



May is Military Appreciation Month

Service. Mission. Country. You likely identified immediately (and correctly) that these three words describe our nation's veterans. They also succinctly describe a core co-op ethos.

While veterans are innately motivated to serve, in a similar vein, electric co-ops are guided by foundational principles that put their community first. Afterall, electric co-ops were founded to bring electricity to rural areas where there was none. In doing so, they powered local economies and helped them to thrive. I believe this close connection to an essential mission is why there are so many veterans in the utility industry and why they are such a great fit for electric co-ops.

Today's veterans are highly skilled because everyone who joins the military is either trained in a tech career field or exposed to advanced technology during their years of service. Many veterans have skills in advanced disciplines such as engineering, electronics or mechanics, which are all beneficial for the utility industry. CNMEC is proud to employ 2 veterans, and we're especially grateful for their contributions to the co-op and to our community.

Leadership and Teambuilding Skills

Our veteran colleagues joined the co-op equipped with training in leadership and teamwork. That's because while on active duty within their units, servicemen work closely together because they know their lives depend on each other's actions. This fosters a high level of self-discipline, sense of personal responsibility and passion for excellence.

The utility industry is increasingly complex and undergoing profound transformation. While there is the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspect of the utility industry, it now also encompasses technology, cybersecurity and the electrification of the transportation sector and other areas of the economy. Veterans are adept at responding to changing conditions and learning and adapting to new technologies, which is essential in our evolving industry.

Mission-oriented Outlook

Working for an electric co-op is more than a job. There is a clear mission in the work— to help our consumer-members and the community. When you work so closely with the community, you can't help but feel a sense of commitment and responsibility to our members. It's similar to the sense of duty and responsibility that veterans experience in the military. They feel deep, personal responsibility and commitment to their co-op team members and to the members we serve.

May is Military Appreciation Month and at CNMEC we are grateful to have veterans within our ranks and we are proud to serve them and their families within our community. But beyond our gratitude, we demonstrate our deep appreciation through our actions and ongoing commitment to veterans and their families.

May is Military Appreciation Month, and I hope you'll join us in recognizing the sacrifices veterans have made to our great country—and the many contributions they continue to make to our wonderful community. Veterans, we salute you!



The following are the 2025 CNMEC scholarship recipients.

Humberto Fernandez	\$1,000 Tri-State G&T
Colton Adams	\$1,000 Basin Electric

Aidan Zook	\$2,500	CNMEC
Lyndi Otis	\$2,500	CNMEC
Emma Mulnix	\$2,500	CNMEC
Derek Michel	\$2,500	CNMEC
Emma Massey	\$2,500	CNMEC
Daniel Gonzales	\$2,500	CNMEC
Humberto Fernandez	\$2,500	CNMEC
Colton Adams	\$2,500	CNMEC

Kassidy Lightfoot	\$5,000	CNMEC
Kyle Hofmann	\$5,000	CNMEC
Clay Hedges	\$5,000	CNMEC
Chloe Harral	\$5,000	CNMEC
Nora Encinias	\$5,000	CNMEC
Aurelleia Chavez	\$5,000	CNMEC

Justice Chavez \$10,000 CNMEC Elia Encinias \$10,000 CNMEC



TIPS!!!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year, and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: energy.gov

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

If you suspect you're dealing with a utility scam, it's crucial to slow down and take your time before taking any action. Scammers will often pressure you to make quick decisions or immediate payments. Instead, take the time to verify the legitimacy of the communication by contacting your utility directly. Use a phone number from a reliable source, such as your bill or the utility's website. Taking this simple step can help protect you from falling victim to utility scams.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams

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Out of Area 1-800-339-2521
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