



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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TWIN VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

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Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Summer Rate in Effect

We would like to remind our members that our summer rates went into effect on your July bill. These are in effect until September 30. If you have any questions, please call the cooperative office.

Holiday Closing

Our office will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

FROM THE MANAGER

Co-ops Fight for Affordable Energy Legislation

Our leaders in Congress are tackling tough energy choices this year, choices we, as a nation, should make together.

Will we choose for electricity to remain affordable, or will we choose for it to be a luxury? Are we ready for brownouts if enough power's not available, or will we choose a diverse energy mix to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity in an environmentally responsible fashion? Will we choose to move forward or will we find ourselves, despite good intentions, moving backward?

The climate change debate in Congress is coming down to the wire. Now, more than ever before, is the time to make sure your voice—and your choice—is heard. At Twin Valley Electric, our choice is clear. We've always been committed to providing affordable, reliable energy in a responsible manner. This choice reflects who we are, and why we were founded by members like you in an effort to move our community forward into a brighter future.

Tough choices call for strong voices, and no voice is stronger than the combined force of 42 million electric cooperative members across the nation. Together we can choose to speak up for affordability. We can choose to invest in technology to

lower energy costs. Most importantly we can choose to work together to address climate change responsibly with affordability in mind.

The electric cooperatives stepped up early in the debate to fight for fairness and affordability as this legislation—which included a cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants—was considered in the U.S. House of Representatives. The legislation passed by the House in June still has major flaws.

The debate has now moved to the Senate, where another version of the bill is being drafted, providing another opportunity to fight for more improvements and to minimize the impact this Congressional action may have. We urge members of the Senate to keep climate change legislation fair, recognizing regional differences in how electricity is produced. It must be affordable for all Americans.

Let's meet our elected officials here at town hall meetings, and get our voices to Washington through the Our Energy, Our Future campaign. Visit www.ourenergy.coop to send a message to Capitol Hill about the need for fair, affordable, and achievable climate change legislation.

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Ron Holsteen

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Twin Valley Sponsors Local Youth on Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

Tricia Cares, Parsons, toured the nation's capitol with 32 other students from across Kansas for the 49th Annual "Government in Action" Youth Tour June 11-18.

Cares was selected from among a group of high school applicants by Twin Valley Electric to attend.

To be selected, the students tested their electric cooperative knowledge during a test and were interviewed by a panel of judges.

The all-expense-paid-trips for the student winners are coordinated by Kansas Electric Cooperatives. Kansas is one of the 45 states to send a youth delegation to the annual electric cooperative youth tour.

Since 1964, the nation's electric cooperatives have sponsored the trips of more than 40,000 high school juniors and seniors to visit U.S. congressional members, energy and grassroots government education sessions and sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

"This trip is unforgettable," Cares said. "I wish it could have been before my history classes though because now I know what they were talking about! Everything becomes real to you and I am truly touched by everything I got to experience."

The students began their trip touring the state capitol in Topeka, followed by visits to Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant and Lyon-Coffey Electric Cooperative before flying to Washington, D.C. The group learned about the U.S. government through visits with Senator Pat Roberts, Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins, and Congressmen Jerry Moran and Todd Tiahrt. They also met with youth from other states and tours of museums, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery and the White House.

"Twin Valley Electric is proud to support the Youth Tour program and send our youth to experience government in action," Ron Holsteeen, Twin Valley's Manager, said.



Tricia Cares views the White House from LaFayette Park.

"Our hope is that students will gain some awareness of how our political system works and how important it is for youth to be involved in our community."

Each year, Twin Valley Electric sponsors one trip to Washington, D.C. For more information call 866-784-5500.



The 2009 youth tour delegates pose in front of the U.S. Capitol.



Cares tries out the President's chair in the "oval office" at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum.