

A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members.

September 2014



LREC offering Fiber-to-the-Home Services

Energy Efficiency **Tip of the Month**

When it is hot outside, appliances and lighting can actually heat up our home more than we think. To save energy, minimize the activities that generate additional heat, such as burning open flames, continuously running a computer, or using hot-hair devices like curling irons. This will ultimately keep your house cooler.

Source: Department of Energy If you live or work within the shaded area and are interested in high-speed internet, digital HDTV, or home phone, please call us at **918-772-2526** or check out our website www.lrecok.net.

Do you like where you live and enjoy the rural, small-town pride? What if you can continue to enjoy the community in which you live and take advantage of technology not yet available in most large cities? *Lake Region*



Technology & Communications, a brand-new subsidiary division of *Lake Region Electric Cooperative*, is bridging the technology gap between rural and urban communities with a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network. With a FTTH network, employees and business leaders will be able to work from home with the same speed as *Continued on page 2*

What is Fiber-to-the-Home?

Fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) is the delivery of a communications signal over optical fiber from the operator's switching equipment all the way to a home or business, thereby replacing existing copper infrastructure such as telephone wires and coaxial cable. Fiber to the home is a relatively new and fast growing method of providing vastly higher bandwidth to consumers and businesses, and thereby enabling more robust video, internet and voice services.

Connecting homes directly to fiber optic cable enables enormous improvements in the bandwidth that can be provided to consumers. Current fiber optic technology can provide two-way transmission speeds of up to 100 megabits per second. Further, as cable modem and DSL providers are struggling to squeeze increments of higher bandwidth out of their technologies, ongoing improvements in fiber optic equipment are constantly increasing available bandwidth without having to change the fiber. That's why fiber networks are said to be "future proof."



Fiber-to-the-home services

Continued from page 1

the city experiences. The world is changing daily and most of today's business models requires cutting-edge technology. Education and health care will also improve with FTTH. With high bandwidth capabilities, students of all ages will have opportunities to increase their education. No longer will rural schools be limited. Elementary through high school students will have access to the internet for research for school projects and term papers.

Adults will be able to finish or receive the college degrees they have long desired. High speed and reliable bandwidth will allow them to participate in degree programs from the convenience of their own homes. Residents can have greater

health care access with FTTH. Rural health providers will have more access to recourses via the internet. Imagine being able to have a face-to-face visit with your health care provider without leaving home with videoconferencing. Instant access to medical specialists located in large cities via videoconferencing from home or health care center becomes another opportunity *356500*.

If you find yourself unable to stay in your current community and a move is in your future, property values increase with a FTTH network. Fiber connections make a single family home easier to sell and a multiple dwelling unit easier to rent.

If you are interested in FTTH services, which include; high-speed internet, digital HDTV, and home phone, please call 918-772-2526.



FTTH customer satisfaction survey

During the month of July, Lake Region conducted a survey of nearly 300 customers in our new fiber-to-the-home network area to help better understand what our members' thoughts and feelings are on the fiber system.

Main Reason for Choosing Lake Region



Customer Testimonials

I've had several Internet providers & LREC is the fastest & most reliable. I would recommend this service.

I consider the fiber optic Internet service LREC provides to be the best Internet service I have ever had at my home.

Fast reliable Internet service and competitive monthly charge

Your Internet speed blows the doors off cable or DSL, and I've never had so many Hi-Definition TV stations in my life. Thanks LREC!

Very happy with all of our services. Excellent support from Lake Region employees. Very quick to return calls.

The bundle option has been great, much easier for us.

My previous TV and Internet service was satellite I could not use it when it was raining or storming, not a problem now thanks.

We were among the first to receive service and have been satisfied with all their services.

I am extremely pleased with my Internet service! It's been very exciting to have high speed reliable Internet so far out of town, and at such an affordable rate!!

Operation Round-Up Update

Through the Operation Round-Up program, members voluntarily "roundup" their electric bills to the nearest dollar each month. Each participant donates an average of \$6 a year, all of which goes directly toward meeting local needs.



Lake Region Electric Cooperative members who participate in the Operation Round-Up program help make these grants possible.

The Operation Round-Up Foundation met during their regular business meeting, held on July 23, 2014 and approved three grants. During the meeting, grants were awarded to:

Cherokee County Child Welfare Services (DHS) was awarded \$3,000 to purchase Christmas gifts for foster children.

Cherokee County Ministerial Alliance was awarded \$1,200 for their back to school back pack program.

Helping Hands for the Elderly and Handicapped Society was approved-contingent upon receipt of invoice of \$6,000 for modular wheel chair ramps.

If you would like more information about our Operation Round-Up program, or are interested in applying for a grant, please call us at **918-772-2526** or toll-free at **800-364-LREC** (5732). Operation Round-Up applications are on our website at *www.lrecok.coop*.



Embrace Fall Weather with Natural Energy Savings

We're about to enjoy the best of fall weather, when it's too cool to leave the air conditioner running but too warm to power up the heating system.

So throw open the curtains during the day to let the sunrays in to naturally light and heat your home. South-facing windows, especially, should go uncovered on sunny days. Close drapes at night to keep out autumn drafts.

Next, inspect the windows in rooms that feel cold at night even when it's not too cold outside. Chances are, the windows are drafty.

Third, resist the urge to crank up the heat when it's cool but not cold outside. Throw an extra blanket on the bed or pull on your flannel PJs. Still cold? Set the thermostat as low as is comfortable during waking hours, and turn it back at least 10 degrees for the overnight. You could save up to 10 percent a year on your heating and cooling bills this way.

Word Search

Can you find all of the words associated with electricity? Use the word box below for help, and circle each word when you find it!



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Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden in this issue of the *Powerline Press*. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill.

To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone or mail during the month of publication.

The amount increases by \$10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of \$50.

For more information, call 800-364-LREC or 918-772-2526

Cooperative bylaws are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert.