

Exercise Your Civic Duty

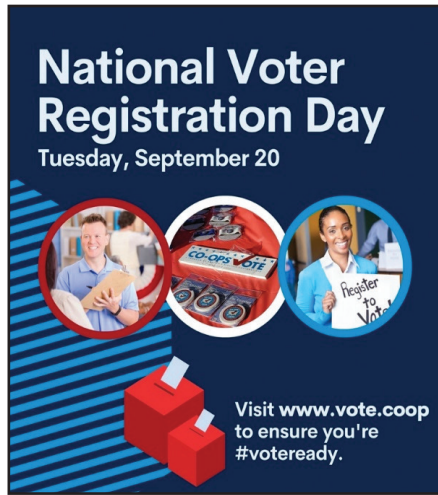
America's electric cooperatives, including Ark Valley, understand the value of building relationships with elected officials at all levels of government. There are many important policy issues that directly impact electric utilities and ultimately, you, the consumer-members we proudly serve. Strengthening our relationships with elected leaders positions us to advocate for our local community.

While Ark Valley is a locally-owned cooperative, we're part of a larger network of electric co-ops. Through our non-partisan grassroots program known as "Co-ops Vote," we're working to enhance the political strength of electric co-ops and boost voter turnout. There's power in numbers, and when we all show up at the polls, we can voice the issues that matter most to our community.

National Voter Registration Day is September 20, and midterm elections are right around the corner. Don't assume your voter registration status is up to date. Visit www.vote.coop, then click "Election Resources" to verify your status.

Get informed. In addition to ensuring your registration is up to date, learning about local policy issues and candidates is one of the best ways you can prepare to vote.

Vote! We encourage everyone to vote, stand up for our local community and make a collective impact. It's the easiest—and most important—way you can exercise your civic duty. It gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the issues that matter most to you.



Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Trustees for the Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association held its regular meeting for the month of July on July 25, 2022.

The Board reviewed the June performance of the Cooperative's distributed generation units at the Arlington and Medora substations, the Cooperative's irrigation load control system, and Huntsville solar farm production. By utilizing a 1 mega-watt diesel generator at the Arlington substation and another 1 mega-watt diesel generator at the Medora substation, the Cooperative saved nearly \$30,000.00 for June by using the generators to lower peak demand costs. However, once the fuel and other operating costs are considered, the net savings of the diesel generators amounted to approximately \$18,400. The diesel generator at Medora had been located at the Huntsville substation in previous years but was moved because of the construction of a solar farm at Huntsville.



With the new solar farm at Huntsville generating electricity but not fully tuned-in and functional, the company that owns and operates the solar farm infrastructure, Today's Power, Inc., did not charge Ark Valley for the electricity produced for the month of June. This amounted to a \$15,389.90 savings to members. The irrigation load control saved members an estimated \$28,018.17. The total savings from all sources of distributed generation and from the irrigation load control equaled \$61,820.61 for the month of June.

2023 Youth Tour Applications Now Open

Ark Valley Electric Cooperative has officially opened applications for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in 2023.

Ark Valley provides two scholarships for Junior and Senior students in Ark Valley's territory; a \$500 scholarship and a \$1,000 scholarship with an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.

To Apply:

1. Students must complete the Youth Tour application on Ark Valley's website.
2. Complete a quiz about Electric Cooperatives on Ark Valley's website.
3. Submit a written copy of a 5-10 minute speech on the "Seven Cooperative Principles". Finalists will be asked to present to a panel of Board Members and Co-op Staff in December.

Essay, quiz and application must be received by Ark Valley Electric no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 30th.

Applicants may direct their questions to dalexander@arkvalley.com.



The Ark Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. 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.