

PARK SPARKS

NOVEMBER 2023



FREE TRIP
To Washington, DC

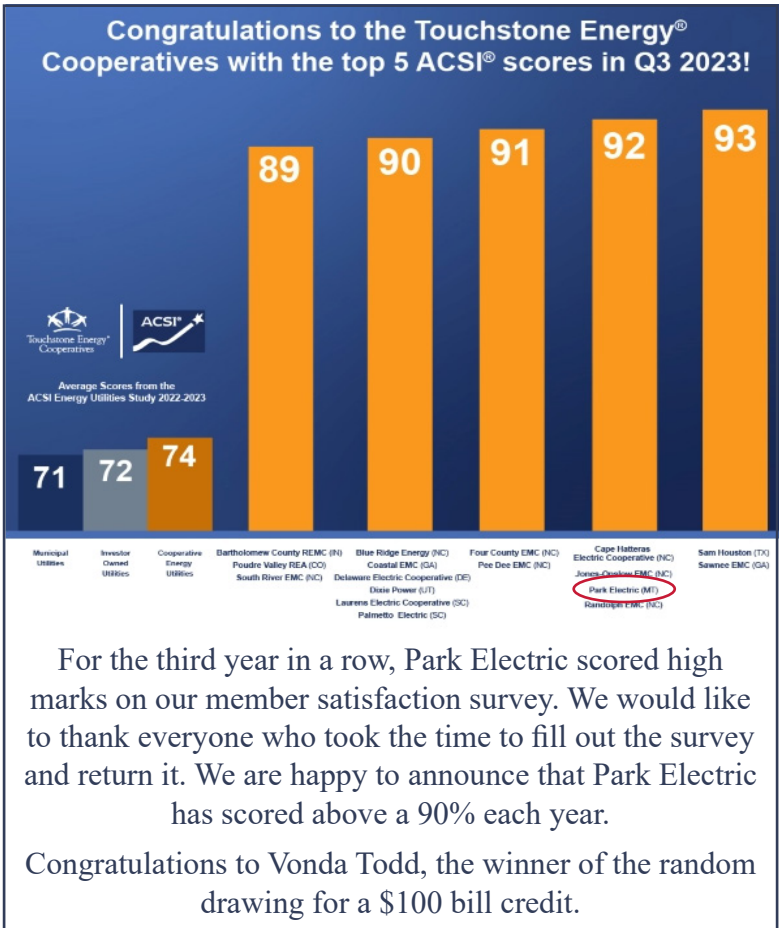
Park Electric would like to send one lucky high school Sophomore or Junior on an all expense paid trip to Washington DC in June, 2024. Simply fill out an application, available on-line, in the office or from your guidance counselor, and write an essay about the topic provided. The winning student will join others from



across the state and the country on a fun and learning packed adventure. Don't delay! Applications and essays due to Park Electric by November 27th.



Congratulations to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives with the top 5 ACSI® scores in Q3 2023!



Utility	Score
Municipal Utilities	71
Investor Owned Utilities	72
Cooperative Energy Utilities	74
Bartholomew County REMC (IN)	89
Blue Ridge Energy (NC)	90
Four County EMC (NC)	91
Park Electric (MI)	92
Sam Houston (TX)	93

For the third year in a row, Park Electric scored high marks on our member satisfaction survey. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to fill out the survey and return it. We are happy to announce that Park Electric has scored above a 90% each year. Congratulations to Vonda Todd, the winner of the random drawing for a \$100 bill credit.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holiday season?

Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets like TVs, phone chargers, gaming consoles and toothbrush chargers use energy when plugged into an outlet—even when they're not in use.



THE PARK ELECTRIC OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 23RD AND 24TH FOR THE HOLIDAY.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Managers Comments

by Matt Haggerty

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Now that fall has set in and we will soon be seeing winter weather, I feel it is a great time to review some energy savings ideas. Every year when the weather starts to change, take a few hours and look around your house to make sure everything is in order for winter. Here is a list of some things to consider:



- Windows and doors - When inspecting windows and doors, use your hand to feel for air leaking or look for visible openings. Doing this inspection with a caulk gun is a great way to seal the leak when you find it. If there is a gap in the door where you can see light, it may need a new seal. Replacement seals can be picked up

from a local hardware store for a small cost.

- Heating system - Maintaining the heating system is one of the best ways to save money on your monthly power bill. On average, electric heating usage can account for around 42% of your energy bill. Changing your HVAC air filter monthly is one of the easiest ways to save electricity. Dirty filters can restrict airflow and cause the system to work harder. Scheduling routine maintenance with an HVAC technician who can check for duct leaks and system performance should always be a part of your yearly checklist as well.



- Appliances - Large household appliances account for another large part of your energy bill. In the average house, your refrigerator, dishwasher, and clothes washer and dryer account for about 12% of

your energy bill. You can conserve energy and save money by investing in Energy Star appliances. With Energy Star appliances, you can save nearly 30% on your energy bill (and get a bill credit for qualifying appliances). Not in the market for new appliances? Try these tips instead. Wash your clothes in cold water and don't over-dry them. If 50 minutes works, don't set the dryer for more time. Changing the thermostat settings on your refrigerator/freezer can also help. Setting your freezer below 0° uses extra energy, as does setting your refrigerator below 37°.



- Water heaters – Electric water heating accounts for about 13% of the average household's energy consumption. One way to reduce your operating cost is by reducing the water heater thermostat by 10 degrees Fahrenheit. You can save an average of 3% on your energy bill by doing this. Park Electric recommends

setting your water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Another way to save a little bit more money is by insulating the hot water tank and accessible hot water lines.

Hopefully, this article has given you some ideas on ways to reduce your energy bill. If you would like more information and savings ideas, please look on our website under Energy Efficiency.

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