



Greene County Rebuild

A contractor surveys new line strung as part of the Greene County line rebuild.

In September, the first of three line rebuilds began in Greene County. The rebuild is part of our continued efforts toward reliable service and safety for members.

This project comes in a time of great need, as many of the poles and line being replaced are sixty years old.

continued...



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Above, a new single phase line and pole is set.

The work for the \$2 million dollar project was competitively bid upon by contractors from Illinois and Missouri. The co-op also jointly purchases materials for all of our projects in coordination with three other co-ops: McDonough, Adams, and Western. By pooling our resources, we save considerable costs overall.

The new wire is aluminum with steel reinforcement and able to withstand substantial weather conditions. The current copper lines are unable to support much weight during heavy snow and ice storms, which leads to outages.

In certain places, the rebuild will allow us to move the line closer to the road. This makes it more accessible, thus quicker and safer to restore any potential outages.

Area Serviceman Dave Gant says, "Rebuilding these lines would definitely make life easier for many members in the area and me. A lot of the old hard-drawn copper line has far exceeded its life expectancy and tends to cause headaches."



Many of the current poles are over 60 years old.

As the project continues, we'll be sharing more updates along the way. Find us on Facebook by going to facebook.com/illinoisruralelectric.



Calhoun Quilt and Church Tour

Friday, October 17th - Saturday, October 18th

A barn quilt owned by Letha Poore in Belleview. The quilt was painted by artist Jill Rulon.

Calhoun County will once again host one of the nation's largest quilt tours this month. The Calhoun Barn and Church Quilt Tour leads visitors along scenic routes featuring large outdoor quilts mounted on barns throughout the countryside.

The tour makes stops in Hardin, Brussels, Hamburg and Kampsville to give visitors a chance to see family owned quilts. The stops include the Center for American Archeology Museum in Kampsville, Presbetarian Hall in Hardin, Church of Christ in Hamburg, and St. Matthews Hall in Brussels.

Many of the stops will feature demonstrations from featured guests, such as Merel Inman. Mr. Inman is a World War II veteran and world traveler. He will be displaying his mother's quilts. The Center for American Archeology Museum in Kampsville will be open to the public without charge or a ticket and will exhibit a quilt collection from the Koster Family.

The project began as a community based effort in 2008 to bring tourists to the area while preserving the rural heritage of the county.

Each quilt has a unique story of its own, rich with history. The barn quilts represent the men and women who settled in Calhoun County over the years. The tour features over 200 family owned quilts and 86 barn quilts.

This year's tour will begin on Friday, October 17th and continue on Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. Maps with locations of all the quilts are available. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$12 the day of the tour. Group rates are available. Single site tickets will be sold for \$5. Tickets are good for both days and can be purchased at businesses in Hardin, Brussels, and Kampsville.

Visit West Central Illinois Fall Events

Barry Apple Festival
October 3rd, 4th, and 5th

Oktoberfest sponsored by Jacksonville Rotary
October 4th

Kampsville Old Settlers Festival
October 11th and 12th

Calhoun County Barn Quilt Tour
October 17th and 18th

Pike County Color Drive
October 18th and 19th

Jacksonville's Main Street Pumpkin Festival
October 25th

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