



Mark Your Calendars

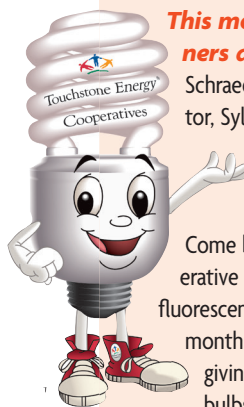
April 2013						
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The 67th Annual Meeting of Victory Electric has been scheduled for April 9 at the Western State Bank Expo Center.

A meal will be served and everyone attending will have a chance to win some great door prizes.

Stay tuned for more details on the upcoming annual meeting.

CFL Charlie Says
"Come Get Your Free CFL!"



This month's lucky winners are... Neil Shelton, Mike Schraeder, Frank Penner, Kirk Molitor, Sylvia Batres, Aristeo Anaya, Brenda Hessman, Blanca Gonzales, Enrique Gobin, and Greg Kinkelaar.

Come by Victory Electric Cooperative to get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). Every month Victory Electric will be giving members free CFL light bulbs. Congratulations winners!

Join Victory Electric Online!



Visit us at www.victoryelectric.net to pay your bill and find energy calculators—just to name a few tools!

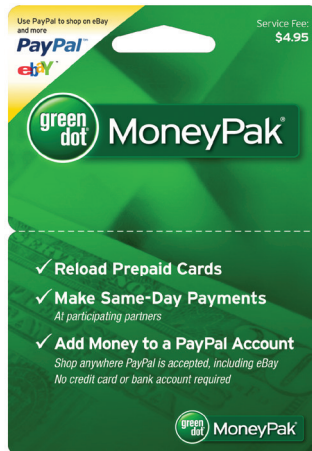
Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/VictoryElectric for updates and energy efficiency tips.

Scammers Targeting Victory Electric Members, Continued

Continued from page 16-A ▶

account before you pay the merchant. Don't email your MoneyPak number directly to any merchant.

- ▶ Don't use the MoneyPak to pay taxes or fees to claim "winings" on a foreign lottery or prize promotion. Unless it's an approved MoneyPak partner, don't use MoneyPak for any offer that requires you to pay before you get the item.



- ▶ Check this list of approved MoneyPak partners before you use your MoneyPak to pay.

We would like you to share this information with your employees, friends and families. Citizens who believe they have been a victim of this scam are urged to call Victory Electric, Dodge City Police Department or the Ford County Sheriff's office.

'Til Next Time, TJ

Why Buy Local?

Why buy local? There are numerous benefits to buying local. First, when those coveted big businesses look to building or locating in a city or town, they look at the statistics of how many people buy local. Ford County has total retail sales of \$484.7 million, and compared to other towns and counties approximately the same size, we don't do as well.

In Finney County (Garden City), they have total retail sales of \$680.7 million, almost \$200 million more in sales than in Dodge City. Great Bend and Liberal do approximately the same in total retail sales, but they have approximately 2,000 less households than Dodge City.

Therefore, towns like Garden City, which is approximately the same size as Dodge City, will attract more businesses because they draw in more local buyers.

One important fact that many forget when they travel is the cost to travel to those places. Using Wichita and Garden City as examples, using the calculation (IRS mileage rate

x the miles) + (average Ford County hourly wage x time to drive), the average person is spending almost \$17 going to Garden City and \$57 going to Wichita, before even opening your wallet at a store.

In an article in the Chamber Executive Convention 2009, Dennis Lauver, president and CEO of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, listed five key benefits to buying local, those include:

- ▶ Save money and time when you shop near home.
- ▶ Keep money in our own economy.
- ▶ Build our schools and cities (assuming a local option sales tax).
- ▶ Provide property tax relief (assuming a local option sales tax).
- ▶ Keep family and friends employed in your community.

We encourage you to buy local in your community, whether it be Dodge City, Jetmore, Montezuma, Bucklin, Spearville or any of the small towns in the area. This allows your community to be more competitive to receive new businesses in town.

Protect Against Power Surges

Power surges are responsible for millions of dollars of property damage each year, and, over time, they can cause cumulative damage while decreasing the lifespan of TVs, computers, stereo equipment, and anything else plugged into a wall outlet. Being educated is the key to choosing the best surge protection for your home.

How does a power surge cause damage?

First, what is a surge?

A surge is a boost in the electrical charge over a power line. This can be caused by lightning, but it's more commonly caused by motor-driven electrical devices, such as air conditioners and refrigerators, that require a lot of energy for starting and stopping compressors. Some surges can also be caused by faulty wiring."

Frequent, small power surges tend to shorten the life of home appliances and electronics. "Power surges come in all shapes and sizes—the most extreme case being a lightning strike because it can destroy equipment and sometimes set your house on fire," comments Alan Shedd, director of residential & commercial energy programs for Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, the national brand for America's electric cooperatives. "But less severe power surges are rooted in hundreds of different causes."

He continues: "The severity of a surge depends not only on the voltage and current involved but how long the event lasts. Most surges are very short in duration. It's important for people to realize that surges can happen through any connection on your equipment. If there is a wire connected to your equipment, then it provides a path for a surge."

How can I protect my property?

A surge protection device mounted at your home's main electrical panel or the base of your electric meter protects equipment inside your house or

business from surges coming through "ports of entry," such as an outside electric, telephone, and cable TV or satellite dish line.

Point-of-use surge protection devices do not suppress or arrest a surge but divert it to ground. They're designed to protect your sensitive electronic appliances, like a computer, and resemble a regular plug strip. However, don't assume your plug strip offers surge protection unless it specifically says so. You can also install special electrical outlets that offer surge protection, which can be helpful in places like kitchen countertops.

"My computer is plugged into an uninterruptible power supply with surge protection," Shedd notes. "We had a lightning strike, and a surge came in over the phone line. But the surge protector stopped it."

One of the most effective ways to protect your property is a two-tiered approach. A service entrance surge protection device reduces power surges to a lower level that protects large appliances, such as your stove or clothes dryer, while point-of-use surge protectors defend your sensitive electronics.

Remember to be cautious when shopping for surge protection equipment. "Some items claim that they



Some surge protection devices can be mounted at the base of your electric meter or main electrical panel. Others resemble a simple power strip that you plug into the wall and then plug your appliance or electrical device into the strip. But remember—your power strip doesn't provide surge protection unless it specifically says so.

can save energy, and these claims are generally false," Shedd concludes. "Surge protection is a valuable tool for protecting your home or business but not for saving energy."

If you are interested in installing a surge protector on your electric meter, Victory Electric sells and installs the units. For more information, contact Josh Schmidt at 620-227-2139.

Annual Irrigation and Technology Seminar Scheduled

Victory Electric announces the 15th Annual Irrigation and Technology Seminar. The seminar will be held on February 22, 2013, at Victory's office located at 3230 N. 14th in Dodge City.

We will send invitations soon to the irrigators on our system. If you have any questions, please call 620-227-2139.



Local irrigation farmer attended the 2012 Irrigation and Technology Seminar

Protección Contra Una Sobrecarga

Las sobrecargas son responsables de millones de dólares en daños a propiedades cada año, y con el tiempo, pueden causar daño acumulativo disminuyendo la vida útil de televisores, computadoras, equipo estéreo y nada más enchufado en un tomacorriente de pared. Educación es la clave para elegir la mejor protección contra sobrecarga para su hogar.

¿Cómo una sobrecarga de energía causa daños?

En primer lugar, ¿qué es una sobrecarga?

Una sobretensión es un incremento en la carga eléctrica sobre una línea de alimentación. Esto puede ser causado por un rayo, pero es más comúnmente causada por dispositivos eléctricos motorizados, como acondicionadores de aire y refrigeradores, que requieren mucha energía para iniciar y detener los compresores. Algunos picos pueden también deberse a cableado defectuoso."

Frecuentes, pequeñas subidas tienden a acortar la vida útil de electrodomésticos y electrónica. "Picos de energía vienen en todas las formas y tamaños, el caso más extremo es un rayo ya que puede destruir el equipo y a veces incendiado su casa," comenta Alan Shedd, director de programas de energía residencial y comercial para cooperativas de energía Touchstone®, la marca nacional de cooperativas eléctricas de Estados Unidos. "Pero

menos severa energía sobrecarga están enraizadas en cientos de causas".

Continúa: "la gravedad de una sobrecarga depende no sólo de la tensión y la corriente involucrado pero cuánto dura el evento. Mayoría de subidas de tensión son muy cortos en duración. Es importante para la gente a darse cuenta de que las sobrecargas pueden ocurrir a través de cualquier conexión de su equipo. Si hay un cable conectado al equipo, luego proporciona una ruta de acceso para un aumento."

¿Cómo puedo proteger mi propiedad?

Un dispositivo de protección contra una sobrecarga montado en el panel eléctrico principal de su casa o la base de su medidor eléctrico protege el equipo dentro de su casa o negocio de sobrecargas por "partes de las entrada," como en el exterior, teléfono y cable TV o satélite línea de plato.

Dispositivos de protección contra sobrecarga de punto de uso no suprimen o detención de una sobrecarga pero desvían a la tierra. Están diseñados para proteger sus aparatos electrónicos sensibles, como un equipo y se asemejan a una regleta de enchufe regular. Sin embargo, no asuma que su enchufe múltiple ofrece protección contra sobrecargas a menos que específicamente lo dice. También puede instalar tomacorrientes especiales que

ofrecen protección contra sobrecarga, que puede ser útil en lugares como encimeras de la cocina.

"Mi equipo está conectado a una fuente de alimentación continua con protección contra sobrecarga," Notas de Shedd. "Tuvimos un rayo y una sobrecarga llegó a la línea de teléfono. "Pero el protector de sobrecarga detenido."

Una de las maneras más efectivas para proteger su propiedad es un enfoque de dos niveles. Un dispositivo de protección contra sobrecarga de servicio entrada reduce subidas a un nivel inferior que protege aparatos grandes, como la estufa o la secadora de ropa, mientras que los protectores de sobrecarga de punto-de-uso defienden su equipo electrónico sensible.

Recuerde ser prudente cuando compre equipos de protección contra sobrecarga. "Algunos elementos afirman que pueden ahorrar energía, y estas afirmaciones son generalmente falsas", concluye Shedd. "La protección contra sobrecarga es una herramienta valiosa para proteger su hogar o negocio pero no para ahorro de energía".

Si usted está interesado en instalar a un protector de sobretensión en su medidor eléctrico, Victory Electric vende e instala las unidades. Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con Micaela Morales en 620-227-2139.



Visite Sitio Web y Únase a Nosotros en Facebook

Visite nuestro sitio web www.victoryelectric.net. En nuestro sitio Web, usted encontrará un calendario de eventos, con frecuencia pregunta, pago de factura y energía calculadora sólo por nombrar algunas herramientas!

También puede ser una fan de Victory Electric en Facebook buscando Victory Electric Cooperativa Assn, Inc. Consulte nuestra página en Facebook para actualizaciones, información de interrupción y consejos de eficiencia de energía. Facebook es una excelente forma de mantenerse en contacto con nuestros miembros.