

SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Outlet

NOVEMBER 2023



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Your Community Electric Cooperative



Sangre de Cristo Electric Association
Your Community Electric Cooperative

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AGED 16–19 AS OF JUNE 1, 2024

If your family gets its power from SDCEA and you have big dreams of exploring the country; if you're a history enthusiast or want to rub shoulders with your member of congress; if you've never flown but have a strong desire to travel; or if you're eager to meet new people from Colorado and beyond, then applying for a chance to attend the Washington D.C. Youth Tour is an exciting opportunity!

The Washington D.C. Youth Tour is a fun-filled, week-long trip to Washington, D.C. All expenses are covered by SDCEA and the trip is organized by the Colorado Rural Electric Association, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and the Colorado Electric Educational Institute. SDCEA takes care of all the costs, including travel, accommodations, and meals for the trip. Participants should bring extra money for personal expenses like souvenirs.

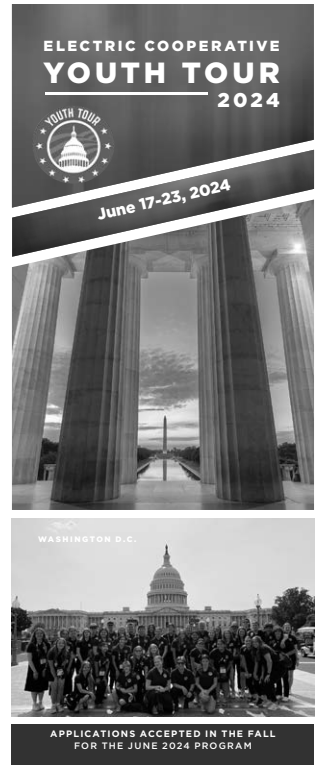
This year's 2024 Washington D.C. Youth Tour will be held June 17–23. Participants will spend the day in Denver June 17, leave for Washington, D.C., early on June 18, and return June 23.

To be considered for the tour, interested students must complete an application form and write a short essay on why they would be a good candidate to represent SDCEA on the Youth Tour, and what they hope to gain from the experience.

To fill out an application form, please visit our website, myelectric.coop/community/youth-programs/youth-tour/. Applications must be received through the online portal by **5 p.m. January 12, 2024**, to be considered for the program.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE HAVE THESE ITEMS READY:

- A photo of yourself to upload — a high resolution .jpg is preferred
- Your essay saved as a PDF to upload
- A guardian to electronically sign the consent form if you are under age 18





SDCEA Participates in Eagle Protection Program in Custer County

The national symbol of the United States, the eagle, evokes pride and awe with its beauty. Unfortunately, accidental electrocutions resulting from contact with power lines have caused eagle mortalities throughout the country. To mitigate this issue, SDCEA has consistently upheld eagle and raptor-friendly pole construction standards.

The cooperative recently qualified for and signed an agreement with Eagle Electrocution Solutions and EDM International to retrofit 29 poles in Custer County to deploy the newest innovations in protection standards available to poles on our lines. Custer County was identified to be included in this project because it is known for its significant population of Golden eagles.

The program supports a 30-year commitment to eagle-friendly pole construction. It includes solutions like insulating wires, using perch discouragers, and employing eagle-friendly pole designs to

create greater wire separation. SDCEA will collaborate with EES and EDM International for implementation.

An assessment of eagle risks and prescribed retrofitting was completed earlier this year. The retrofitting started in September and should be complete by the end of this month. After the installation is completed by SDCEA, an inspection will be done by EES. When all inspections are complete, SDCEA will receive financial compensation for retrofit costs. A program sponsor will conduct pole monitoring and inspections every 10 years to ensure ongoing bird protection.

“SDCEA’s efforts to participate in eagle protection demonstrate SDCEA’s commitment to our concern for wildlife and for the environment,” interim CEO Gary Kelly said. “We look forward to partnering with EES and EDM in this program.”

JOIN US FOR FREE PIZZA!

Wednesday, November 29 | 12–1 p.m.

POP IN FOR PIZZA!

SDCEA Members! Enjoy a free slice of pizza, salad, and great conversation over lunch. November 29 from 12–1 p.m. at Tony’s Mountain Pizza — 630 Main Street, Silver Cliff.

Lunch will be limited to 40 member guests. To secure your spot, please RSVP before noon November 27 by emailing info@myelectric.coop with your name, number of guests in your party, and service address or call toll-free, 844-395-2412. Advance registrations will be eligible for a drawing for an SDCEA thermos and two SDCEA travel mugs.



- SDCEA linemen practice pole-top rescue techniques in the event they need to come to the aid of an injured coworker.

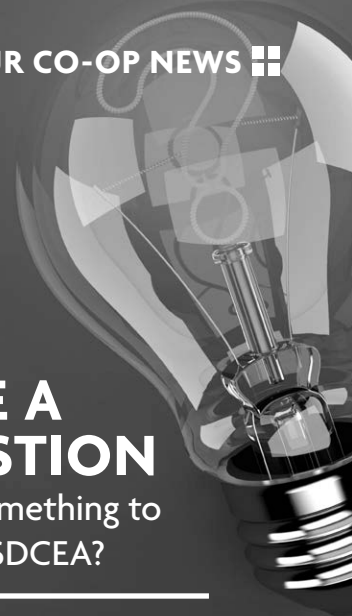


- Safety of our employees and the public is SDCEA's utmost priority. Recently, crews participated in annual pole-top rescue drills.

PRACTICING POLE-TOP RESCUE

Practicing pole-top rescue is a crucial safety procedure in the electrical industry and a vital skill for linemen. A pole-top rescue would be performed when a lineman becomes unconscious or unresponsive and is unable to independently descend a pole they are working on or from. Common factors requiring pole-top rescue include electrical shock, heart attack, heat stroke, physical injury, and equipment failure.

SDCEA linemen practiced pole-top rescue recently with a life-size and weight orange form. Their practice drill involved as quickly as possible calling in the emergency and preparing to climb a pole from the ground to perform knot work and safely lower the form. For a video on a practice climb, visit SDCEA's website at myelectric.coop



HAVE A QUESTION

about something to do with SDCEA?

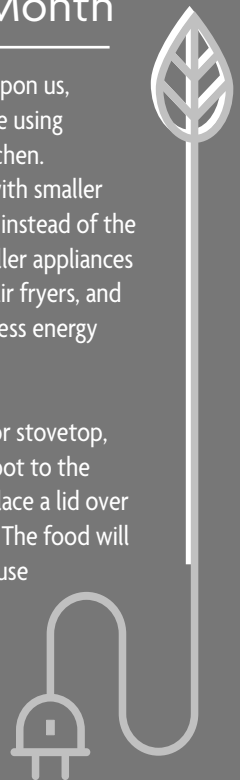
Give our office a call at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412. Our business office in Buena Vista is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed on major holidays. Or send an email with your question to info@myelectric.coop.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The holiday season is upon us, and that means we'll be using more energy in the kitchen. When possible, cook with smaller countertop appliances instead of the stovetop or oven. Smaller appliances such as slow cookers, air fryers, and Instant Pots consume less energy than larger appliances.

When using the oven or stovetop, match the size of the pot to the heating element and place a lid over the pot while cooking. The food will cook faster, and you'll use less energy.

Source:
Dept. of Energy



\$200 Matching Grants Available

If you are a member (named account holder) of SDCEA and you support charitable, civic, and educational organizations through financial contributions, SDCEA will match you up to \$200 of your donation to qualifying



organizations, based on the criteria outlined on our website, myelectric.coop/community/matching-grant-program.

OUTAGES

Do you have an outage to report? Don't hesitate to call 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.

DO NOT email your outage information or post your outage information on social media. SDCEA cannot monitor that information effectively, especially after hours. The only way to be sure we know you have an outage is to phone it in.

REBATES

SDCEA and its power supplier, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, have teamed up to bring you rebates for installing Energy Star-rated water heaters and Energy Star-rated appliances, heat pumps, electric outdoor equipment, electric bicycles, and more.

Want to learn more? Go to our website, myelectric.coop, click on Save Energy & Money and head to the Rebates tab.

NEW PHONE/EMAIL

If you've changed your phone number or email address since you've taken service with SDCEA, please update your information with us.

Go to our website, myelectric.coop to the login box to create an account with updated information, or to update information if you already have an account.

You may also email us at info@myelectric.coop or call us 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.

SDCEA, YOUR LOCAL CO-OP SUPPORTS YOUTH IN AG

Congratulations to **Molly, Kord, Evangeline, and Brake** on your 4-H livestock sales this summer. SDCEA takes great pride in supporting youth in our communities through Chaffee, Fremont, and Custer county fair livestock sale events.

