

# Spoon River News

## President's Report



William R. Dodds  
President/CEO

## Mark your calendars to attend the Annual Meeting of Members!

I hope you have already marked your calendar to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on June 19. Registration starts at 5 p.m. at Canton High School, and the meetings starts at 6:30 p.m. If you have never been to our Annual Meeting, here's a look at what goes on:

- ▶ Dinner is served from 5 to 6:30 in the cafeteria. This gives us a chance to meet and catch up with fellow members. We always have a nice meal of pork chop sandwiches, sides, and desert.
- ▶ At the business meeting, we watch a short presentation about the Cooperative's past year, recognize employee anniversaries and elect three directors to the board. This is your chance to be part of the democratic process that governs cooperatives.

- ▶ We award three \$500 college scholarships to high school seniors who live in our territory. Every student who applies for a scholarship will be recognized.
- ▶ Entertainment will be provided this year by Kevin Adams. Kevin has performed across the country and has an amazing act that will impress and entertain you.
- ▶ Attendance prizes will be awarded at the end of the meeting. We always give away some nice gifts. This year's grand prize is a flat-screen smart television!

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of Members this year. Our employees go out of their way to make sure it's not just business, but a fun evening for all. We ask that you RSVP to (309) 647-2700 by June 9.



# Welcome to our New Employees



*Kenny Van Meter*  
*Line Clearance Trimmer*



*Pat Ballard*  
*Line Clearance Trimmer*

## Tip of the Month

### Energy Efficiency



When replacing incandescent bulbs from recessed light fixtures, use energy-efficient bulbs that are rated for that purpose. For example, the heat buildup in downlights will significantly shorten the life of spiral CFLs.

Source: Department of Energy

## Spoon River Electric Cooperative

930 South Fifth Ave, PO Box 340, Canton, IL 61520  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
309-647-2700 • [www.srecoop.org](http://www.srecoop.org)

### *President/CEO*

William R. Dodds  
[bdodds@srecoop.org](mailto:bdodds@srecoop.org)

### *Chairman*

Bernard Marvel, Browning

### *Vice Chairman*

Terry Beam, Cuba

### *Secretary*

Steve Pille, Glasford

### *Treasurer*

Lyle Nelson, Abingdon

### *Assistant Treasurer*

Robert Lascelles, Ipava

### *Board of Directors*

James Banks, Canton  
Jack Clark, Lewistown  
Greg Leigh, Avon  
John Spangler, Marietta

### *Editor of Spoon River News*

Taryn Martin  
[tmartin@srecoop.org](mailto:tmartin@srecoop.org)

### Spoon River Electric Cooperative – By the Numbers

Miles of line energized: 1,255 • Number of members served: 4,808  
Number of power poles in territory: 29,255

# Take a vacation from high power bills

Soaring temperatures and sultry summer nights can cause electric bills to skyrocket. This summer, take a vacation from high electric bills by making your home—and your family's habits—more energy efficient.

## Beat the heat

Air conditioning helps most Americans beat the sweltering summer heat. According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), air conditioning accounts for as much as 50 percent of the average household electric bill. Proper maintenance and smart use of your home's cooling system will help keep your electric bill in check.

First, make sure your air conditioner's external unit is clean and free of debris. Clear away dead leaves or overgrown plants and weeds to enable the unit to perform as it should.

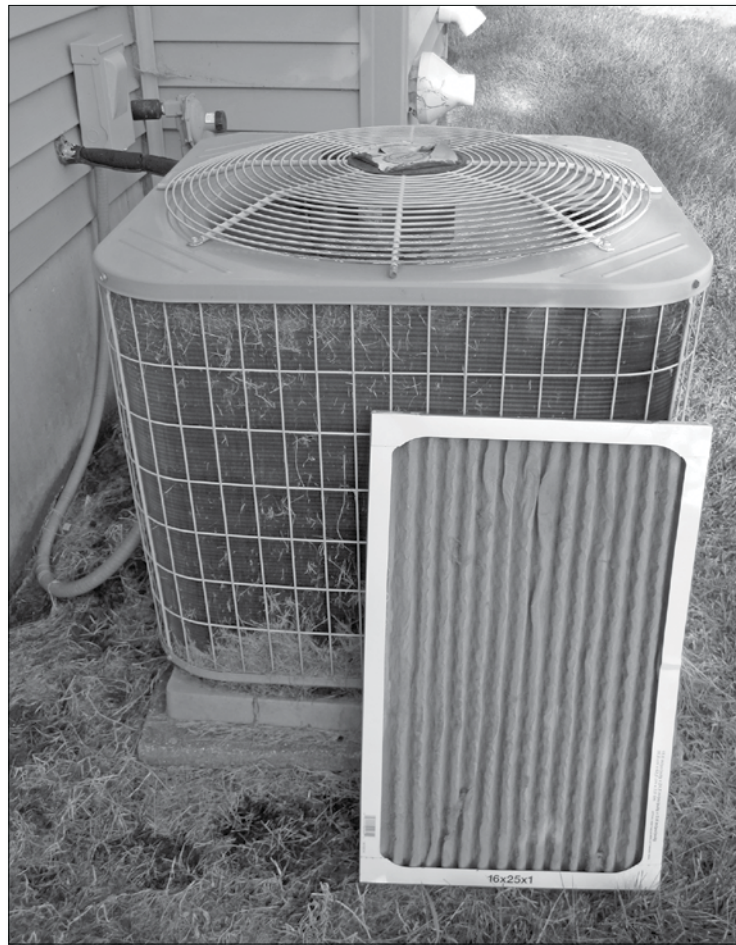
Second, change all of the air filters inside your home quarterly, or more often in homes with allergy sufferers or smokers. Fresh filters not only reduce the strain on your cooling system, but improve the air quality in your home.

Third, the DOE recommends that you set your home's thermostat as high as possible, while still maintaining a comfortable environment for your family during the summer months.

Bumping the thermostat up at least two degrees can make a noticeable difference on your power bill. Investing in a programmable thermostat can lead to even greater savings by automatically adjusting it so that the cooling system runs more often when you are at home and less often when you are away.

## Made in the shade

Windows are not only great sources of natural light in your home, but also great sources of heat during the summer. Curtains, blinds, and shades are some of the most cost-effective ways to make your windows and home more energy efficient. These window coverings offer low-cost, stylish solutions to shield the sun's rays and keep the interior of your home cool and comfortable. Proper weather stripping and caulking around window panes and casings will also improve the function of your windows by keeping the cool air in and the hot air out. Solar film applied to your home's existing windows will further repel the summer heat.



## Daily grind

Today's appliances are more energy efficient than ever, performing better and using less electricity than they did in the past. But despite their functionality and efficiency, most major household appliances give off heat when in use. During peak daytime temperatures, the residual heat from appliances can put an unnecessary strain on your home's cooling system and send your power bill soaring. Cooler temperatures in the early morning or late evening make these ideal times for running the dishwasher or washing and drying clothes. When possible, turn off your dishwasher's dryer cycle. This prevents even more residual heat from warming your home and saves on your power bill. Washing your clothes in cold water and hanging them out to dry are also great strides in reducing your household energy consumption.

As your summer heats up, call on your friends at Spoon River Electric Cooperative for more ways to lower your power bill. You can also visit [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com) to find out how little changes around the house can add up to big energy savings.



**Spoon River Mechanical Services is owned by  
YOUR electric cooperative.**

**Service is our top priority. We're your comfort  
for today and tomorrow.**

**Let us meet all your heating, cooling, plumbing  
and electrical needs by calling us at (309) 647-  
3450.**

Spoon River  
**MECHANICAL**  
Services, Inc.

**(309) 647-3450 • 405 ½ E. Linn St., Canton**  
**24-hour emergency service**

