



P.O. Box B | 1564 S. 1000 Road, Council Grove, KS 66846
620-767-5144 | www.flinthillsrec.com



NEWS

FLINT HILLS REC

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Shawn Potts
President

Roger Zimmerman
Vice President

Korby Efland
Secretary/Treasurer

Dale Andres
Trustee

Jeff Bina
Trustee

Cary Granzow
Trustee

Trey Hinkson
Trustee

Terry Olsen
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

Grow Your Summer Energy Savings

Flint Hills REC can help you save money

One of my favorite things about summer is the opportunity for fresh, homegrown food, whether it's shopping at the local farmers market or sharing the abundance of garden tomatoes with a neighbor. It's amazing how just a few seeds, some fertilizer and water can turn into a bounty.

When I think about energy efficiency, I think about that bounty of food, and how with just a few simple actions, you can use less electricity and reap the rewards of energy savings.

You don't need to be a farmer or botanist to know that plants need water — just like you don't have to be a lineworker or engineer to know that adjusting the thermostat or turning off lights can reduce your monthly electric bill. In fact, if you read Flint Hills REC's publications regularly and follow us on Facebook, you know there are a lot of things you can do at home to save electricity and money.

Summer months bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. But why? Cooling your home accounts for a large portion of your monthly energy use, and the hotter it gets, the harder (and longer) your air conditioner works to keep you cool.

There are several ways you can manage energy use at home, and on Page 12B, the square graphic provides a few tips that can help grow your summer energy savings.



Chuck Goeckel

... there are a lot of things you can do at home to save electricity and money.

Continued on page 12B ▶



STEER CLEAR OF OVERHEAD AND UNDERGROUND POWER LINES



- ▶ Look up and look out for overhead power lines.
- ▶ Keep a 20-foot minimum clearance between you or an object you are holding and a power line.
- ▶ Remember, power lines can be buried too. Call 811 or visit www.call811.com before digging to get underground public utilities marked.

BE MINDFUL OF POWER LINES WHEN COMPLETING THESE TASKS:

- ▶ **HOME MAINTENANCE** Cleaning gutters, being on the roof or using extended tools to wash windows or skim a pool.
- ▶ **YARD WORK** Trimming trees, carrying ladders and digging.
- ▶ **TRANSPORTING TALL OBJECTS** Ladders are not the only extended objects people use outdoors. Be careful anytime you are moving a tall object or tool.
- ▶ **CONTRACTED AND DIY PROJECTS** If you are planning any project that requires digging, ensure underground utilities are marked.

Look up and out for overhead power lines. **CONTACT CAN HAPPEN IN AN INSTANT.** If there is a damaged/downed power line or pad-mounted transformer (green box), do not go within 50 feet.

SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG

Grow Your Summer Energy Savings

Continued from page 12A ▶

But I'd also like to share a few ways we're here to help you save — not only during the dog days of summer but throughout the year.

One of the great things about being part of Flint Hills REC is that we're locally owned by you, our members. So instead of making profits, we can focus on helping our community. That's why we've developed incentives and programs to help you keep your money in your wallet.

SAVE MONEY WITH THESE EASY INCENTIVES:

- ▶ **REBATES** — Flint Hills REC offers ways to give you money back for efficient equipment you purchase, like heat pumps and water heaters. We also offer our Peak Alert Savings Program that offers potential savings based on

your energy reduction during peak alert times during the summer. You can learn more about our programs by calling our office or by simply filling out a form. Find a list of all our rebates at www.flinthillsrec.com.

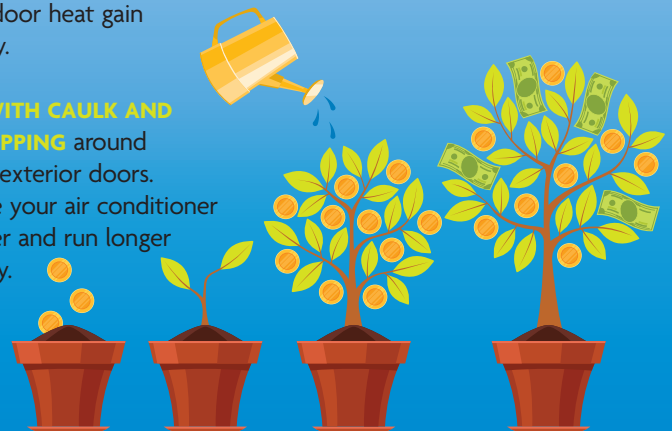
- ▶ **TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR USE** — Use our SmartHub app to track your energy use. You can even get alerts when your use spikes so you can make changes in real time.

Most people don't know everything about electricity, and that's why we're here to help you. There are no investors making profits here. Just knowledgeable people with local jobs, working for our neighbors to ensure there is electricity available when you need it. Contact us, and we can work with you to find more ways to save energy — and money.

5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

1. **RAISE YOUR THERMOSTAT.** The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the more you'll save.
2. **INSTALL WINDOW COVERINGS** like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.
3. **SEAL LEAKS WITH CAULK AND WEATHERSTRIPPING** around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.
4. **RUN CEILING FANS** for additional cooling but turn them off when you leave the room.
5. **LOWER YOUR WATER HEATER** thermostat to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.



SOURCE:
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

JOIN THE
**PEAK ALERT
SAVINGS
PROGRAM**

SIGN UP TO **SAVE**

Save on your bill when electricity demand is high. Sign up for the **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS PROGRAM** 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. **SIGN-UP BY JUNE 30.**

Every year Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative (Flint Hills REC) asks our members to help us save energy during the summer peak load hour, which occurs one hour during the months of July and August. That one hour costs the co-op approximately \$115 per kilowatt — that would be equivalent to you paying approximately \$2,000 per gallon for gasoline. This is why we created the **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS PROGRAM**.

Flint Hills REC asks our members to help us save, so that we can pass the savings on to you (if you qualify). This is a voluntary program, and does not cost you a thing to sign up. This is a win-win for everyone.

Last summer, we had more than 1,200 members participate in this **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS REBATE PROGRAM**, and Flint Hills REC returned over \$50,000 in rebates to the qualifying members' accounts.

The **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS PROGRAM** is in effect during July and August, only Monday-Friday from 3-6 p.m. This program is engaged on peak load days, which typically occur when the temperature is forecast to be 95 degrees or above.

Need a reminder? Flint Hills REC notifies participants when peak load days are predicted, so you can plan ahead. We

place a notice on our website, and we will send an email or text message to you. To receive notifications, you will need to sign up using SmartHub online or in the app.

Credits are based on the actual peak hour regardless of whether a notification is sent. Participants are eligible for energy credits reducing their energy usage during the peak load hour.

These reductions could be as simple as moving everyday household chores to a different time of the day. For example, using major appliances, (e.g. dishwasher, oven, washer, and dryer) in the morning or later in the evening.

One of the most helpful ways to cut usage is to turn your thermostat up during the peak alert hours. You can do this manually or by using a programmable thermostat.

The more you lower your usage during the peak load hour, the bigger the credit you could be eligible for!

To sign up for the **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS PROGRAM**, call 620-767-5144 or email us at memberservices@flinthillsrec.com. This program cannot be combined with any other load management offer. If you have questions, visit www.flinthillsrec.com or give us a call.

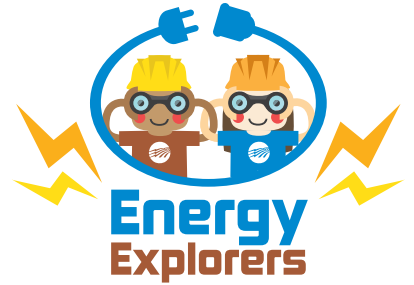
**SIGN UP BY
JUNE 30**

**EMAIL
MEMBERSERVICES
@FLINTHILLSREC.COM**

**CALL
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.*

Safety Ambassador Checklist



Practicing safety near electricity can save lives, and we want you to spread the important message of safety.

With the help of an adult, complete the checklist below then cut out the badge to show you care about electrical safety.



TASK	COMPLETED
Electrical outlets are not overloaded with multiple power strips and devices.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical cords are not causing a trip hazard or placed under rugs or carpet.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Smoke alarms are working.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Smoke alarms are installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>
All light switches are working properly.	<input type="checkbox"/>
SIGNATURE _____	

