

# JAMMUP

published by Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, Illinois

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Introducing SIEC's new bill format

by Julie Wilke, Director of Administration & Finance

We are excited to announce that beginning in August 2024 your SIEC bills will have a new look. The layout is designed to provide you with more information that is easier to read and understand.

A more detailed explanation will accompany the new bills in August.

### Advantages of the new format

- **Easier to read bill format** — A more intuitive layout makes the new bill easier to read and simpler for you to find the information that is most important to you. More color has been incorporated throughout the bill to improve readability.
- **Better energy usage data** — Compare your energy usage, as well as correlating monthly high and low temperatures.
- **Important information is more visible** — See important information such as account number, total due and due date, and any important co-op news and messages conveniently located at the top of the bill.
- **Invoice groups** — Members may now receive a summary statement for all accounts with the same membership number.

### What's not changing

Member account information will NOT change. Your account number(s) will remain the same.

Your payment cycle will remain from the first of the month through the end of the month. **Leah N. McConnell**

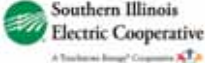
Bills will still be generated on the first working day of each month and be due on the 15th of each month.

Payment options have not changed. We offer many convenient payment options. These options are just more visible with the new billing format.

We are still in the development stage of the new bill format, but included is

an example. Additional information will be provided when the new bill format goes into effect in August 2024.

For questions, please call our office at 618-827-3555 or send an email to [siecbilling@siec.org](mailto:siecbilling@siec.org).



Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Mon - Fri  
Visit us online at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)  
Phone: (618) 827-3555  
Toll Free: 1-800-762-1400

**Member Name**                    **JOHN DOE**  
**Account #**                        **99999999**

**Billing Date:**                    **05/01/2024**  
**Current Bill Due Date:**        **05/15/2024**

Previous Balance                    \$299.02  
Payment Received                  -\$299.02  
Balance Forward                    \$0.00  
**Current Charges**                **\$221.99**  
**Total Due 06/01/22**             **\$221.99**

**Important Messages**

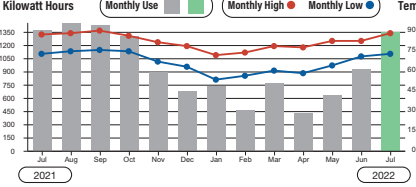
Our office will be closed Monday, May 27th.

**Total Due**

\$221.99

**Due Date:**  
05/15/24

**Service Address: 123 ANY ST.**

Description	Meter No.	Reading Dates		Previous	Present	Multiplier	kWh Usage
HOUSE	12345678	From	To	74316	75664	1	1,348
<p><b>Kilowatt Hours</b>    Monthly Use <span style="color: green;">■</span>    Monthly High <span style="color: red;">●</span>    Monthly Low <span style="color: blue;">●</span>    Temp</p> 							

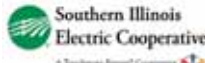
**Current Service Detail**

Facility Charge	\$46.00
kWh Charge    500 kWh @ 0.14230	\$71.15
kWh Charge    848 kWh @ 0.10230	\$86.75
Wholesale Power Cost Adj    1,348 kWh @ 0.01022	\$13.78
State Tax	\$4.31
<b>Total Current Charges</b>	<b>\$221.99</b>

**Energy Usage Comparison**


<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b>This Month Last Year</b>	<b>Avg Daily Use</b>	<b>Avg Daily Cost</b>	<b>Avg Daily Temp</b>
1,348 kWh 30 days	926 kWh 30 days	1,377 kWh 31 days	45 kWh	\$7.26	63°F

**KEEP SEND**




PO Box 100  
Dongola, IL 62926-0100

**PAY YOUR BILL 24/7**  
ONLINE: Check or credit/debit card at [www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop) or download the mobile app.  
PHONE: 1-855-356-6361






JOHN DOE  
123 ANY ST.  
ANYWHERE, USA 99999



<b>Account Number</b>	99999999
<b>Total Due 05/15/2024</b>	\$221.99
<b>Amount Due After 05/15/2024</b>	\$221.99

Please see back of stub for an Operation Round Up opt-in form

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
PO BOX 100  
DONGOLA IL 62926-0100

## Grilling: A delicious and energy-friendly option for cooking

**G**rilling and America go together like hot dogs, baseball and apple pie. There's nothing like a sizzling grill on a summer day. But guess what? Grilling not only satisfies our cravings for great food, but it also helps preserve the environment. So, let's fire up the grill and save energy!

### The cost of staying cool

As refreshing as it is to feel the cool breeze of an air conditioner (AC) on a hot summer day, its energy consumption can be hefty. Depending on the model, it can consume as much energy as a marathon runner (and run almost nonstop), using anywhere from 0.48 to 5.14 kWh per hour. That is enough to make anyone break a sweat.

Did you know that millions of people add to their AC's energy consumption without realizing it? How? By opening the oven door while cooking. According to the book "Bakewise" by Shirley O. Corriher, an oven can lose up to 150 degrees within 30 seconds. Where does all that heat go? You guessed it — right into your home. Plus, even with the door closed, your oven still radiates heat into your home since it has nowhere else to go. **Jim L. Crain**

### The solution: grilling

If you are looking to maintain a cool vibe and lower your AC's energy consumption, head outside to the grill.

Rather than generating heat indoors, the heat is dispersed outside, reducing strain on the AC, which ultimately lowers utility bills. In addition, you will be chowing down in no time like a true grill master, as grills reach a toasty 375 degrees in just 5 minutes. Compare that to the oven's sluggish 20-minute warm-up, and you'll be laughing all the way to the butcher shop.

### Tips for safe grilling

Make sure your next BBQ extravaganza is a sizzling success without any burns or mishaps. Here are some safety tips to follow:

- Take it outside. Only use grills in the great outdoors.
- Keep your grill at least 10 feet from any buildings or structures.
- Make sure your grill is on a flat, steady surface.
- Stay close. Never leave your grill unattended while preheating, cooking or cooling down.
- Dress for success. Avoid loose or long clothing that can catch fire.
- Keep a water spray bottle beside your grill to tackle any little flames that flare up quickly.
- Keep your cool with a fire extinguisher nearby, just in case. **Kevin E. Ports**

### Keeping your grill clean

Grills should undergo deep cleaning once or twice per year. Follow these steps to keep your gas grill in prime condition:

- **Burn away buildup:** Turn on the grill, close the lid and set the heat to maximum for at least 30 minutes. This process will eliminate any remaining grease or food debris.
- **Scrub it clean:** In a bowl, mix warm water with soap and dip a wire brush into the mixture. Scrub the grates to remove any carbon buildup.
- **Let it cool:** Allow the grill to cool down completely before storing it. Now your grill is ready for your next barbecue feast.
- **Regular maintenance:** In between uses, preheat your grill and then scrape it off with a wire-bristled brush before adding food.

### Happy grill, happy life

In addition to keeping it clean, it is also important to regularly check the propane tank and replace it if necessary. Inspect the hoses and connections for any leaks or damage. Make sure the burners are free of debris and are functioning properly. Finally, covering your grill when not in use can help protect it from the elements and prolong its lifespan.

Menu options are truly endless when it comes to grilling. Grab your apron, fire up the grill and get ready to impress your friends and family with your grilling skills while saving energy.

**HEAT UP THE GRILL**  
TO SAVE ENERGY THIS SUMMER

Nothing screams summer more than firing up the grill.

The good news is that using your grill in the great outdoors helps lower your energy bill. If you cook outside, less energy is needed to cool your kitchen.

- Nearly 70% of Americans own a grill.
- The Fourth of July is the most popular holiday for outdoor cooking.
- The hamburger is the favorite item to grill.
- The all-American hot dog gets the most votes from kids.
- More men grill than women.
- Grilling and barbecuing are not the same thing.
- Grilling means cooking over a fire, hot and fast.
- Barbecuing means cooking slowly over indirect heat.

Source: Breo Box

Safe Electricity.org

# WATER SAFETY FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Summer means fun in the sun and spending time in the water to cool off. But remember, electricity and water never mix! Read the safety tips below and fill in the blanks with the correct choice from the word bank.



*Psst! Check your work in the answer key.*

1. When possible, use \_\_\_\_\_ operated or rechargeable devices when you're near water sources like a swimming pool.
2. If you hear \_\_\_\_\_ while swimming, go inside until storms have passed.
3. Never bring \_\_\_\_\_ devices near a swimming pool or other body of water. Devices should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources.
4. All outdoor electrical outlets should be covered and kept \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Never handle electrical devices if you are \_\_\_\_\_ from swimming or other water activities.

## WORD BANK

thunder

wet

battery

dry

electrical



*Answer Key: 1) battery 2) thunder 3) electrical 4) dry 5) wet*

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Brent with your account number at **800-762-1400** to claim your prize.

### SIEC Board of Directors

Bill Littrell  
(President)..... Union Co.  
 Scott L. Ury  
(Vice President)..... Union Co.  
 Jerry P. Thurston  
(Secretary-Treasurer)..... Pulaski Co.  
 Steve Heisner.....Pulaski Co.  
 Lamar Houston, Jr.....Alexander Co.  
 Kim Bakehouse.....Massac Co.  
 Scott Miller.....Alexander Co.  
 Randall Rushing..... Massac Co.  
 Toni L. Snell.....Johnson Co.  
 Ronald E. Osman (Attorney)  
 General Manager David A. Johnston  
 Brent Goforth (Editor)

**For Outages Call:**  
 800-762-1400 • 618-827-3555

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South  
 P.O. Box 100  
 Dongola, Illinois 62926  
 618-827-3555  
**Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.**  
[www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)



## BLOOD DRIVES

### June 3rd

*First Baptist Church, Metropolis, Ill.  
 noon to 6 p.m.*

### July 3rd

*First Christian Church, Anna, Ill.  
 noon to 5 p.m.*



*SIEC members who donate will receive a \$10 bill credit! Limit (1) credit per member household.*