

ENERGY WISE

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



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NOVEMBER 2016



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www.smpa.com
www.facebook.com/SanMiguel Power

In the event of a power outage, contact your local SMPA office. If it is after hours, you will be able to automatically transfer to our 24-hour dispatch.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Send your questions or suggestions for the editors of EnergyWise to:
energywise@smpa.com
(970) 626-5549 x212

SAFETY TIP

The average number of cooking fires on Thanksgiving is triple that of a normal day. Remember:

- “Stand by your pan” when cooking.
- Keep pot holders, oven mitts, food wrappers, etc. away from the stove.
- Children should also be kept away from hot stoves.

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

NOTABLES: Brown Field to Green Field: I.Q. Solar Array Under Construction

Income-Qualified Members to Reap Efficiency, Renewable Benefits



“It may not look like much now,” says SMPA Member Services Manager, Wiley Freeman, “but this site, which was formerly a landfill, will soon be producing up to 200 KW of renewable energy for income-qualified participants.”

Adjacent to the San Miguel County Transfer Station in Norwood, Colorado, there sits a barren field. Most local residents drive past without giving it a second look as they drop off their recycling and other waste. But this small, unassuming plot is about to complete a remarkable transformation.

“In the 1980s, this was an actual landfill.” says SMPA Member Services Manager, Wiley Freeman. “It closed in 1990 and for the last 26 years, it has not been used for anything by the county or anyone else because of what’s buried below.”

In 2015, the organization, GRID Alternatives, Colorado responded to an invitation to partner with the Colorado Energy Office in an initiative to convert so-called

“brown fields,” like the one in Norwood into “green fields” that can provide benefits to low-to-moderate income households in Colorado.

“When SMPA heard about the partnership,” Freeman said, “we saw an opportunity to help turn solar technology into a mechanism that would help relieve the utility burdens that some lower income residents face in our service territory.”

So, the “I.Q. Solar” (“I.Q.”=“Income-Qualified”) project was envisioned and, with a great deal of assistance and incredible support from San Miguel County, it will soon be constructed upon that old, barren landfill.

Other project partners include Eco-Action Partners, and E3 Insight which both assist with administration the I.Q. programs.

For qualifying members, the I.Q. Solar project will be the second part of a complete assistance package. SMPA’s free home efficiency program, known as the SMPA I.Q.

Weatherization Program is the first step. Members who think they might qualify should start at the Eco-Action Partners web site.

www.ecoactionpartners.org/smpa-iq-programs/





Youth Opportunities

San Miguel Power offers so many opportunities to students in our service area. Deadlines for these three are coming up soon!



Know a kid who attends middle school in Ridgway, Ouray, Telluride, Silverton, Norwood, Naturita or Paradox? Tell them to submit a holiday-themed photograph. Cash prizes given to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place!
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1st
www.smpa.com → Community → Youth Programs → Holiday Art Contest

YOUTH TOUR

The week-long Youth Tour exposes High School Juniors & Seniors to the electric cooperative network while exploring our nation's capital.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 8th



www.smpa.com → Community → Youth Programs → Rural Electric Youth Tour

YOUTH CAMP

The Cooperative Youth Leadership camp is a week long adventure in life, leadership and nature. Apply for this once-in-a-lifetime experience.
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 8th



www.smpa.com → Community → Youth Programs → Leadership Camp

Try Ham for Thanksgiving!
 ...also, SMPA Offices Closed 11/23 - 11/27.



The SMPA Offices will be closed on November 23 through November 27. Automated services are available 24-7 at (970) 626-5549. Also, call the same number to report a power outage.



You could win this energy-efficient LED-TV just by joining the elite group of members who purchase Green Blocks each month. Learn more at www.smpa.com → Renewable Energy → Green Blocks



Here's a big 'thank you' from Mrs. Gaffari's Norwood Kindergarten class to SMPA Director, Dave Alexander for his donation to the classroom.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN A WINTER POWER OUTAGE?

Your electric cooperative engineers, operations personnel and line crews do all they can to prevent power outages, but winter weather brings even more factors that threaten the stability of electric distribution grid. That's why San Miguel Power recommends being prepared for power outages, especially in the winter months.

Consider Packing a Power Outage Kit

The focal point of every quality power outage emergency kit should be **light**, **communication**, and **warmth**. Every kit should at least include:

- hand-powered radio flashlight
- emergency 36 hour candles (with waterproof matches)
- hand/body warmers and emergency sleeping bags
- first-aid kit
- non-perishable food items
- Alternative methods of charging communication devices
- Drinking water

