

Dear Student,

Congratulations on choosing to participate in Verdigris Valley's Youth Tour or Energy Camp program! These programs offer you the opportunity to make new friends and lots of memories, along with learning about electricity and electric cooperatives.

Youth Tour is an all-expense paid, week-long visit to Washington, D.C. in June. It is for students who are juniors in high school this year. **YouthPower Energy Camp** is four days in late May at Canyon Camp near Hinton, west of Oklahoma City, and is for students who are 8th graders this year.

Your parents DO NOT need to be members of VVEC for you to participate in these programs.

Youth Tour

11th grade students wanting to enter the Youth Tour program have the option of writing an essay or taking a test.

The essay needs to be type-written, double-spaced, and needs to be between 600 and 800 words. The topic this year is "Who Owns VVEC and What are the Advantages of Co-op Ownership?" You can use the information included in this packet, or from any other source you choose. You are not required to cite your sources. Please DO NOT put your name on your essay; instead, include a cover sheet with your name and school. You must also complete and submit the Youth Tour entry form with your essay. The entry form is found toward the back of the Resource Manual in this packet and also available on our website; www.vvec.com.

Deadline to submit your essay to me is 4 p.m. Friday, March 3, 2017.

If you are choosing to take the test instead of writing the essay, you need to send me the completed Youth Tour entry form as soon as possible, so I can contact you and we can schedule a time for me to administer the test. I will be glad to come to your school, meet you at a location such as a public library, or you are welcome to take the test at VVEC's headquarters facility in Collinsville.

We will send two students to Washington based on the highest scoring essay, and the highest scoring test. There are two runners-up in each of those categories who will win \$750 or \$500 scholarships.

Energy Camp

8th grade students wanting to participate in the YouthPower Energy Camp competition need to write an essay on “Why is Electricity Important in my Life?” The essay needs to be a minimum of 300 words. You can write it as an individual or with a classmate as a two-student team. If your essay is selected as one of the two winning essays, then you and your co-writer will both win the trip to Energy Camp.

Do not put your name(s) on your essay; instead, include a cover sheet with your name(s) and school. You must complete and submit the Energy Camp entry form with your essay. The entry form is inserted in the Resource Manual in this packet and also on our website; www.vvec.com.

Deadline to submit your essay to me is 4 p.m. Friday, March 3, 2017.

Youth Tour and Energy Camp are great opportunities and I applaud your desire to participate. I am available to answer any questions about the competitions or the trips, so please feel free to contact me. My contact information is as follows:

MFrazier@VVEC.com

918-371-2584, ext. 6226, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Good Luck!

Misti Frazier
Youth Programs Coordinator
Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative
Collinsville, Oklahoma