

POWERLINE

A monthly newsletter for co-op members of Corn Belt Energy

June 2014

Attend Our 76th Annual Meeting!

Central Catholic High School, Bloomington
Friday, June 20

Save the date for Corn Belt Energy's 76th Annual Meeting of co-op members! Join us at Central Catholic High School in east Bloomington on the afternoon of Friday, June 20. Bring the whole family and enjoy an afternoon of great entertainment and prizes! If you receive electricity from Corn Belt Energy, you're a member-owner of the cooperative and invited to attend.

Complimentary lunch and activities for all ages will be provided in the school from Noon to 3:00, including an entertaining celtic fusion performance from The Emerald Underground at 1:45.

An Annual Report book will be mailed to every co-op member by early June with a complete agenda and RSVP postcard for lunch. Simply mail back the prepaid postcard to pre-register!



Convenient Shopping

Back by popular demand, consultants representing these businesses will be on site with samples, prizes, and merchandise for cash & carry sales:



Free Gift for Attendees

Each co-op household that registers by 3:00 will receive this magnifying rain gauge, just in time for summer rainfall. The clear acrylic hopper can be inserted into the ground or mounted to a post, deck, fence or out building.



Grand Prize Drawing

Attend the business meeting at 3:00 for your chance to win an iPad Air! You could also win one of several other door prizes, including credits toward your Corn Belt account. Winners must be present to win.





**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

**Always call JULIE at 8-1-1 to
have underground utilities
located before you dig.**

To avoid personal injury and damage to underground lines, state law requires you to contact Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators (JULIE) before any digging project, regardless of the project size or depth. The call is free, and so are the services.

According to state law, the person doing the digging is required to call JULIE with the locate request information at least 48 hours (*two working days, excluding weekends and holidays*) in advance of the start of excavation. You must begin your project within 14 days from the time you call and if you want to start your project over the weekend, remember to contact JULIE by Wednesday at 4:00 PM.

In order to help the utility locator properly identify your project area, JULIE recommends that you mark the area where you will be digging with white paint and/or flags.

Each JULIE utility member is responsible to mark their own underground facilities with paint or flags within the two working day period required by law (*excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays*).

Visit www.illinois1call.com to learn more about the process.

REMEMBERING JEFF REEVES

With great sadness, we want to inform our co-op members that Jeff Reeves passed away on April 23 at the age of 62. Recently retired as Corn Belt Energy's third President and CEO, Jeff had been battling health complications. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeff's wife, Pat, and his daughter, Melissa.

Coming from a family of electric cooperative leaders, Jeff graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1971 and was an avid Saluki fan. Jeff served his entire professional career of over 40 years at Corn Belt Energy, 33 years as President and CEO of the co-op. He also served as Chairman at Soyland Power Cooperative and had served on the McLean County Chamber of Commerce Board. He also served as a board member of the United Utility Supply Cooperative and served on many other boards and advisory committees. Jeff immensely enjoyed playing golf, fishing, snow

skiing, and traveling with his beloved family.

Jeff built a solid foundation at Corn Belt which will serve us well for decades to come. He was a man of integrity and a leader who was committed to the cooperative purpose. Jeff's legacy will be felt for many years to come within the walls of Corn Belt Energy. He is deeply missed by those who knew him and worked with him.



Jeff Reeves at the office in 1986

Levelized Billing Option

Levelized Billing gives you a way to guard against large fluctuations in your monthly electric bill, without ever having to play "catch-up" at the end of the year. The program is designed to keep your electric bills consistent every month of the year, as long as you remain on the plan. It's the ideal way to accurately anticipate your monthly electric bill, which makes budgeting your expenses even easier.

With Levelized Billing, your monthly electric bill becomes a "rolling average" of your electric usage for the most recent 12 months. By

averaging your changes in usage over a 12-month period, your bill will remain fairly consistent every month, even in very cold or hot months when usage may be significantly higher. Our Levelized Billing program is completely free for members with accounts in good standing and with at least 6 months of service history.

Members can deactivate the Levelized Billing program at any time by contacting our Billing Department. If a member on Levelized Billing becomes delinquent or enters into a delayed payment agreement, they will be removed from the program.

Supporting Innovation in Local Schools

Local educators receive \$1,500 Education Grants for their classrooms

Your electric co-op is pleased to announce the five recipients of our 2014 Education Grants program, which aims to support innovation in the classroom. We received 28 applications from schools throughout our service area this spring. The applications were reviewed and ranked by three impartial judges and each of these schools received a \$1,500 grant to fund their program.

Teachers and administrators of public and private schools can apply for a 2015 Education Grant by downloading the application at cornbeltenergy.com starting in January.



Benjamin Elementary (Bloomington)

Christine Sewell, 5th Grade Teacher
Funds will be used to purchase books and educational building materials to augment science curriculum.



Clinton Junior High

Kisha Maurer, 6th Grade Science Teacher
Funds will be used to purchase a Flocabulary subscription, which incorporates music and video to help students learn at a higher level.



Colene Hoose Elementary (Normal)

Kathie Brown, 2nd Grade Teacher
Funds will be used to purchase social studies project kits to enhance learning.



Normal West High School

Barb Bush (left), Family & Consumer Sciences Educator
Funds will be used for balance balls and resistance bands to encourage balance and core strengthening.

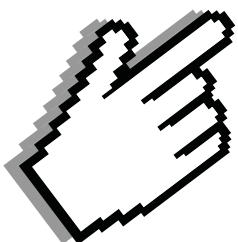


Olympia High School

Wendy Bowers, Math Teacher
Funds will be used to purchase hands-on, interactive materials for use with algebra and geometry curriculum.

Connect with your Co-op!

Keep in touch with your electric cooperative throughout the year for safety information, energy efficiency tips, outage updates and more! If you have a Quick Response Code app on your smartphone, simply scan these QR codes to connect with us online.



Find us on Facebook
[/CornBeltEnergy](https://www.facebook.com/CornBeltEnergy)



Follow us on Twitter
[@CornBeltEnergy](https://twitter.com/CornBeltEnergy)



Watch us on YouTube
[/CornBeltEnergy](https://www.youtube.com/CornBeltEnergy)

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS



Contact Us

1-800-879-0339

Call this number to report an outage and call from a phone associated with your account if possible.

LOCATION

1 Energy Way
Bloomington, IL 61705

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Monday - Friday

cbec@cornbeltenergy.com
www.cornbeltenergy.com



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

AVOID POWER LINES

Overhead wires enter houses and buildings at places called service drops. Service drops are not insulated, so never attempt to touch these wires.

Storms or accidents can sometimes cause power lines to fall to the ground. Assume any wire lying on the ground is carrying electricity and stay away from it. If you spot a downed wire, immediately call your local police and Corn Belt Energy; keep others from getting near the downed wire until help arrives.

TREE SAFETY

Tree limbs that grow up near power lines can be unsafe. If you climb such a tree, you could get hurt from electrical shock. Never trim trees near power lines – if you see a tree growing too close to power lines, contact Corn Belt to report it.



HOT TUBS AND POOLS

Water and electricity never mix! Keep electronics like radios away from pools and hot tubs, and watch for overhead power lines when cleaning pools, sailing or fishing. Never install pools underneath or near power lines. Never touch an electrical appliance if you are wet; always dry off completely.

OUTDOOR ELECTRONICS

Be careful when using electrical appliances outdoors. Whether it's a bug zapper, an electric charcoal lighter, or a radio or CD player, use outlets that have weatherproof covers and ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) to prevent serious shock injuries. Use portable GFCIs for outdoor outlets that don't have them.

KITES AND BALLOONS

Since overhead power lines are not insulated, a kite or balloon string can conduct electricity to the ground. If a kite gets stuck in a tree that is near power lines, do not climb up to get it. Fly kites and model airplanes in large open areas like a park or a field.

Pay by Text

Corn Belt co-op members can now opt to pay their bills via text! To register your cell phone and payment information, go to <http://bit.ly/153RS5H> to get started. Questions? Call us during business hours at 1-800-879-0339 and we'll walk you through the process!

Outage Map

Visit www.cornbeltenergy.com from your computer or mobile device to view a live outage map of Corn Belt's service territory. To protect the privacy of our co-op members, outages are displayed by county or zip code only.