



Manage Health
During a Power
Outage



SMPA Board
Election Reminder



550 Road
Closure Alert!

MARCH 2022

ENERGYWISE

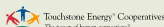


Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®

YOUR SAN MIGUEL POWER MEMBER NEWSLETTER



SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION



CONTACT INFORMATION

Nucla
170 W. 10th Ave.
P.O. Box 817
Nucla, CO 81424
(970) 864-7311
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

Ridgway

720 N. Railroad St.
P.O. Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432
(970) 626-5549
Toll Free: (877) 864-7311

Both Offices Open:

M - TH, 7:00a.m. - 5:30p.m.

www.smpa.com

www.facebook.com/SanMiguelPower

In the event of a power outage,
contact your local SMPA office to
reach our 24-hour dispatch.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

energywise@smpa.com
(970) 626-5549 x212

SAFETY TIPS

POWER OUTAGE SAFETY

Pack a kit. Include:

- Drinking water
- Shelf-stable food
- Medications
- Flashlights
- Cash in small bills

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotype, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call

(866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Managing Health Conditions During a Power Outage

POWER OUTAGES may occur in our service territory, without warning, and may last for extended periods of time. Many Western slope residents take medications that need refrigeration or use home medical devices that require electricity or batteries. Therefore, it is extremely important for individuals who rely on electricity for medical needs to be prepared.



OUTAGE RESTORATION

SMPA does not maintain a list of members with special medical needs. In the event of a large or widespread outage, we prioritize repairs in order to get the largest number of members back on first.

Along with emergency supplies, such as water and dried or nonperishable food, we encourage you to organize a plan to meet your medical needs during a power outage. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (<https://www.cdc.gov/>) has information tailored to fit a wide variety of needs.

REFRIGERATED MEDICATIONS

Medications that require refrigerator should be kept cold during a power outage. In the event of a power outage:

- A closed refrigerator will maintain a cool temperature for 2-3 hours.
- For longer periods without power, place medications into an ice chest packed with ice, or cold packs, making sure it does not directly touch the frozen object.
- Use a thermometer to monitor medication temperatures to ensure they're safe to use.

More info at www.cdc.gov/disasters/poweroutage/needtoknow.html#Medications

DISABILITY & HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Emergencies and power outages can have an extra impact on people who have disabilities.

For assistance, the following resources were developed by the CDC:
www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/emergencypreparedness.html

MEDICAL DEVICES

- Notify authorities of your needs before an emergency.
- Read your user instructions or call your distributor or device manufacturer to find out if your device can be used with batteries or a generator.
- Stock extra back-up batteries for each device.
- Have a week's worth of supplies for use and cleaning of devices.
- See the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) publication, which includes a form to help you collect information needed in an emergency: www.fda.gov/media/80782/download

Learn more about preparing home medical devices for a power outage at <https://adata.org/factsheet/emergency-power>

HOME GENERATOR USE & CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

During a power outage, never use generators, grills, or other gasoline-, propane-, or charcoal-burning devices inside your home, garage, or carport or near doors, windows, or vents. They produce carbon monoxide, an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death if inhaled. If using a portable home generator, adhere to the following:

- Position generators outdoors and well away from any structure.
- Always follow the manufacturer's directions and warnings.
- For hardwired connections, always use a licensed electrician.
- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- DO NOT plug the generator into a wall outlet.

Learn more at <https://www.smpa.com/content/outage-information-0>

Travelers, Be Aware: Springtime Road Closures on Hwy 550 for Fire Mitigation Likely



SMPA is in discussion with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) on the continuation of critical vegetation removal operations along the Red Mountain Electrical Right-of-Way (ROW), over Highway 550, for fire mitigation purposes and clearing for a possible power line re-build project.

Last year, we completed vegetation removal above US highway 550 in the Mother Cline slide area, South of CR 18. The area North of this point still needs to be cleared. Our tentative work schedule calls for two weeks' worth of FULL road closures on weekdays only, during the morning and afternoon, with a one-hour break at noon to clear the traffic queue.

Although dates have not been set, we are targeting timeframes from late-April through May, 2022. Please read future newsletters and see www.smpa.com for updates.



SMPA Has Rebates for Energy Efficiency Upgrades!

Saving energy does not have to mean sacrificing comfort or convenience. ... and it doesn't have to break the bank! Explore these options to learn how you can improve your building's energy efficiency.

<https://www.ecoactionpartners.org/smparebates>

<https://www.smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green>

THIS ST. PATTY'S DAY, WHY NOT GO... **TOTALLY GREEN?**

www.smpa.com

SAN MIGUEL POWER ASSOCIATION
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

ECOACTION PARTNERS

TOTALLY GREEN

San Miguel Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2022 Board Election

Two positions on SMPA's Board will be up for election this year. If you live in Norwood, Placerville, Dunton, Rico, Sawpit, Ridgway, Log Hill or surrounding areas, you may be eligible to run and vote.

[Learn more at www.smpa.com/content/elections](http://www.smpa.com/content/elections)

ELECTION SCHEDULE

- March, 2022:**
Nomination packets available for pick up at SMPA Offices.
- April 7, 2022:**
Nomination Packets (Petitions with 15 or more valid member signatures) DUE.
- April 25, 2022:**
Date of Record (Members who join or who make changes to primary account after this date may not be eligible to vote in 2022.)
- Before May 20, 2022:**
Completed petitions available for public review.
- Mid-May, 2022:**
Ballots mailed to members in Districts #3 & #6 where an election is contested. Online voting opens at 8 AM, May 16.
- June 8, 2022:**
Mail-in & e-ballot deadline. Online voting closes at 12 PM. Mail-in ballots must be RECEIVED by close of business.
- June 9, 2022: ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING**
Nucla, Colorado
A virtual event. See www.smpa.com to register. (Election results announced.)



Blood Drive:
Wednesday, March 30th
SMPA Nucla, 170 W. 10th Ave.
Call 970-298-2555
to make an appointment.



SMPA Collegiate & Vocational Scholarships

LAST CHANCE!!!
Deadline: March 14, 2022
www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=telluridescholarship

SMPA POWER PLAY

This Month's Puzzle: CRED OR DAT FOE
Hint: In order to vote...

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER
and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize to:

EnergyWise
PO Box 1150
Ridgway, CO 81432