



# POWER-GRAM

February  
2023

**Clondcroft**  
575-682-2521  
**Alto**  
575-336-4550  
**Carrizozo**  
575-648-2352

[www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com)

**LOBBY HOURS**  
8 AM - 4 PM  
Monday - Friday

**TO REPORT AN  
OUTAGE, CALL**  
1-800-548-4660

**FOR BALANCE  
INFORMATION  
OR TO PAY YOUR  
BILL, CALL**  
1-844-846-2695



A Monthly Newsletter for Members of

**OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Left: Photo by Adam Raulerson

## Kiosks Offer an Easy Way to Pay Your Electric Bill

OCEC provides payments kiosks in various locations to offer an easy and convenient way for members to pay their bill, even after business hours and on the weekend.

To use a kiosk, simply touch the screen to begin, then follow the screen prompts. You will be asked to enter the following information:

1. **Account Number**—available on your bill
2. **Complete Last Name**—as it appears on your bill
3. **Phone Number**—this information was not previously required
4. **Payment Type**—cash, check or card payments accepted, then follow the on-screen instructions for the payment type selected.

Another new feature of the software is FastPass. FastPass is an expedited payment option where users create an account that allows them to gain access to their electric account quickly. Members can then access their account information by simply scanning the barcode printed on their bill or by entering a phone number and 4-digit PIN.

For your convenience, kiosks are located at the following sites:

### **Mescalero**

Tribal Store—190 Chiricahua Plaza  
MATI Office—75 Carrizo Canyon Road

### **Capitan**

Smokey's Country Market—113 Smokey Bear Blvd.

### **Tularosa**

Tularosa Travel Center—21 St. Francis Dr.

### **Clondcroft**

OCEC Headquarters—404 Burro Avenue



Payment kiosks offer a quick, simple, and convenient way to pay your electric bill.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life. Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.

Source: [energy.gov](https://energy.gov)

## Scholarship Opportunities Available

OCEC's Education Foundation started awarding scholarships to area students in 1989. Since its inception, more than \$1.4 million dollars have been awarded to deserving students attending a New Mexico university, college, or technical school.

The scholarship is \$1,000 per semester for the first 2 semesters and increases to \$1,500 per semester for an additional six (6) semesters with verification that the required GPA is maintained and the student continues enrollment. To be eligible, the student must be an active member receiving electric service from Otero County Electric Cooperative.

Applications are available at any OCEC office, on our website, or from your school guidance counselor.

**Don't wait. The deadline to apply is March 15.**

## Enchantment Magazine

Each month co-op members receive a magazine put out by the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association and OCEC. This monthly magazine is packed with valuable information from your cooperative, energy saving ideas, great recipes, book reviews, interesting local stories from around New Mexico and a very popular Marketplace with classified ads from across the state.

We know it is a fantastic source of information for our members and want you to read it. But we know a lot of you are not familiar with the publication or are simply not interested in reading it. If you are one of those people who pull the magazine out of your post office box and immediately throw it in the trash, give us a call and we'll remove you from the mailing list. This will help us keep our costs lower and eliminate an unwanted item from your mailbox.



## Vegetation Management Update

Crews working to trim trees and vegetation in rights-of-way are currently in the following areas and are expected to remain there for the next few weeks.

- Capitan
- Mescalero
- Hondo Valley
- High Rolls

OCEC reminds members that you may see vehicles, ATVs and crew members from Rogers Tree Service cutting trees near existing power lines. Vehicles will be marked with their company name and an OCEC contractor placard.

## Winter Season Disconnect Moratorium Ending

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2022. To avoid potential disconnection of service please contact the Human Services Department at 800-283-4465, or the appropriate tribal or pueblo entity for eligibility information for Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2022, through March 15, 2023, if you meet the qualifications of LIHEAP and have no past due amounts or you remain current on any settlement or installment agreement for amounts due as of November 15, 2022. Member of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at 888-427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance.

