



For Outages Please Call: 1-800-548-4660

Visit us at www.ocec-inc.com

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OP

April 2009

Cloudcroft, N.M. 575-682-2521

Alto, N.M. 575-336-4550

Carrizozo, N.M. 575-648-2352

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Red Flag Rule Postponed Until May 1, 2009

In order to comply with Federal Trade Commission Rule 16 CFR Part 681.2, known as the Red Flag Rule, all utilities now require that consumers create a password or provide the proper identification to gain access to their account information. The **Deadline has been extended to May 1, 2009**, which is less than two months away and due to the number of members that OCEC has, we are requesting that you complete the information needed and return to the Cooperative either in the envelope with your bill or at any OCEC office.

Passwords must contain 6-22 characters (alpha & numeric). After May1, 2009, access to account information without proper identification or password will be denied.

Please complete the information below and return to OCEC as soon as possible. Please be aware, these are Federal Trade Commission Rules that OCEC **MUST** comply with.

Name on Account: _____

Acct. Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Password: Example: (redrover123) _____

Please choose **one** of the following security questions by **circling the number** of **and writing your answer in the space provided:**

1. First Pet's Name: _____
2. Favorite Cartoon Character: _____
3. Name of High School Graduated From: _____
4. Favorite Color: _____
5. City where you were born: _____

Please return the above form in with your payment envelope or to any OCEC office. Thank you!

ONLINE CREDIT CARD PAYMENT NOW AVAILABLE

Recurring Credit Card Payments are now available online at www.ocec-inc.com. This feature along with the E-Billing system for OCEC is due to your request and another way Otero County Electric Coop is trying to fill our members needs and stay up to date with technology and our member's requests. The E-Bill system will allow you to pay your bill online with a credit card or by check. You will need to access OCEC's web page at www.ocec-inc.com and then click the E-Bill link in the top left of the home page to set up your account. Recurring Payment is coming soon. Should you have questions, please ask at any OCEC office for assistance.

NOTICE TO MEMBER OF OCEC

In the May billing you will notice that you do not have a May Power Gram. In place of the Power Gram you will have a letter from Touchstone Energy introducing a new program being provided by OCEC to its members. The program is a "Coop Connections Card" and will provide more than 14,000 discounts at participating businesses around the area and even nationwide. Please look for it in your May bill. This is just another benefit being brought to you by Otero County Electric Cooperative and the benefit of being a Cooperative member. Should you have questions when you get your letter, please contact Clint Gardner at clintg@ote-coop.com or 575-336-4550.

Online Kids Zone

With Touchstone Energy's online Kids Zone (TouchstoneEnergyKids.com) younger coop members can have hours of fun and learn about electricity, electrical safety, and much more.



A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative



With OCEC joining Touchstone Energy, you will see our Emblem displaying the "Branding Image" showing that we are a Touchstone Energy Cooperative. This will be a great benefit to our membership and allow us access to numerous resources to better serve our membership.

Air Infiltration and Energy Loss

Air that transfers in and out of homes through crack, crevices and holes can increase energy consumption. Here are some helpful tips to avoid air infiltration:

- Seal around pipe penetrations coming through walls.
- During hot and cold weather, ensure windows are closed tightly and locked.
- Ensure weather-stripping around doors and windows is tight.
- When your fireplace is not operating, its flue should be closed.
- Make sure your outside dryer vent door closes when the dryer is not in use.

Call your OCEC office for more energy efficiency ideas.

New Tech Gadgets on the Market

For all of you Green "Techies" out there, check out this page on MSN. Go to (<http://tech.msn.Com/guides/green/slideshow.aspx?cp-documentid=18275790&imageindex=1>) I know it's a long address but well worth it. It lists the top 10 Tech Gadgets on the market today that have to do with electricity and energy efficiency Award Winning Green Gadgets.

OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

P.O. BOX 227

CLOUDCROFT, NEW MEXICO 88317

- Office hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. If service is interrupted, check your fuses and circuit breakers. If all your service is off, check with your neighbors.
- Report promptly if you think the trouble is on Otero County Electric Cooperative, Incorporated lines.
- When problem is on consumers side of the meter, the consumer will be charged for a false call for service.
- Please examine this bill carefully as it will be considered correct if we are not notified within 30 days.
- The statement enclosed does not include payments made after billing date.
- If you desire information on the use of electricity for any job, large or small, do not hesitate to call your Cooperative, come by the office, or write for information at any time.
- FOR EMERGENCIES OR POWER OUTAGES CALL (800) 548-4660.