

# ENERGYWISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Nucla**

170 W. 10th Ave.  
P.O. Box 817  
Nucla, CO 81424  
(970) 864-7311  
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

**Ridgway**

720 N. Railroad St.  
P.O. Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432  
(970) 626-5549  
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

**Both Offices Open:**  
M - TH • 7:00am - 5:30pm

[www.smpa.com](http://www.smpa.com)  
[www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower](https://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](mailto:energywise@smpa.com)  
(970) 626-5549 x2120

## NEW YEARS SAFETY TIPS

- Use fire-smart decorations. Use LED lights, turn them off before bed or leaving home.
- Protect your home while traveling. Lock doors and windows, pause mail deliveries, use timers for lights.
- Stay safe on the road. Plan ahead for weather and traffic, and always wear seatbelts—especially during busy holiday travel times

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. In any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## FEATURE STORY

## Resolve to Save Energy and Money

AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS, MANY OF US RESOLVE TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES—SAVE MONEY, LIVE HEALTHIER, OR SIMPLIFY OUR LIVES.

This year, consider a resolution that benefits both your household budget and the environment: saving energy at home. A few small adjustments can make a big difference, especially during winter.

One of the easiest steps is lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even a slight reduction can noticeably cut heating costs while keeping your home comfortable. Wearing warm layers or using extra blankets can help bridge the gap.



- An effective strategy is sealing air leaks around windows and doors. Drafts let warm air escape and cold air enter, making your heating system work harder. Inexpensive caulk or weatherstripping is simple to apply and pays off quickly.
- Take advantage of natural warmth by opening window coverings during the day. Sunlight can help heat your home for free. Close curtains at night to trap that warmth indoors.
- If floors feel cold, adding area rugs can help insulate rooms and keep feet warmer.
- Try running appliances like the dishwasher, washing machine, and dryer outside peak hours of 4 PM to 9 PM to reduce energy demand and potentially lower costs.

## The Spirit of Giving

*Thank you to all who brought in food items to be matched by SMPA and given to local food banks this holiday season. Your gifts inspire hope in the winter and all year long.*



DUDE...



THIS TOTALLY WORKS.

Totally Green contributions bolster SMPA's Green Fund which promote energy efficiency, beneficial electrification and renewable energy right here, on the Western Slope.

[smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green](http://smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green)



## Knowledge is Power

"Interested in learning how your home or business uses energy? Sign up for an energy audit with EcoAction Partners. Energy audits can provide the information you need to increase comfort, ensure your building is safe from undetected gas leaks, and decrease your utility bills. SMPA rebates and Energy Smart Colorado Support help keep these audits extremely affordable. Visit [ecoactionpartners.org/energy-audit](http://ecoactionpartners.org/energy-audit) to learn more and sign up today!"



## Board District #3 & #6 Elections Announced

Two positions on SMPA's Board of Directors will be up for election this year. If you live in or near Norwood, Placerville, Sawpit, Rico, Dunton, Loghill or Ridgway, you may be eligible to run. Learn more at [www.smpa.com/content/elections](http://www.smpa.com/content/elections).

The election will be concluded at the 2026 Annual Meeting, which will be a hybrid in-person and streaming virtual event, held on Thursday, June 4th, 2026, at 5:30 PM. The meeting will take place at the SMPA Office in Nucla. Learn more at [www.smpa.com/content/annual-meeting-election](http://www.smpa.com/content/annual-meeting-election).

## New Rate Reminder

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA) has increased its access charge by \$5 for most residential electric accounts, bringing it to \$33.00 per month. There has also been a 3¢ increase to the on-peak energy rate, bringing that rate to 25¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh). These changes apply to energy used beginning December 15, 2025, and will first be reflected on members' January electric bills.

## Oh, What Fun it Was...

Thanks to Naturita, Norwood, Ridgway and Ouray for hosting parades of light. We were thrilled to join in with our Christmas floats. We'll see you again, next year!





**HEAT PUMPS | WINDOWS | DOORS | INSULATION**

**Member-exclusive financing for energy efficient home upgrades**

**APPLY TODAY**





**2026 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE**

**Illtricity Scholarship Foundation**

**TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.**

**DEADLINES: January 30th, 2026 | March 9th, 2026**

# SMPA POWER PLAY

### THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE:

SPIN T GREATER WHIP

Hint: Seal up with it

Last Month's Answer: INDUCTION COOKTOPS

Last Month's Winner: Carl Mackey

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

EnergyWise  
PO Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432



[facebook.com/SanMiguelPower](https://facebook.com/SanMiguelPower)