

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Wilson — District 1

Paul Wilson, Vice President

Burr Oak — District 2

Justin Trost, Secretary

Concordia — District 3

Corey Dlabal, Treasurer

Wilson — District 1

Eric Andersen, Trustee

Jamestown — District 3

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David Dubbert, Trustee

Beloit — District 2

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Lebanon — District 2

Sarah Goss, Trustee

Kanopolis — District 1

Tom Marr, Trustee

Formoso — District 2

STAFF

Tom Ruth

Interim CEO/General Manager

CONTACT US

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Beloit, KS 67420

785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

For outage updates,
energy efficiency tips and
cooperative news.

Upcoming Board Elections

Look for your ballot in the April issue

The election process is not only a privilege, but also a civic duty and a responsibility that we, as citizens of the United States of America, should take seriously.

As a consumer-member of Rolling Hills Electric, you also have this privilege and responsibility. You have a voice in choosing who serves on the board. Trustees are elected representatives and act in the best interest of you, the cooperative's consumer-members.

To be included on the ballot, a trustee candidate must have submitted a nominating petition with at least 20 signatures from current cooperative members who live within the candidate's district. The petition had to be filed at the Rolling Hills office in Beloit on or before Nov. 30. The secretary reviews each petition to verify that the candidate meets all nomination qualifications and that the petition is valid.

Your 2025 annual report and Rolling Hills Board of Trustees ballot will be included in the April issue of *Kansas Country Living* magazine. Upon receipt of the ballot, please mark your choice or write in a candidate, sign the back of the ballot envelope (certificate of membership), and return your ballot immediately.

BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN BELOIT BY 6:45 P.M. ON APRIL 24, 2026.

The nominees listed above will appear on your ballot. A complete biography, along with a picture of each candidate, will be included with the ballot. If you have any questions or need a replacement ballot, please call our office at 800-530-5572 or 785-534-1601.

**2026 BOARD OF
TRUSTEES NOMINEES**

DISTRICT 1

COREY DLABAL, Wilson

DISTRICT 2

DAVID DUBBERT, Beloit

TOM MARR, Formoso

DISTRICT 3

C. ERIC ANDERSEN, Jamestown

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ANNUAL MEETING IS

APRIL 24

5:30 P.M. Registration and Meal

6:30 P.M. Meeting



WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEE

ADAMS JOINS RHEC



LOGAN ADAMS

- **HOMETOWN:** Coldwater
- **EDUCATION:** 5 years of on-the-job experience as a lineworker.
- **HOBBIES:** Working on vehicles and attending his kid's sporting events.

FEMA Partnerships Help Keep the Lights On

When a storm rolls through, Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative is ready to respond. Our crews work around the clock to restore power, repair damage, and make sure every member's lights come back on as quickly and safely as possible. But when that damage is severe, the cost of rebuilding can add up quickly — and that's where the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) steps in to help.

Most people think of FEMA responding to natural disasters that make national news, such as hurricanes or widespread wildfires. But electric co-ops also rely on FEMA after smaller, localized events — the kinds of storms that may not always make national headlines but can still cause significant damage.

A few inches of ice or a sudden flash flood can snap utility poles, damage substations, and leave miles of power lines on the ground. In rural areas, where electric co-ops serve fewer members across larger territories, repairing that damage can be especially challenging and expensive. FEMA assistance helps ensure those costs don't fall entirely on co-op members and that power can be restored quickly without putting financial strain on small communities.

FEMA's Public Assistance program

helps co-ops like ours rebuild critical infrastructure after disasters, large or small. This essential partnership ensures we can focus on restoring power and supporting our community rather than worrying about how to fund large-scale repairs.

The FEMA Act of 2025 is making its way through Congress and aims to modernize the agency's programs, making it easier and faster for essential service providers like RHEC to restore and rebuild. It's an important step toward keeping disaster recovery fair, efficient, and focused on the people who depend on reliable electricity every day.

Whether it's a large-scale storm or a localized event that only affects a few towns, FEMA's support helps electric co-ops do what we do best — serve our members and keep the lights on, no matter what Mother Nature brings.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Ensure you're making the most of your home heating system. Replace or clean filters to keep your furnace or heat pump running efficiently. Listen for strange noises and check for uneven heating — these signs indicate that the system may need servicing. Ensure vents and radiators aren't blocked by furniture or rugs as proper airflow helps your system work less and saves energy. A little maintenance along the way can prevent costly repairs and keep your home cozy through winter. SOURCE: NRECA



FIXING FEMA

FEMA partnerships are essential in restoring power to co-op communities, providing assistance beyond headline-making weather events.

We support the FEMA Act of 2025, a bipartisan effort to reform and modernize FEMA.



Struggling With Winter Bills? LIEAP Can Help

The 2026 LIEAP application deadline is March 31, 2026, by 5 p.m.

Rolling Hills Electric receives requests for assistance with member electricity bills throughout the year. The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit.

THE 2026 LIEAP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2026, BY 5 P.M. To qualify, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- ▶ An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or the fuel vendor.
- ▶ Applicants must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchases of the primary heating energy.
- ▶ The combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 150% of the federal poverty level according to the guidelines listed in the table.

THE BENEFIT LEVELS VARY ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

- ▶ Household income.
- ▶ Type of dwelling.
- ▶ Number of persons living at the address.
- ▶ Type of heating fuel.

2026 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Persons Living at Address	Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Persons Living at Address	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$1,956	5	\$4,706
2	\$2,644	6	\$5,394
3	\$3,331	7	\$6,081
4	\$4,019	8	\$6,769
+1	\$688 for each additional person		

For more information and to apply, visit **WWW.DCF.KS.GOV**, select the **ASSISTANCE & SERVICES**, then **UTILITIES & ENERGY ASSISTANCE**. Applications must be received at the DCF office prior to 5 p.m., **MARCH 31, 2026**. Late arrivals will not be considered for assistance. The state will contact Rolling Hills Electric to verify payments are being made on the account and the account is active in the applicant's name. LIEAP payments will come directly to Rolling Hills Electric and be applied directly to the account.

For more information or assistance in completing the application, please contact the LIEAP office at 888-369-4777.

WINTER EMERGENCY KIT

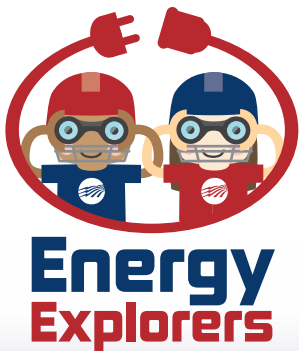
Top Must-Haves For Your Emergency Kit

Be ready with at least three days of supplies and don't forget to stock your vehicles with a similar kit.

- ▶ Battery-powered radio
- ▶ Blankets, clothing and sturdy shoes
- ▶ Cash
- ▶ Cellphone and charger, power bank
- ▶ Flashlight and batteries
- ▶ First-aid kit
- ▶ Medications, medical equipment
- ▶ Non-perishable food and manual can opener
- ▶ Water: 1 gallon per person, per day

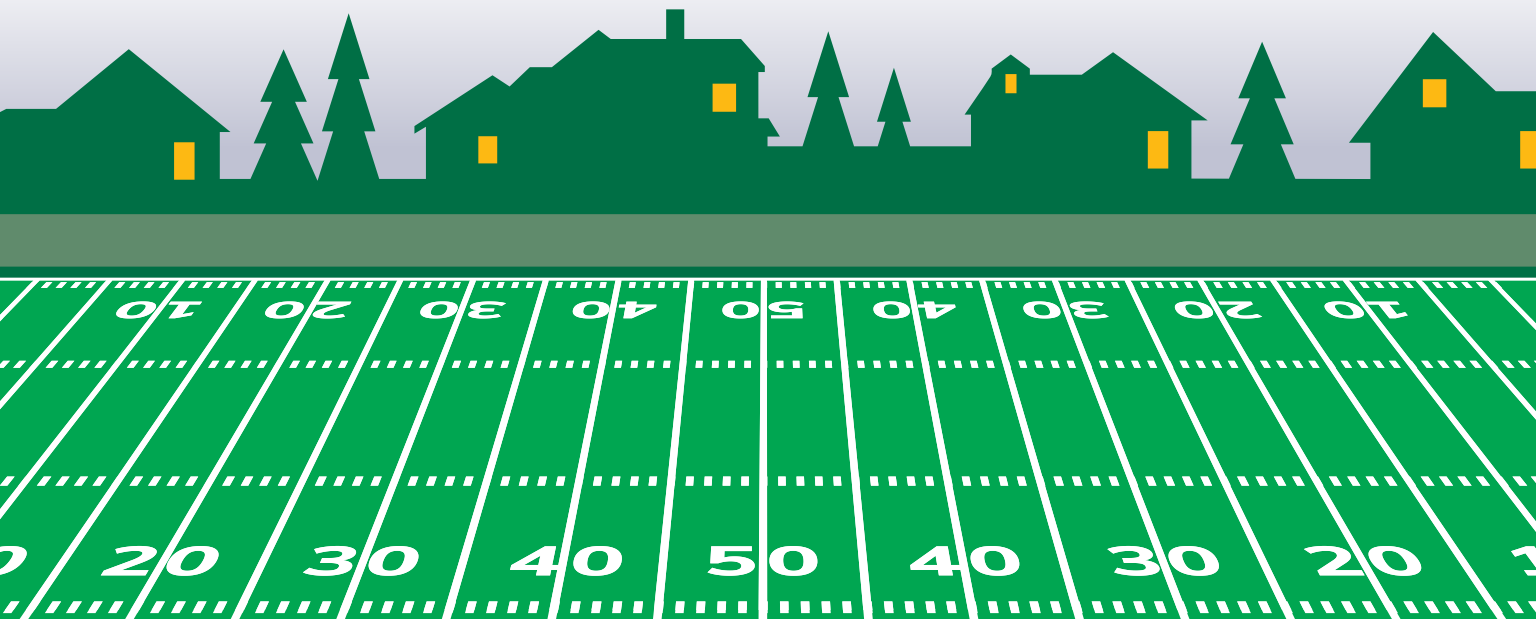
ADD TO YOUR VEHICLE KIT

- ▶ Canned and compressed air with sealant for emergency tire repair
- ▶ Extra coat, gloves and hat
- ▶ Emergency flares
- ▶ Jumper cables
- ▶ Sand bags or road salt
- ▶ Windshield scraper



Score Big with Energy Savings!

Every Super Bowl MVP makes big plays — and you can too! Use the clues below to fill in the blanks and learn how you can help save energy at home by making smart, efficient plays. Double check your work in the answer key.



1. Spend time outdoors or unplugged to reduce your _____ time and save energy.
2. Turn off the _____ while brushing your teeth.
3. When it's cold, wear an extra layer of _____ instead of turning up the thermostat.
4. Keep doors and _____ closed when your home's heating/cooling system is turned on.
5. Unplug smaller electronics like _____ when you're not using them.
6. Turn off _____ when you leave a room.

Word Bank:

windows
clothing
water
lights
screen
chargers

Answer Key: 1. screen 2. water 3. clothing 4. windows 5. chargers 6. lights