS	HENRY A SPROWLS
VERNE M AYERS	GARY CROWN	RONNIE JOHANNES	JOSEPH C PIERCE	GLORIA J STONEBURNER
THOMAS BALDWIN	BILL DALKE	LEOMA L JOHNSON	DEBBAROY P PITTS	JOHN C SWARTZ
EVELYN BARRETT	DONNA DAY	RUTH A JOHNSON	JAMES J POHLMAN	DAVID E SWEENEY
JAMES R BARRETT	TERRY DISET	DONNA JONES	TAUTU L POROTESANO	MICHAEL E TANNER
JERALD BAYLESS	PHILLIP DONATO	JANE E JONES	KATHLEEN M POTTER	WILLIAM TAYLOR
LINDA S BEHRENS	MARK P DONOGHUE	MARVIN KELLER	MISA L RAINBOLT	OTHEL THOMAS JR
LANITA S BENSON	STEPHEN D DORRIS	HARVEY J KENWORTHY	JOSEPH M RAPHAEL	JOHN K THOMPSON
ELRENA BERGMAN	MANDY K DOWNEY	LYLE A KOHLMEIER	PATRICIA REYNOLDS ESTATE	THEODORE M THOMPSON
ED BIEHLER	TERRY L DOYLE	LISA E LACEY	DONALD W RICHARDS	DONALD E THORNTON
TONY BLANCHARD	RUSSELL S DRONENBURG	JOHN F LAMAR	SEAN RILEY	JAY A TIPPIE
ANGELA R BLANCHETTE	GUSTAV DUERKSEN	WENZEL A LANDOWSKI	KEVIN E RISBY	GREGG R TOLIN
WILMONT E BOECKNER	AL ERTL	DONALD S LICHTENHAN	JENNIFER RISING	GERALD W TOMCZAK
MARGARETHA BOESKER	CARRIE L FAGAN	LLOYD J MARLOW	FRANK RIVERA	CHARLES B TRAVIS II
RICK BOWLING	EDMOND M FAULK	BRANDI D MARTIN	LESLEY A ROBERTSON	OLETA M ULM
STEVE L BOYCE	TERENCE S FEEZOR	GABRIELE J MAYNARD	JOHN L RODEN	KEITH L UNRUH
MICHAEL BOYER P	KENNETH E FETTERHOFF	CHARLES L MCCLELLAN	TRACI L RODGERS	MILTON W UNRUH
GENE L BREEDEN	FOOR PIPELINE CO INC	SHERYL D MCCRAVEY	LUZ MARIE RODRIGUEZ	JAMES UTECH
PAMELA BREESE	ORIN FOSTER	CHARLES M MCELWEE	RANDY S ROSS	VICTOR M VELEZ
ALLAN C BROWN	JOSEPH FOUSHEE	JENNIFER MCMICHAEL	STEVEN D ROUDYBUSH	CHERYL V VEREEN
JASON J BROWN	GLEN A FOXWORTHY	NEAL MCMILLAN	BEVERLY J SALLEE	VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
MELINDA K BROWN	FRANK JONES OIL	WILLIAM MCNISH	H W SANBORN	JAMES C WALKER
BONNIE S BUCKNER	JEAN D FRIEBUS	MARION MELSON	EULOGIO SANTOS JR	CLAY A WARD
DONALD L BUETHE	MARTIN FRIESEN EST	JACK T MEREDITH	JOHN W SCHAFER	JAY WARREN & CO
BULLARD RONALD J	CLIFFORD D FRITZ	JASON L METCALF	WILLARD J SCHMIDT	FREDA B WAYMAN
MARVIN BUSICK	RONALD L FRYE	AARON A MILLER	RON R SCHUTKESTING	JAMES A WEBB
DAVID S CAILLOUET	PAMELA J GOODIN	SEAN D MILLER	NORMAN L SCHWATKEN	DEANA R WHITE
CLARA A CANION	LYLE G GOODMAN ESTATE	GLORIA K MINNIS	STEPHANIE R SEVER	ROGER A WHITE
WILLIAM E CARPENTER	ROBERT M GORMLEY	MARY MITZ	THOMAS L SHAFFER	BILL WILBUR
GREGORY L CASTILE	CHARLES W GRAHAM	MR. C'S RESTAURANT	MIKE SHERMAN	GALE WILLE
CENTURY 21	JENNIFER L GRIMES	DENNIS A MUSSELMAN	THOMAS F SHIELDS	ISHAN WILLIAMS
ROBERT L COCHRAN JR	DOYLE L HAMPTON	TIMOTHY R MUTTON	TOMMY A SHIREY	JERRY J WILLIAMS
CARL C COEY	ALFRIEDA R HARRISON	ARTHUR W NELSON JR	GARRY L SHOEMAKER	KEVIN L WILSON
GERALD W COLLETTI	ALBERT HART	KELLY L NELSON	RODELL W SHROUT	ROBERT L WILSON
NORMAN COLLINS	META S HARTUNG	RONNIE NELSON	FLOYD SIEBERT EST	LOIS WINTER
RICHARD COLLINS	LLOYD J HAUSAM	LISA NEUENSCHWANDER	THELDA M SIGLER	DALE D WISEMAN
ANGEL COLON	STEPHEN W HAYNES	NELLIE M NEYER	GALEN W SIMMONS	DAVID N WOLFE II
ADDIE B COOK	RAY S HAYTER	JOHNATHAN D NOLD	CLAYTON SMITH	JENNY L WRIGHT
MIKE D COOPER	MATT R HIEBERT	E E OBLANDER	JAMES J SMITH	JULIE ZEDNICK
THOMAS R COOPER	MICHAEL L HILDRED	JOHNNY R OBLINGER	LARRY G SMITH JR	
SCOTT W COOVER	MITCHELL R HOBBS	RALPH E O'CONNOR	ROBERT L SMITH	
TRACY A COPEN	TINA M HODGE	OXY USA INC	BILLY H SMITH II	

SIGN UP TO **SAVE**

JOIN THE **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS PROGRAM**

Save on your bill when electricity demand is high.

Sign up for **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS** and receive an energy credit when you lower your energy usage during peak hours.*

The lower your usage, the **BIGGER THE CREDIT** you could be eligible for. The sign-up deadline is **JUNE 30, 2021**.

SIGN UP BY TODAY!

MEMBERSERVICES@FLINTHILLSREC.COM OR 620-767-5144

*Some program restrictions apply. Credit only valid for reductions in the months of July and August, from Monday-Friday from 3-6 p.m. (excluding July 4). This program will be active on peak load days when alerts are sent to participating members. Visit www.flinthillsrec.com for a full list of program details.