

Sun River Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone Numbers: 406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

Website: www.sunriverelectric.coop

After Hours & Weekend Dispatch:
406-467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516

If calling from a local number or cell phone –
please use: 406-467-2526 or 406-467-2527

Be sure to check your breakers before reporting outages.

Ripples

SEPTEMBER 2026

What do Red Flag, Energy Emergency Alert and PSPS Events mean?

THE electric energy world has new events and responses that you all need to be familiar with. I will share how Sun River Electric Cooperative will respond in each one of the situations.

Red flag events are put out by the National Weather Service based on forecasted temperature, humidity levels and wind speeds. These events will now trigger responses to how Sun River Electric (SREC) will operate the electric distribution grid. The system breakers will be set at the most sensitive level for detecting a fault or current disruption from interruptions such as wires slapping together, trees brushing the line, flocks of birds exiting the line as a group or a true phase to ground fault. This will reduce the number of electric interruptions by system line equipment that occur under “normal” operating conditions. By reducing these numbers, it reduces

MESSAGE

FROM THE CEO

COLUMN BY **BRAD BAUMAN**



the chances of fire ignition caused by an electric arc. Fire mitigation is in the news, and this is one way that SREC is doing our part to lessen the chances of fire starts. The outages caused by these events will take longer for our line crews to re-energize the lines because all of the affected lines will have to be patrolled before re-energization can take place. Please have patience with us during these events, we will work

hard to get your power restored as quickly as possible.

Energy Emergency Alerts are emergency notices delivered from the Southwest Public Power (SPP) regional transmission organization. SPP has become the new balancing authority (BA) in our region, replacing the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) in this role. If the load of the region begins to reach its maximum capacity, notice will be given to prepare for reduction in electric capacity. The notice for this will be very short, so the electric shutoff may occur before SREC has a chance to notify our members that the shortage has occurred. These outages could come in the form of our entire system being disconnected, or it could come in the form of rolling blackouts. We have not been asked to do

See MESSAGE, page 8

HIDDEN NUMBER

If you find your account number hidden in this issue, it is worth a \$50 credit on your next statement. There is one number hidden in every issue. Give us a call if you are the lucky consumer.

**406-467-2526 or
1-800-452-7516**

ALWAYS | BEFORE YOU
CALL | **DIG**



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John Burgmaier406-463-2522
Emelia Leonardson406-231-1596
Robert Pasha406-799-2292

MANAGER

Brad Bauman.....406-467-2526

SREC

ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE



SREC employees Chris Christensen and Leanne Hall present the Valier Pickleball Club with a \$4,500 check for their pickleball court project. | **SREC PHOTO**

28th annual scramble was a success

THIS was the 28th year for the annual Sun River Electric Golf Tournament. It was held at Harvest Hills Golf Course in Fairfield. SREC has donated more than \$90,000

over the years to community projects. This year \$4,500 was donated to the Valier Pickleball Court Project. There were 22 teams: 16 men's teams and six mixed teams. **RM**



MEN'S TEAM

TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

Trase Caffyn, Trey Caffyn,
Taylor Ratliff and Spencer Ratliff

2ND PLACE

Ray Schmidt, Kellen Meyer, Ken
Meyer and James Russell





1st FLIGHT

1ST PLACE

Morgan Schenk, Mike Budz, Jake Bloom and Kurt McInerney

2ND PLACE

Quinn Entenmann, Zeb Bloom, Garret Woldstad and Brett Lawson



MIXED

1ST PLACE

Terra and Lane Lattin, and Jesse and Carissa Jenkins

2ND PLACE

Jordan and Kelsey Ratliff, and Veronica and Tom Acciacca



HOLE PRIZE WINNERS

Hole #1: Men's Longest Drive – Morgan Schenk

Hole #2: Men or Women's Longest Putt – Spencer Ratliff

Hole #3: Closest to the SREC Golf Bag on Drive – Brian Lindgren

Hole #5: Men's KP – Matt Pancich

Hole #7: Men or Women's Longest Putt -Bill Johnson

Hole #8: Women's KP – Haley Peterson

Hole #9: Women's Longest Drive – Terra Lattin

Putting Green: Challenge – Jake Gustafson

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING WINNERS

Trenton Durocher and Jake Gustafson

THANK YOU

To all our sponsors

The tournament would not be possible without the generosity of hole sponsors. Thank you to the following businesses!

BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE
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WE OFFER APPLIANCE REBATES

HAVE you recently purchased new appliances?

Sun River Electric Cooperative offers rebates for household appliances to our members. If you purchase an Energy-Star-compliant clothes washer or dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator or freezer, you are eligible to receive a \$25 rebate. Just download the rebate form from the website: www.sunriverelectric.coop, fill it out, attach a copy of the receipt and send it to SREC. The application will be reviewed, and the \$25 credit will be applied to your billing account. For a listing of Energy-Star-rated appliances, check out its website: www.energystar.gov.

If you purchase an electric water heater, you may qualify for a \$100 rebate. The water heater must be at least 90-percent efficient, and at least 40-gallon capacity. The rebate form



is also on the SREC website. Simply download it, fill it out and attach a copy of the receipt. 339777

Rebate forms must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. If you have any questions, call Christy at Sun River Electric, 467-2526 or 1-800-452-7516.

RM



SIGN UP FOR FREE KIDS BOOKS

Preschool children, ages birth to 5, who live within the Sun River Electric Cooperative service territory, are eligible.

You can register online at <https://imaginationlibrary.com> or scan the QR code below.



MESSAGE

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this yet, so we have no history to share as to how it all may unfold. SREC will use our Facebook page as one means of notification as well as local radio notifications.

The last event I will discuss is the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). This new potential has grown out of the California, Oregon, and Hawaii fires. The major destruction that was a result of the fire events has led to the consideration of shutting off the electric power grid.

If the weather forecast predicts conditions that would most likely

cause major damage to the electric grid, and potentially start a fire, then the potential for a PSPS event may be warranted. This disconnect decision would be made by the general manager of the utility. I will assure you that from my perspective, this would be a last-resort response. By disconnecting the electric grid we would disconnect your water supply, your ability to charge communication devices, your ability to stay warm or cool, and your ability to have lights. All of these could have life-threatening implications, and I do not take those possibilities lightly.

We would again use the options discussed previously for notification. Please let us not experience an event like this, but our recent witness of the Spokane, Washington, fires open our

eyes to the real results of such events.

The electric world is changing around us, for better or worse. Our mission of serving the members with reliable and affordable electric service still is our highest priority. New expectations may cause longer outages than previous operation procedures that are influenced by electric grid conditions further up the system from SREC.

Please call the office if you have other questions and concerns. We will do our best to explain the "why's" and potential ways for you to protect yourselves should we have to respond to any of the forementioned events. Be safe as we endure these hot days of summer. We appreciate you as our member/owners and will do our best to keep your lights on. RM

REMINDER:

Bills not paid by the 10th of the month will be charged a \$10 late fee.



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