

POWERLINE

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

June 2016



2016 Illinois Cooperative Youth Day

Six students attended Illinois Cooperative Youth Day in Springfield, Ill., on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, with Corn Belt Energy. The students attending with Corn Belt Energy included: Morgan Aldridge, Logan Dirr, Emily King, Shrijani Kongara, Sarah Widener, and 2015-2016 Illinois Youth Leadership Council representative Joytsna Bitra.

More than 225 students attended the Illinois Cooperative Youth Day event this year. Students started the day by interviewing for the Youth to Washington trip and visited the State Capitol. While at the Capitol, students met with several legislators and were invited into the office of Secretary of State Jesse White. Government officials encouraged the students to take an interest in the political process.

During lunch, Treasurer Michael Frerichs addressed students and chaperones and encouraged them to follow their dreams and do what interests them because life can take interesting turns and twists. Joytsna Bitra, spoke about her experience on the Youth to Washington tour and challenged attendees to maintain an interest in their cooperatives and the political process. While in Springfield, the students also visited the Old

State Capitol and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. At the end of the day, the students selected to represent Corn Belt Energy on the 2016 Youth Tour were announced. Morgan Aldridge and Shrijani Kongara (pictured to the right) were selected as the winners and Sarah Widener was selected as the alternate.



Congratulations 2016 Education Grant Recipients

Each spring, Corn Belt Energy supports innovation in the classroom through our Education Grants Program. This year, Corn Belt Energy received 35 education grant applications from local schools.

Of the applications received, six schools were awarded grants to fund programs that enrich students' education. Five of these schools were

awarded \$1,500 and one school was awarded the \$2,000 Jeff Reeves Memorial Education Grant to fund innovative programs that enrich students' education.

The Jeff Reeves Memorial Education Grant was established to honor the memory of Corn Belt Energy former President and CEO, Jeff Reeves. Jeff served his entire professional career

of over 40 years at Corn Belt Energy, 34 of those as the cooperative's third President and CEO.

Corn Belt Energy would like to thank all of our grant applicants for applying. Additional information about the Corn Belt Energy Education Grants are available online at www.cornbeltenergy.com.

2016 Education Grant Recipients (\$1,500 Grants)



Galva Junior Senior High School

Stephanie Peterson, Science Teacher

To purchase scientific probe-ware



El Paso Gridley Junior High School

Cheryl Prairie-Steber, Art Teacher & District Librarian

To purchase materials to make a mini mobile maker space



Evans Junior High School

Katherine Brown

Transforming Literature into Old Time Radio Broadcasts



Sheridan School

Kristi Sutter

Curbside book checkout



Mulberry School

Sheila Snyder, Director of Finance
Technology Literacy Startup Project to bring
technology to classrooms

2016 Jeff Reeves Memorial Education Grant Recipient (\$2,000 Grant)



Glenn Elementary School

Michelle Wagehoft, 3rd Grade Teacher
Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math
(STEAM) Club and Lego Robotics Kits

FUN FACT:
Corn Belt Energy has **89,810**
total poles on our system.

Summer Safety Tips

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.



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 



SAVE THE DATE

2016 Corn Belt Energy Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for Corn Belt Energy's 78th Annual Meeting! Join us at Central Catholic High School off of Airport Road in Bloomington on Friday, June 17th.

Complimentary lunch, educational workshops, and activities for kids will be provided. Make sure to stop by the vendor booths, and stay for the co-op member meeting!

If you receive electricity from Corn Belt Energy, you're a member-owner of the cooperative and invited to attend.

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.