

NEWS, NOTES & VIEWS 07/16

Right-of-Way Clearing



Crews from Poor Boy Tree Services chipping limbs removed from the right-of-way near Kinderhook.

Trees are an essential part of the environment. They can protect our homes from elements, give us clean air, and make the landscape prettier. However, during storms they can cause outages and blinks for electric members.

This is why the cooperative does year round trimming and removal of trees within the right-of-way. Without trimming, there would be significant reliability issues throughout the service territory.

continued...



Illinois Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 80, Two South Main Street
Winchester, Illinois 62694

www.e-co-op.com
1-800-468-4732

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Working to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve since 1936.



We base where we trim in the service territory on a couple of different factors. First, we keep records of where we trim so that we can look back and see what areas have gone the longest without any trimming. Second, servicemen will often report any trees that threaten the lines or areas that need attention.

If you have a tree with a limb near the lines or plan on trimming a tree that is in danger of falling on the lines, we ask that you call us and we will send someone out to take a look at it. The co-op does a majority of our tree trimming during the spring, summer, and after storms.

The co-op works closely with the land owners before any trimming or removal is done. Along with trimming, the co-op does follow up spraying. This is done to keep the right-of-way clear in the most cost effective ways. The co-op has maps from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to ensure that we are within guidelines when spraying in sensitive ecological areas in the service territory. All of our personnel who spray have passed the IDNR tests to ensure full compliance.



An example of an ideal right-of-way. Photo taken near New Canton.

If you have any questions prior to or after tree trimming or planting, please feel free to give us a call at 1-800-468-4732. To find our full forestry and right-of-way guidelines, please visit www.e-co-op.com.



Kortni Kemper with her father, co-op Foreman Brad Kemper.

Kortni Kemper Wins Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship

Kortni Kemper, daughter of co-op Foreman Brad Kemper, has won the 2016 Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to the son or daughter of an electric cooperative employee or director in Illinois. The scholarship is for \$2000.

Kortni will attend Southern Illinois University Carbondale in the fall and major in pre-med. Brad has worked for the co-op as a lineman and foreman for almost 20 years.

Each year the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives awards a total of ten scholarships of \$2,000 each through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Along with the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, five scholarships are awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative.

Three additional scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

The tenth annual scholarship, the "LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship," was awarded for the first time in 2011. This \$2,000 scholarship helps pay for costs to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill.



Boost Your Speed

When connected to the Internet, there are a variety of factors that can affect your speed. It's not just your Internet connection. Often, it can be obstacles or devices in the home that cause slowness. Here are few factors to keep in mind.

Check for Obstacles

Make sure your router is in a central location in the home and as high off the floor as possible. Make sure that is not enclosed in a cabinet.

Limit Connections

Make sure that devices not in use are not using your wireless network to download updates and sync information. Shutting down connected devices should prevent this.

Secure Your Router

Secure your router by creating a password. A password will prevent unwanted people connecting to your Internet and slowing down your connection.

Limit Downloading

If someone in your home is a frequent downloader of files such as music or games, this can dramatically slow down your Internet.



Check Your Equipment

In order to have the best Internet experience, make sure you have the most up-to-date equipment. This includes upgrading your router, computer, and any other connected devices.

Hard-Wire if Possible

If possible, hard-wire your device to the router using an ethernet cable. A wired connection will ensure the fastest possible connection while reducing your Wi-Fi network congestion by one device.

If you would like to sign-up for Internet through the co-op or upgrade your Internet service to our new Proxim Wireless system that offers 25 Meg, or 25 million bits of information a second, please give us a call at 1(800) 468-4732.

Pay Your Bill Online Today at e-co-op.com!

- ✓ **Avoid Late Charges**
- ✓ **View Your Usage**
- ✓ **Schedule a Future Payment**
- ✓ **Pay with Check, Debit, or Credit Card**
- ✓ **Sign Up for Paperless Billing**



facebook

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