

FlexPay

BY SWRE

PREPAID PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO SWRE MEMBERS

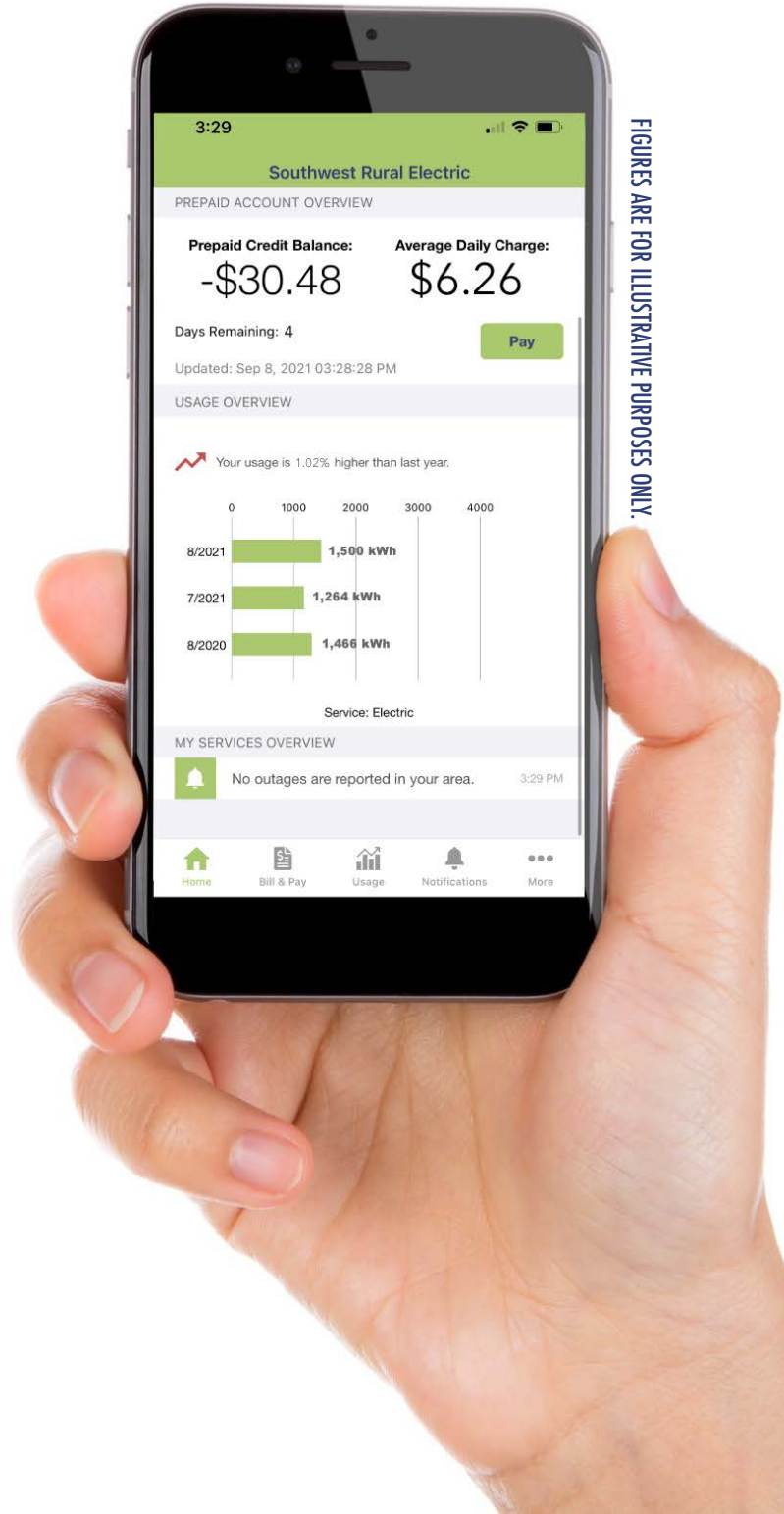
Members can now enroll in FlexPay, Southwest Rural Electric's flexible prepaid program. FlexPay allows you to conveniently purchase electricity upfront on a schedule and budget that fits your needs.

New members can get started with no upfront deposit, and established members can roll over their existing deposit into FlexPay and use it to pay their electric bill. To begin service, you will choose a dollar amount to load onto the account.

FlexPay members don't receive a monthly electric bill. Instead, SWRE notifies them via email or text message when their FlexPay account balance reaches the low-balance threshold. When your balance is low, simply make a deposit on your prepaid account by logging into your SmartHub account or by using any of our other convenient payment options. To avoid disconnection (when your account balance reaches zero), reload your account.

All FlexPay users are encouraged to download our app, SmartHub, so you can check your prepaid account balance and electricity usage 24/7. You can even report an outage and adjust your notification preferences through the app.

Call SWRE at 1-800-256-7973 to plug into the benefits of FlexPay today.



FIGURES ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.

CEO's Message



CEO, Jeff Simpson

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Southwest Rural Electric

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Tipton, OK 73570-0310

Rebecca Chambless, *Power Source* editor

SWRE *Power Source* is published monthly for distribution to members of Southwest Rural Electric Association.

SWRE is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Bill Pay Options:

SmartHub App
SWRE.com

1-833-890-9510 (*Automated Line*)

Outage Reports:

1-833-590-0353
SmartHub App

IT'S A MATTER OF (CO-OP!) PRINCIPLES

ACE Hardware, State Farm, REI, Land O'Lakes and Southwest Rural Electric Association, Inc. all share something in common: we're all cooperatives.

We may be in different industries, but we all share a passion for serving our members and helping our communities to thrive. In fact, all cooperatives adhere to the same set of seven principles that reflect our core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness and service to the greater community good. October is National Co-op Month, so this is the perfect time to reflect on these principles that have stood the test of time but also provide a framework for the future. Let's take a look at the first three cooperative principles.

VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Just like all co-ops, SWRE was created out of necessity—to meet a need that would have been otherwise unmet in our community. So in 1937, a group of neighbors banded together and organized our electric co-op so everyone in our community could benefit. For a modest membership fee to the co-op, any farmer could get electricity brought to his farm. Neighbors came together to tackle a problem that they all had but couldn't solve alone. They worked together for the benefit of the whole community, and the newly established electric lines helped power economic opportunity in our community.

While this history may be forgotten, key parts of that heritage remain—the focus on our mission and serving the greater good. In this, we include everyone to improve the quality of life and economic opportunity for the entire community. Membership is open to everyone in our service

territory, regardless of race, religion, age, disability, gender identity, language, political perspective or socioeconomic status.

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Our co-op is well suited to meet the needs of our members because we are locally governed. Each member gets a voice and a vote in how the co-op is run, and each voice and vote are equal. SWRE's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, who helps set long-term priorities for the co-op, also live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected by neighbors just like you. We know our members have a valuable perspective, and that's why we are continually seeking your input and encourage you to weigh in on important co-op issues and participate in co-op elections.

Our close connection to this community ensures we get a first-hand perspective on members' priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as community solar and electrical vehicle programs.

MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

As a utility, our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to our members. But as a co-op, we are also motivated by service to the community, rather than profits. Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of SWRE. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for co-op programs, initiatives, capital investments and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

October 2021

Because we are guided by seven cooperative principles, it's not just about dollars—it's about opportunity for all and being fair when engaging with our members. The cooperative way is a values-based business model.

SWRE is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. We view our role as a catalyst for good and making our corner of the world a better place. And by the way, that sums up the seventh co-op principle, "concern for community," which I'll elaborate on in the next issue of SWRE's *Power Source* newsletter. //

Jeff Simpson
CEO

Community born.
Community led.
Focused on YOU.

October is
National Co-op
Month!



Pictured: Barry Holt (left), Manager of Member Services, presented Sue Henthorn (right) with the grand prize TV.

SWRE HOLDS FIRST DRIVE-THRU ANNUAL MEETING FOR MEMBERS

Southwest Rural Electric's membership gathered for (or rather carpooled to) the cooperative's 84th annual meeting in Vernon, Texas, on August 19. It was the co-op's first-ever drive-thru registration event.

SWRE employees and board members greeted members at their vehicles and registered them for the meeting, handing out attendance gifts along the way. Each registered membership received a \$25 energy credit that was applied to a future electric bill and an entry into the prize drawing. The cooperative exceeded its quorum requirements with 273 registered memberships. There were no live entertainment or business meeting this year.

The annual prize drawing was livestreamed on SWRE's Facebook page August 25, and members were notified if their names were drawn for any of the 100 prizes available. Sue Henthorn from Altus, Oklahoma, was the winner of the grand prize, a 65-inch 4K TV.

Trading Post

For Sale: 1952 Ford 8N Tractor, 2012 Massimo ATV, 3-point post hole digger, brush hog, grader, and rake. Call (580) 954-5466 and make an offer.

For Sale: Reclining wheelchair and patient lift. Like-new condition. Call (580) 954-5466.

For Sale: Certified seed wheat. AP Roadrunner, Butler's Gold, OK Corral (awnless), Showdown, and SY Rugged in bulk. OK Seed License #08005320. Call (580) 465-0564 or (580) 482-4607.

FREE classified non-commercial ad submissions are available for SWRE members only. Submissions must include the account holder's name and account number to be eligible. Ads are also posted on SWRE.com.

Send your ad to the marketing department by mail, e-mail or phone!

MAIL: P.O. Box 310, Tipton, OK 73570

E-MAIL: marketing@swre.com

PHONE: 1-800-256-7973



HOMEMADE PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE

SERVING SIZE: 2 CUPS

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 cups milk (dairy or non-dairy) | ½ teaspoon pumpkin pie spice, plus more for serving |
| 2 tablespoons pumpkin puree, or more to taste | ½ cup strong hot coffee |
| 1 to 3 tablespoons sugar, adjust to taste | Whipped cream, for serving |
| 1 tablespoon vanilla extract | |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Add milk, pumpkin puree, and sugar to a saucepan over medium heat. Heat until hot, but do not boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat and whisk in the vanilla, pumpkin pie spice, and the coffee.
2. Divide the mixture between two mugs. Top with whipped cream and a sprinkle of pumpkin pie spice.

Source: Recipe is by Adam and Joanne Gallagher and can be found at <https://www.inspiredtaste.net/8419/pumpkin-spice-latte-at-home-recipe/>. Check out their website link for recipe notes, a recipe for a pumpkin pie spice blend, and homemade pumpkin puree recipe, too.

SWRE

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