



Affordable Housing:
For Locals Only!



SMPA Online
Gets a Facelift



SMPA Reduces
Risk of Wildfire

AUGUST 2022

ENERGYWISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Both Offices Open:
M - TH, 7:00a.m. - 5:30p.m.

www.smpa.com
www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower

In the event of a power outage,
contact your local SMPA office to
reach our 24-hour dispatch.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

energywise@smpa.com
(970) 626-5549 x212

SAFETY TIPS

WORKING WITH ELECTRICITY

- Always carry ladders horizontally.
- See that all machine parts are properly guarded.
- Keep yourself and your equipment at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines.

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(866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Governor Polis Praises Energy-Efficient, Affordable Rural Homes Project

Across the state, there is a need for affordable housing for critical workers like teachers, service providers and healthcare professionals. So where does the Governor of Colorado go when he wants to see working solutions to this problem? Try Norwood, Colorado.

Last month, Governor Jared Polis visited the Norwood Public Library to meet with a panel that included Paul Major, Manager of the Rural Homes Project at Norwood's Pinion Park, Paul Scharfenberger, CEO of the Colorado Clean Energy Fund (CCEF) and our own Brad Zaporski, CEO of San Miguel Power Association (SMPA).

The panel presented a project called "Rural Homes: For Sale, For Locals." By integrating donated land, prefabricated panelized home design, low-cost construction finance, and innovative cost recovery into a toolkit, the project restructures the way rural homes can be financed affordably for the region's essential workforce.

The program also eliminates financing hurdles to ownership of rooftop solar panels and energy-efficient home heating and cooling which lowers monthly utility bills and carbon footprints. SMPA CEO, Brad Zaporski explained how the on-bill-financing part of this solution allows homeowners to pay off the up-front costs of these technologies with a portion of their savings.

"It's a 'win-win-win,'" explained Zaporski. "The folks who move into these homes will have a lower bill, and an improved quality of life. The community will benefit from added local housing, and we, as the utility, see added grid resiliency as these ultra-high efficiency appliances are paired with solar, and, potentially, energy storage as well."

Governor Polis responded with praise for the project and its originators. "It's remarkable to see a project like this, in which pre-fabricated housing is becoming even more competitive and bringing down costs, especially in an area like yours where there is often an extra premium to build. It's very exciting to see what's going on here in Norwood."



Extended Outages Help Reduce the Risk of Wildfire

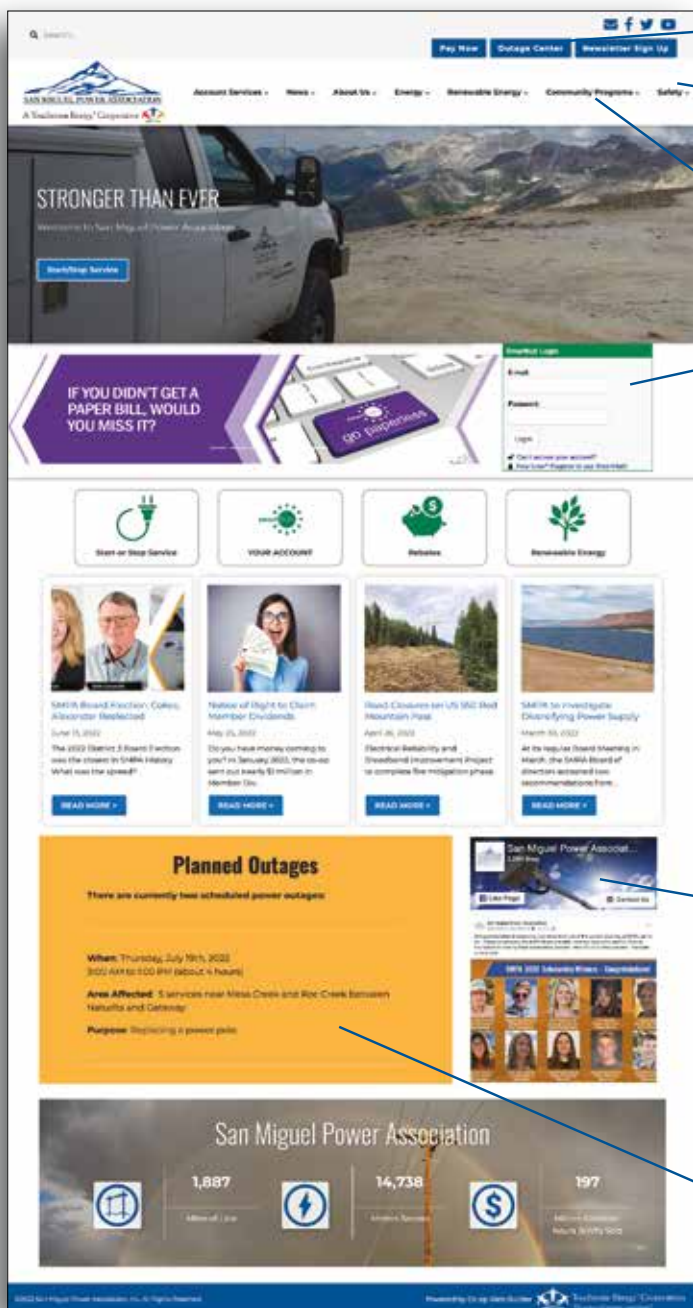


With summer in full swing, your electric cooperative is on high alert to the risk of wildfires.

"Under conditions like these, we take extra precautions to reduce the risk of fire when restoring power," says SMPA Chief Operating Officer, Jeremy Fox. "We continue to rely on our automated and remotely-controlled equipment; however, we additionally require our line crews to be on site when power is restored. This practice reduces the risk of fire, but it can also extend the duration of a given power outage."

SMPA appreciates patience from its members as power outages are addressed with extra caution during high-fire danger months.

WELCOME TO THE NEW SMPA.COM



GET REGULAR UPDATES ON POWER OUTAGES.

SEE THE NEW FIRE MITIGATION PAGE.

Stay up-to-date on our fire mitigation measures.

ACCESS SCHOLARSHIPS AND COMMUNITY DONATIONS.

INSTANTLY ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT THROUGH SMARTHUB.

ONE-CLICK TO OUR MOST FREQUENTLY USED FEATURES.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS.

...from your co-op and this ever-changing industry.

STAY SOCIAL.

Keep informed and savvy. Share your thoughts and opinions.

KNOW ABOUT PLANNED POWER OUTAGES AHEAD OF TIME.

Outage Notices on Your Phone?

Have outage updates sent directly to your smart device. You can also set up reminders to pay your bill or other notices.



WHAT IS BENEFICIAL ELECTRIFICATION?

It's using electricity instead of fossil fuels where doing so achieves one or more of these without adversely affecting the others.



- Save Money
- Reduce GHG (GreenHouse Gasses)

- Improved quality of life
- Grid resiliency

(Think of the four pillars.)

SMPA POWER PLAY

This Month's Puzzle: SURE, I OFFER A CLASS: ROOM OR HALL

Hint: ...because essential workers gotta live somewhere.

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize to:

**EnergyWise
PO Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432**

Thanks to the workers who make America run... HAPPY LABOR DAY!

Please note: Our offices will be closed on Monday, September 5th. Basic services are always available on smpa.smarthub.coop/Login.html

