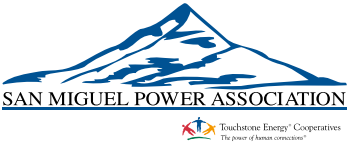


# ENERGYWISE

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

## MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

- Test your GFCI outlets.
- Small children? Plug in outlet covers for safety.
- Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage.

*See more tips on page 2.*

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

# Inviting the World to Wright's Mesa

## “MUSIC ON THE MESA IS ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY VITALITY”

—DAIVA CHESONIS, Programs and Events Manager, Norwood Park & Recreation District (NPRD)

If you're lucky enough make it to either of these two free, picnic concerts, on June 13th or August 8th, you'll feel that vitality, firsthand! Gates at 4:30, shows at 7.

The outdoor concert series is presented by the Town of Norwood, NPRD, and Pickin' Productions, at the San Miguel County Fairgrounds. “On average,” says Chesonis, “550 people gather at each concert to picnic, look each other in the eye, and feel the positivity of a homegrown event.” The benefits to town directly include grocery store stops, coffee mug and gas tank fills, a meal at a local eatery, camping on the surrounding public lands, and hiking or riding the local trails.”

As 2026 kicked off, SMPA was presented with the opportunity to help sponsor these lively events through the Community Focus Donations program, and was only too glad to do so. Supporting community events like Music on the Mesa deepens member understanding about SMPA and our mission, while informing the Board and employees about the varied needs within our communities.

*If you love music, fun and the spirit of camaraderie, then we'll see you on Wright's Mesa!*



Stay warmer in the winter and enjoy lower electricity and natural gas bills forever!

See if you qualify for the Income-Qualified home weatherization (CARE) program. Visit [www.ecoactionpartners.org/care](http://www.ecoactionpartners.org/care).

**87<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**

**SMPA 2026 ANNUAL MEETING  
LANDSCAPE OF OPPORTUNITIES**

- Board Election Results
- Local Innovations
- \$10<sup>00</sup> Bill Credit

**SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 170 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., Nucla, CO**  
[www.smpa.com/content/annual-meeting-election](http://www.smpa.com/content/annual-meeting-election)

**REMEMBER AND HONOR**

**This office will be closed  
Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 2026  
in observation of  
Memorial Day**

**Basic services always available  
at: [smpa.smarthub.coop/  
Login.html](http://smpa.smarthub.coop/Login.html)**

## Electrical Safety Month

In May, we recognize National Electrical Safety Month to raise awareness about reducing electrically related fires, injuries and fatalities. Here are a few important safety tips to keep in mind:

**EXTENSION CORDS**  
should only be used as **TEMPORARY** solutions.

**AVOID OVERLOADING** electrical circuits.

**LIGHT BULBS** should match the **RECOMMENDED WATTAGE** for all fixtures.

**WATER** and **ELECTRICITY** are a **dangerous** combination.

## SMPA on High Alert this Fire Season

At San Miguel Power Association (SMPA), we are taking a comprehensive and proactive approach to wildfire prevention this summer, especially in light of the record-low winter snowpack, which increases the summertime fire risks. Our strategy focuses on mitigating wildfire risk through several key measures:

- **Equipment Upgrades and Maintenance:** SMPA continues to replace old sectionalizing equipment with safer alternatives. We are also testing fire-resistant pole covers in pilot projects.
- **Vegetation Management:** A comprehensive Vegetation and Right-of-Way management study guides strategic clearing near power lines, targeting high-risk areas identified through detailed GIS mapping and fire risk analysis.
- **Advanced Monitoring and Response:** We use an advanced camera system and 24/7 system monitoring by AI-assisted technicians and dispatchers.
- **Fire Risk Analysis and Protocols:** We analyze fire risk levels over our service territory and adjust system settings and operating procedures during state and county "Red Flag warnings" and weather advisories to further reduce ignition chances.
- **Ongoing Learning and Adaptation:** SMPA continuously researches new wildfire mitigation technologies and methods.

The SMPA wildfire prevention efforts combine technology, strategic resource deployment, and responsive operational adjustments to safeguard our community and infrastructure during this high-risk summer. More details are available on their Wildfire Mitigation webpage at [www.smpa.com/wildfire-mitigation](http://www.smpa.com/wildfire-mitigation).

**A TripSaver II recloser uses vacuum interrupters that do not expel hot debris or sparks, which helps mitigate the risk of wildfires.**



## MAKE TIME-OF-USE (TOU) WORK FOR YOU.



### WHAT'S TIME-OF-USE (TOU)?

SMPA'S Time-of-Use (TOU) rate offers members a discount on energy for 19 hours of the day, 11¢ / kWh (previously 13.5¢ / kWh). During the 5 hour "Peak" period of 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., members see a higher rate (25¢ / kWh).

### MAKING TOU WORK FOR YOU

Based on your energy-use profile, there are likely cost-effective improvements you can make, helping to reduce your peak as well as SMPA's overall peak.

Learn more →



## SMPA POWER PLAY

**THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE:**  
RIP RAIL IT EVER SCORES

Hint: No Sparks.

Last Month's Answer: Director Elections

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

EnergyWise  
PO Box 1150  
Ridgway, CO 81432



**Have you changed your phone # or email?**

Let us know at 1-877-864-7311