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NEWS

FLINT HILLS REC

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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

The Power of Political Engagement

Co-op Leaders Converged on Washington, D.C.,
for annual Legislative Conference, April 27-30

American families expect the lights to stay on at a cost they can afford. But with the demand for electricity skyrocketing and the supply of always-available power sources at risk, the need for smart energy policies that bolster reliability and affordability are more critical than ever before.

As your electric provider, Flint Hills REC is committed to reliably powering our local communities. Beyond routine maintenance and updates that improve the reliability of the grid, we work in other ways to ensure our members' needs are addressed. One of the ways we do this is through proactively engaging elected officials to ensure our members are well represented in Washington, D.C.

In April, hundreds of electric cooper-

ative leaders from across the country, including Kansas, traveled to Washington, D.C., for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Legislative Conference.

Cooperatives met with elected officials on Capitol Hill and discussed key energy issues and priorities that impact our members back home.

The focus was on telling our own unique story of how Kansas electric cooperatives are ensuring reliable and affordable power for our communities through a diverse supply of energy resources to meet the growing demand for electricity.

When meeting with members of Congress, Kansas electric cooperatives



Chuck Goeckel

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year — or more often if there are pets in the home. When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten its lifespan. **SOURCE: WWW.ENERGY.GOV**



Annual Meeting

Flint Hills REC held its annual meeting on April 3, 2025, at the Herington Community Building, about 250 members and guests were served dinner.

SHAWN POTTS was reelected to the board and **MARK MEYER** will replace Cary Granzow who retired from the board. Numerous door prizes were given away during the meeting. Special thanks to all of our members who made time to attend.



New board member Mark Meyer hands out one of many door prizes given during the meeting.



Coloring pages help keep younger members entertained for the evening.



Cary Granzow (left) accepts a plaque from Board President Shawn Potts to commemorate his retirement from the board.



Highlights

THE POWER OF POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

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detailed the need to improve environmental permitting processes and cut costly and burdensome regulations — like the EPA Power Plant Rule — to accelerate deployment and maintenance of essential electric infrastructure. We highlighted the importance of federal hydropower resources as well as the need to pass legislation to facilitate co-op vegetation management efforts and reduce wildfire risks.

An additional focal point of discussions with policymakers included ensuring federal programs and resources that support electric cooperative energy projects as we invest to meet the unique needs of our communities. This includes tools such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service electric loan program and the New Empowering Rural America co-op loan and grant program, energy tax credits with an elective (direct) pay option for co-ops, and recently funded Department of Energy infrastructure programs.

While there is much work to be done, we are encouraged to see the President's swift actions to address many of these issues. We look forward to working with the Trump administration and members of Congress to implement a pro-energy agenda that prioritizes reliability and affordability and strengthens our nation's grid.

While you may not consider it on a daily basis, electricity is essential and underpins nearly every aspect of modern life. Understanding today's evolving energy landscape is important as it shapes how electricity is produced, delivered and consumed.

Advocating for safe, reliable and affordable power on behalf of Flint Hills REC's members is a critical part of our commitment to you.



Gina Ryff (right) assists members with registration before the meeting.



Cary Granzow hands out door prizes.



FAR LEFT: More than 250 members and guests attended the annual meeting.

MIDDLE: Youth Tour participant Olivia Carlson shows her name tag and collection of pins from each state.

LEFT: Prizes were given following the meeting.



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 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 (kW) — that would be equivalent to you paying approximately \$2,000 per gallon of gasoline. This is why we created the **PEAK ALERT SAVINGS REBATE PROGRAM**.

Flint Hills REC would like to ask our members to help us save and we will pass that savings on to you if you qualify. This is a voluntary program that does not cost a thing to sign up. It's a win-win for everyone! Last summer we had over 1,200 members participate in our Peak Alert Savings Rebate Program, and Flint Hills returned over \$60,000 in rebates to the qualifying members' accounts.

The Peak Alert Savings Program is in effect during July and August, only Monday through 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 higher.

Flint Hills REC offers a free notification service to let you know what days are considered peak load days. On these days, we will place a notice on our website, and we will send an email or text message to you. To receive

these notifications, you will need to select this option through SmartHub or the SmartHub app. The credit will be based on the actual peak hour regardless of whether a notification is sent.

Once you sign up, you are eligible to receive an energy credit by making a qualifying reduction of energy usage during our summer peak load hour. These reductions could be as simple as moving everyday household chores to a different time of the day. For example, run 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 back on usage during the peak load hour is to turn your thermostat up during the peak alert hours. You can do this manually or by utilizing 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, please call our office or email us at memberservices@flinthillsrec.com. This program cannot be combined with any other load management offer. If you have questions about the program you can visit our website at www.flinthillsrec.com or call our office at 620-767-5144.

**SIGN UP BY
JUNE 30**

**MEMBERSERVICES
@FLINTHILLSREC.COM**

620-767-5144

**Some program restrictions apply. Credit only valid for reductions in the months of July and August, 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.*