



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

March 2009

Cloudcroft, N.M. 575-682-2521

Alto, N.M. 575-336-4550

Carrizozo, N.M. 575-648-2352

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative



Go Online for Energy Savings

Ever wonder what you could save by changing your thermostat setting or adding storm windows? Now you can find out with just a few clicks of your computer mouse.

Give your hand a try at the new HomeEnergy Calculator now on our website (www.ocec-inc.com) and available to you 24/7 in the comfort of your home. The calculator's a quick, one-screen form asks about a dozen questions about your home. Simply click to indicate your home's approximate square footage, age, number of occupants, fuel type, and several other variables. Then hit "Calculate" to get an estimate of the monthly and annual energy use and costs for your "base house."

Now the fun begins. What changes would you like to consider? One easy step might be to reduce the temperature on your water heater. Try making that change on the calculator's drop-down menu and click "Calculate" again to see what you might save. Then try some others: adjusting heating settings down or cooling settings up; tightening up your home by reducing air leaks; adding insulation; installing storm windows; or changing out your heating system. Click "Calculate" after each change to see the difference in your monthly energy bill.

Then, go ahead and do what most calculator users do -- add or remove one of the home's occupants! We're not sure why that's such a popular inquiry, but it usually ranks as the first or second most popular change selected.

Once you've gotten a feel for your home's energy costs and what various changes might save, it's time to take a big-picture look at overall home energy usage. Click the "Chart" button and you'll see a pie chart with the percentage break-down of total annual energy use by appliance or system type. With the Residential Energy Systems Library linked to the HEC, you will notice that each of the items on the calculator's face is a click-able link. By clicking on Heating System or any other of the links, you are taken to an encyclopedia of home energy information that can help you better understand that system, how it operates and what improvements are possible.

Lighting Calculator

See exactly how much money you can save by switching from standard bulbs to compact fluorescent lights.

ONLINE CREDIT CARD PAYMENT NOW AVAILABLE

The long awaited E-Billing system for OCEC is now up and running for your use. This 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.

Flip the Switch on Lighting Savings

Even though lighting represents just 10 to 15 percent of the typical electric bill, it still offers an opportunity for fast, easy energy dollar savings.

Consider this: If you use 10 100-watt incandescent light bulbs for 5 hours each daily, you could save \$144 a year just by switching to company fluorescent bulbs.

Type of Bulb	Total Cost Per Month
 100-watt Standard Incandescent Light Bulb	\$16.44
 27-watt Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb CFL Wattage for equivalent light output	\$4.44
Savings Per Month:	\$12.00
Savings Per Year:	\$143.98

New Lighting Calculator on Website

See how much you can save with the new **Lighting Calculator** posted on our website. It's "on" 24/7 in our Home Energy Suite.

Here's how to access this helpful tool:

1. Go to: www.ocec-inc.com
2. Enter the number of incandescent bulbs you use now and their wattage.

Incandescent Bulb Wattage:	<input type="text" value="100"/>	Bulbs Used:	<input type="text" value="10"/>	Hours "On" Per Day:	<input type="text" value="5"/>	Cost Per kWh:	0.09
<input type="button" value="Recalculate"/>							

3. Enter the number of bulbs you could switch to compact fluorescent.
4. Hit Calculate.

Easy Help at Your Fingertips

Don't miss this opportunity to take action in your home.



In addition to the Lighting Calculator, we also offer an Appliance Calculator and Home Energy Calculator. Both of these can identify ways you can save, too.

So let your fingers do the work! Go to our Website and check out our Home Energy Suite today.

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.