



POWERGRAM

A monthly newsletter for OCEC Members

2024 YOUTH TOUR DELEGATES CHOSEN

Four local students have been chosen to attend the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour in June.

These young leaders will participate in a life-changing week in the nation's capital as they meet with U.S. representatives and senators, tour some of the finest museums in the world, visit historic monuments and memorials, and develop lifelong friendships and connections with delegates from across the country.

Interested students submitted an application along with two written essays. In-person interviews were held, and the top applicants were chosen to participate in this all-expenses-paid trip this summer.

Then-Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson addressed a crowd at the 1957 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual meeting, proposing that rural teens should have the opportunity to experience Washington, D.C., and see their government in action. America's electric cooperatives were the perfect organizations to facilitate this idea.

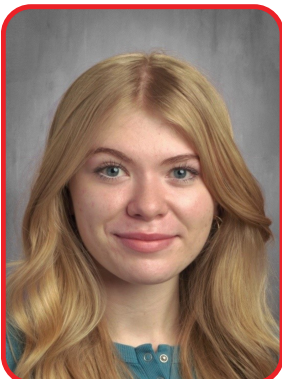
That summer, a few Texas cooperatives sent teens from their service areas. The next year, Iowa and Illinois followed suit and brought their own busload of rural youth to Washington, D.C.

In 1964, NRECA—the national service organization representing America's electric cooperatives—began coordinating the activities. Youth Tour has grown bigger and stronger in the 60-plus years since the first students ascended on the capital.

Otero County Electric sponsored its first group of students in 2017. Help us congratulate the 2024 OCEC Youth Tour delegates and wish these young leaders well on their summer trip!



Daniel Chacon-Dominguez
Hondo High School



Rylie Parson
Capitan HS



Dominic Romero
Cloudcroft HS



Orlando Ruiz
Ruidoso High School



APRIL CALENDAR PHOTO
submitted by Tawnya Lucero

**APRIL
2024**

CLOUDCROFT
575-682-2521

ALTO
575-336-4550

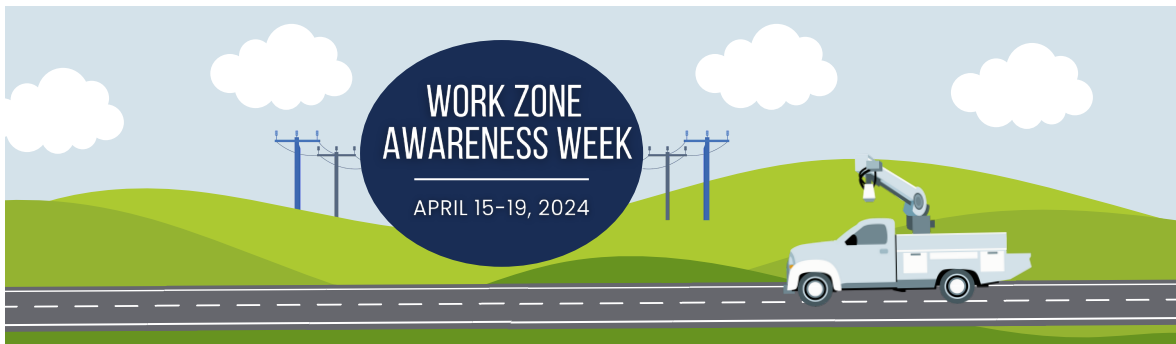
CARRIZOZO
575-648-2352

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

WWW.OCEC-INC.COM



Please remember to slow down and stay focused when approaching roadside work zones. Let's all do our part to keep roadside crews, drivers, and passengers safe during the busy construction season.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

A well-designed landscape can add beauty to your home and reduce home heating and cooling costs. Plant deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns to the south of your home to block sunlight in the summer and reduce the need for air conditioning. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Plant evergreen trees and shrubs with low crowns to block winter winds. Dense evergreen trees and shrubs planted to the north and northwest are the most common type of windbreak and can help lower energy used for home heating.

Source: energy.gov

THANK YOU, OCEC LINEMEN

Otero County Electric Cooperative was established in 1939, and since then, we have not only been committed to our members but also to our linemen and the labor they do for us.

OCEC employs 19 lineworkers who serve diverse communities and a large service territory.

Day in and day out, rain or shine, these lineworkers leave their families to perform one of the most dangerous jobs in the country. They do so without complaint to keep your lights on and keep you comfortable when it is cold or hot.

Our trucks with the Otero County Electric emblem are in your communities daily. The next time you see one, please consider waving, saying hello, or thanking them for the job they do.

Most of us may not realize how dependent we are on our linemen until the lights go out.

In 1941, OCEC served 76 miles of line. Today, we serve 21,735 electric meters across 2,833 miles of line in Otero, Lincoln, Chaves, and Socorro counties. Our crews cover this large territory continuously to make sure our members' needs are met.

National Linemen Appreciation Day is recognized in April. OCEC thanks our dedicated linemen.



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.

- o Ft. Stanton
- o Nogal
- o Ski Run Road - Alto
- o Cloud Country
- o Robinhood
- o James Canyon

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.

THANK YOU, OCEC LINEMEN

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 realize 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 making it to your mailbox.

