

A close-up photograph of a person's hands and torso. The person is wearing a blue denim shirt and tan work gloves. They are holding a weathered wooden post with several strands of barbed wire wrapped around it. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with dry grass.

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's Rural Electric Cooperatives

**2017 PHOTO
CONTEST:
LIFE ON
THE RANCH**

Southwestern Electric Cooperative • July 2017

Stay On the Alert for Scammers

Scammers are at it again and recently attempted to scam members at another co-op. The co-op member received a call from an El Paso, Texas number requesting to verify that she received notice that her meter was being changed out because it was hazardous; and they were making sure someone would be home to let them in. The member reported the caller had her address and phone number, but could not verify how her account was listed.

This is just one example of the many ways scammers are attempting to fool all co-op members across the state and country. The best practice is to never give your personal information to anyone over the phone. If you ever have a question about whether a person represents SWEC, please give us a call at 575-374-2541 and speak to one of our friendly customer service representatives, with any questions and to verify if the caller is an SWEC representative. Also, keep in mind that SWEC does not use a third-party to collect debt.

Scams keep coming around time and time again, and the scammers behind them are getting more creative and more aggressive with their tactics each time. We want to encourage our members to be aware of the different tactics used by the scammers attempting to take advantage of them so they can avoid falling into their traps.

Again, please contact us at 575-374-2451 anytime you have a question about a telephone call regarding your electric service.

Happy Independence Day!
Have a safe and fun Fourth of July. The cooperative will be closed Tuesday, July 4 and will re-open on Wednesday, July 5.



Safety First on the Fourth

It's the favorite, flag-waving holiday that has something for everyone—parades, picnics, games, fun, and food!



It's also the holiday that requires a little celebration common sense from kids to grandparents. For example:

- Place your grill away from dry grass, bushes, your house, and keep it out of the wind.
- Use extreme caution with fireworks. Make sure a knowledgeable person handles the fireworks display.
- Generously apply sunscreen when outdoors, and reapply every two hours, even on cloudy days, and after swimming or sweating.

So celebrate the Fourth of July with safety in mind and enjoy all of the festivities.

The Seven Cooperative Principles

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England in 1844.

Southwestern Electric Cooperative was formed in 1947 based on the cooperative business model with the foundation of these seven cooperative principles:

1. **Voluntary and Open Membership**
2. **Democratic Membership Control**
3. **Member's Economic Participation**
4. **Autonomy and Independence**
5. **Education, Training and Information**
6. **Cooperation among Cooperatives**
7. **Concern for Community**



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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the first Tuesday following the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the cooperative boardroom.

SOUTHWESTERN REPORT



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Office Hours (M-Fri.)
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Open Thru Lunch

General Manager
Gary Rinker