

Menard Electric Cooperative's

Connect to MEC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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Attention Junior and Senior Students: Who will map your future?

You can find out on the Youth to Washington trip

OK. So you aren't really into politics. As a junior or senior in high school, you're thinking about college and where you're going to come up with more than \$100,000 to pay for higher education. You're also trying to decide what you want to work at the rest of your life to make that college experience pay off.

Oddly enough, the very people who may have answers to those questions are wearing the title of state legislator or seated in chambers of the U.S. Congress in Washington D.C.

Before you know it, you will be voting in your first election and the weight of the country's decisions will partially belong to you. Will you support a Congressman who wants to pass Cap & Trade? Will you be in favor of farm subsidies? Should send more troops to Iraq and Afghanistan? Oh, and when you get the opportunity to meet your Congressman, in addition to these questions will you ask: What has Congress done to make higher education more affordable and will I be able to find a job when I graduate?

Electric and telephone cooperatives in more than 40 states believe that young people deserve a first-class opportunity to educate themselves in the government process. Each year, the cooperatives across the nation sponsor more than 1,500 high school students to make the trek to Washington to get that personal initiation, and they have a lot of fun in the process.

It all begins in Springfield on April 21, 2010, during the Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperative Youth Day where nearly 300 students will visit the State Capitol and spend much of the morning meeting with legislators. You will tour the Supreme Court and spend the afternoon touring local sites. While there, two students will be chosen to represent MEC on the Youth to Washington Tour.

This year marks the 51st trip to the nation's capital and promises to be as exciting as ever. Students learn the principles required to keep cooperative members working together for the cooperative's success by establishing their own "chip and pop" cooperative while on the bus trip.

While in Washington during the week of June 11-18, in addition to meeting with Congressman from Illinois, students are treated to tours of historic sites, given the opportunity to make life-long friends and receive information to help determine career paths

To learn about this opportunity, contact MEC for additional details.



14300 State Hwy 97
P.O. Box 200
Petersburg, IL 62675

1-800-872-1203
217-632-7746
www.menard.com

Billing Schedule to Change

Your bill will arrive a week later

Menard Electric will implement a new meter reading and billing schedule with your March bill (containing February's usage). Basically, everything moves a week later; you'll receive your bill a week later and it will be due a week later.

Traditionally, our meters have been read sometime around the 22nd of each month, and members received their bills on or about the first day of the next month. Members then have had until the 21st of that month to pay the bill.

When we had meter readers, we needed quite a few days to read meters, enter readings into our computer, calculate and then print the bills. Now, we read all meters simultaneously through our automated meter reading system.

Essentially that means we can now choose to read all meters on the last day of the month.

But why make this change? Two reasons. The first is that we thought it would be easier for you, our members, to figure out your usage each month. Instead of having part of your usage in one month and part in another, your usage will be measured to coincide with the first and last days of the month.

Secondly, the change will help us to better calculate line loss. Line loss is a term used to describe the difference between the amount of power we purchased from our power supplier and the amount of power we sold to our members. Our power supplier reads our substation meters on the last business day of the month.

By reading our members' meters on approximately the same day each month, we'll be able to accurately calculate if we are losing kilowatt-hours because of an unusual problem with our system.

The date change shouldn't have

36-036-999

Map Location No. 36-036-999
Billing Date: 04/07/2010
Your Electricity Use Over the Last 13 Months

Phone (217) 632-7746 or (800) 872-1203
Office Hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Monday - Friday, Except Holidays
24 Hour Drop Box is Available For Your Convenience
Allow 3 - 5 Days for Delivery if Paying Bills By Mail

Phone Office 24 Hour Allow
Phone Office 24 Hour Allow

WILLIE WIREDHAND
1 MENARD LANE
PETERSBURG IL 62675

TWACS Residence

Service From	To	No. Days	Reading Previous	Present	Multiplier	KWH Usage	Rate	Meter No.
3/1/2010	3/31/2010	30	004048	005293	00001	1245	11	95463215

Previous Balance \$243.90
Payment -- Thank You \$243.90 CR
Service Charge \$24.00
Tax \$3.98
Electric Charge \$129.55

Current Charges Due By: 04/28/2010 \$157.53
Amount After Due Date \$159.89

REGULAR 3603699901
Map Location No. 36-036-999
Amount Due \$157.53
Due Date 04/28/2010

a large impact on your bill amount. We've slowly moved our reading date a few days later in the month.

You should be receiving your bill for this month, for electricity you used from December 29th to January 26th approximately. Next month you'll receive your bill about a week later. See below for a quick look at future billing dates.

Approx. Dates of Usage	Bill mail date	Due date of Bill
Dec. 29 through Jan. 26	Jan. 29	Feb. 21
Jan. 27 through Feb. 28	Mar. 7	Mar. 28
Mar. 1 through Mar. 31	Apr. 7	Apr. 28

Questions? Just call our office and we'll be glad to help you.

Notice for Automatic Draft Participants

For those members who have signed up to have their electric bill automatically withdrawn from their bank accounts, please note a date change. The date we withdraw funds from your account will move from the 10th of the month to the 17th of the month, effective in March. Please call Trish Michels at the cooperative with any questions about this draft date change.

Upgrades to System and Web Site Planned

New technologies to be added through grant

Contract negotiations are complete for the Department of Energy Smart Grid Regional Demonstration Grant to Menard Electric Cooperative (MEC) through the Cooperative Research Network. MEC was one of 17 co-ops to receive a portion of the \$33.9 million grant.

MEC has been granted \$417,000 to fund two projects: adding controlled capacitors to the distribution system, and upgrading our Web site to provide more two-way services to members. The grant requires that MEC match those funds as well as provide the Department of Energy with detailed data about how the new technologies have affected our system and our members.

Automatic Capacitors.

During the rest of 2010, our engineering team will work on the planning and designing of the electric system necessary to add the controlled capacitors. Our crews will install them sometime in 2011. We primarily use capacitors to regulate voltage drops and decrease line losses created by the large number of irrigation systems and grain elevators on our distribution system. To tell you exactly what they do would mean a lot of engineering and mathematical formulas concerning volts and currents, square roots and right angle triangles – information that, let's face it, you probably don't really want to know.

Simply put, capacitors help to maintain adequate voltage and decrease line current on the distribution circuits. This reduces line losses, which allows for a greater percentage of power purchased from our wholesale provider to reach our members. Line losses account for 6-7 percent of the power we purchase from our wholesale power supplier. A decrease of even 1 percent of these losses would represent a savings of more than \$100,000 per year.

Currently we turn the fixed capacitors on our system on in the spring and off in the fall. But irrigation systems don't run continuously all summer – sometimes it does actually rain when we need it to ... sometimes. When the irrigations aren't running, the fixed capacitors can actually create a negative effect on line voltage and line losses. Controlled capacitors can react to the load on each circuit and will only run when they

are needed. And as an added benefit, we won't have to send out linemen each spring and fall to manually switch on or off each and every one.

The new capacitors will replace some of the fixed ones on our system and supply us a number of additional units. It's a big chunk of our grant money, approximately 75 percent.

Because the new capacitors are expensive, paying the total cost ourselves has been cost prohibitive – we wouldn't save enough to make it worthwhile. But thanks to the grant, we'll be able to install these capacitors and save both time and money.

Web Site Improvements.

The second project MEC will implement involves the Web site. Hopefully, you've visited our new Web site, which went online in November. We will be adding additional features to the site in late 2010 or early 2011.

Adding some new technology to our current computer information system, we will have a secure feature allowing you to view your billing and usage history and even securely pay your bill online. It will also eliminate some re-entry on our end, by automatically updating our system when you pay.

Working with our automatic meter reading system, we'll have the means to allow you to easily view online how your electricity usage changes throughout the day, the month or across several months. You might be surprised how much electricity your home is using at 2 a.m. when everyone is asleep!

Another new feature will allow our members to see current real-time energy prices. You can see how much the electricity you're using right now is costing out on the electric grid. This will allow us to possibly look at different rate structures in the future for members who may wish to track that information and adjust their usage accordingly.

We expect to take approximately four years to complete both large projects. We'll keep you informed of our progress.



MEC will add automatic capacitors to reduce line loss and incorporate usage history and automatic bill pay into the Web site.

Long-Time Employee Terry Entwistle Retires

Terry Entwistle, Manager of Operations for Menard Electric, will retire at the end of this month after more than 39 years of service.

Terry is well known at the co-op for his exceptional memory. He seems to know every pole on this system. If there was ever a question of what had been done at a location, chances are Terry would be able to tell you. And if you needed to find something or someone, he could tell you that, too. That experience and knowledge will be missed at the co-op.

Chances are you've seen Terry at an annual meeting, handing out prizes or perhaps at your property working on a line. Mostly though he works behind the scenes, coordinating the line crews to make sure repair and maintenance work on the lines is completed quickly and safely. During storm outages you can find Terry busily coordinating all the line

crews, sometimes from other co-ops as well, to restore power to our members as quickly as possible.

Terry plans to continue his farming, expand his cattle herd and spend some quality time traveling with his wife.

Congratulations Terry!



If you've attended an annual meeting in the last decade you've seen Terry calling out the member names for prizes at the end.



Terry began with Menard Electric in November 1970. This photo was taken not long after in 1971.

LIHEAP Assistance

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides a one-time lump sum payment paid directly to Menard Electric Cooperative on behalf of a consumer.

Eligibility is based on gross income for 30 days prior to the application date and the number of persons in a household. For instance a family of two can earn no more than \$1,750; four can earn up to \$2,650. Call your local office (see below) for additional amounts and more information.

CAPCIL, Logan County 217-732-2159, Ext. 251

CAPCIL, Mason County 309-543-2594

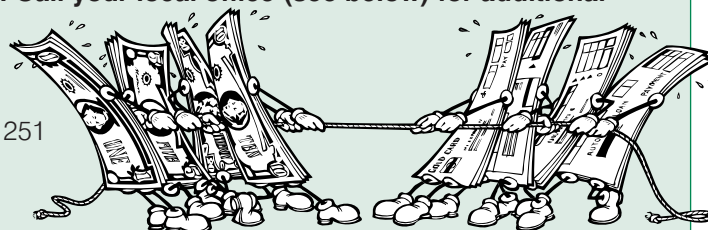
CAPCIL, Menard County 217-632-3878

Decatur-Macon County Opportunity Corp. 217-428-2193

MCS Community Services, Cass & Morgan Counties 888-288-4413

Sangamon County Dept. of Community Resources 217-535-3120

Tazwood Community Service, Inc., Tazewell County 309-266-9941



Are You Saving with Co-op Connections?

Have you been using your Co-op Connections Card? If so, you're already aware of how much you can save. Check out the businesses below offering local discounts to find more deals. We have an up-to-date file on our Web site listing businesses by town at www.menard.com. You can also access the national database of businesses for more savings through our site or at www.co-opconnections.coop.

AUTO

AAA Automotive Services

Springfield 217-753-3765
Laketown-Springfield 217-529-5670
Parkway Pointe-Springfield 217-787-2187
10% off service or comb. of services over \$100.

Ball Park Motors, Inc.

Virginia 217-452-7656
Discount any advertised price on vehicle 10% (max. \$1,000) in stock to co-op cardholder. Restriction: vehicles not in current inventory.

Enterprise Rent A Car

Decatur 217-875-4900
Lincoln 217-732-2999
Jacksonville 217-243-5300
Springfield 217-546-7800, 217-528-8888, 217-789-1800
5% off daily rates or 10% off weekly rates on rental vehicles. Does not apply to weekend rates. Cannot be comb. with other coupons/offers.

Eyler Auto Center, Inc.

Beardstown 217-323-4949
\$200 off vehicle purchase with this ad. One redemption per vehicle purchased.

Glass Specialty Company, Inc.

Decatur 217-429-2371
Jacksonville 217-243-7516
Peoria 309-676-6181
Springfield 217-544-9886
\$20 Walmart gift card w/autoglass replacement. \$25 off Rhino linings spray where applicable. Does not apply to windshield repairs.

Jennings Beardstown

Beardstown 217-909-4349
10% off any service work.

Jim's Autobody and Refinishing Inc.

Peoria 309-674-0113
5% off repair cost up to \$100 discount.

Midstate Overhead Deals

Decatur 217-422-8030
10% discount on parts & materials used in process of service/repair call. Excl. all complete door, replacement door sections & garage door openers.

Precision Auto Collision

Jacksonville 217-245-6403
\$2 off labor rate.

Sprocket Motor Sports LLC

Jacksonville 217-245-2650
15% off retail purchases. Does not incl. service work.

Sud's Mercedes, Porsche, VW, Audi

Peoria 309-243-1101
10% off all parts & service.

DINING

Bahan's

Jacksonville 217-243-3009
\$1.25 burgers Mon-Wed, 5-9 p.m.

Benny's Pizza

Beardstown 217-323-5222
Free pitcher of soda w/any purchase of \$15 or more.
Dine-in only. Cannot be comb. with other discounts/specials.

Blimpie Sub & Salads

Peoria 309-687-3659
Buy one 6" sub & med. drink & get a 6" sub free.

Buff's Family Restaurant

Mt. Pulaski 217-792-5233
Buy one meal at reg. menu price & get the 2nd of equal or lesser value for 1/2 price. Limit one offer per family per visit.

Dairy Queen

Petersburg 217-632-2733
300 Crossing Drive, Sherman 217-632-2733
10% off all combo meals.

Dairy Queen

Jacksonville 217-243-7255
Buy any reg. priced sandwich & get a 2nd sandwich 1/2 price.

Dickinson's Tacos and More...The Flour Sack Custom Bakery

Lincoln 217-735-3430
Buy one sancho get one free.

Easy Street Lounge

Jacksonville 217-243-3555
\$1 off any pizza on Mon. nights; Dine-In only. Must be 21.

El Rancherito

Jacksonville 217-243-1368
Buy 2 dinners or 2 lunches & receive \$1.50 off total bill.

Fiesta Grande

Beardstown 217-323-4941
Buy 2 dinners or 2 lunches & receive \$1.50 off total bill.

Godfather's Pizza

Springfield 217-522-4886 or 217-726-2000
Buy any med. or lg. pizza at reg. price, get one free.

Godfather's Pizza

Jacksonville 217-243-6444
One free buffet w/purchase of one buffet & a drink or 25% off any reg. priced menu item.

J&D's Family Restaurant

Oakford 217-635-5631
Free drink w/meal.

Kracker's Korner

Havana 309-543-3598
Free coffee or tea w/meal.

Nelson's Catering

Springfield 217-787-9443
5% off total order.

Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza

Springfield 217-391-7272
\$2 off any size pizza at reg. price.
Papa Murphy's Take n Bake Pizza

Jacksonville 217-245-6367

\$3 off a family size pizza. Cannot be comb. w/other discounts.

Perkins Restaurant and Bakery

Jacksonville 217-245-5663
10% off meals.

Pizza Hut

Petersburg 217-632-7707
\$2 off med. pizza; \$3 off lg. pizza.

Stonebake Pizza Co.

Petersburg 217-632-2461
Buy any pizza, get the 2nd pizza of equal or lesser value 1/2 price.

Super Suppers

Peoria 309-691-3400
Buy 5 full entrees & receive 6th full entree free. May not comb. w/ any other offer, specials or discounts.

The Main Street Chuckwagon

Havana 309-543-2799
10% off purchase.

Uncle Tykie's Down Home Grill

Ashland 217-476-DINE.
10% off total check.

Lodging

Blessings on State Bed & Breakfast

Jacksonville 217-245-1013
10% discount when stay two consecutive nights.
Based on availability.

Comfort Inn

Jacksonville 217-245-8372
15% off rack rate. Does not apply to other discount rates.

Crazy Horse Campground

Ashland 217-886-2089
10% off camping fee.

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

Jacksonville 217-245-6500
10% off rack rate.

Peoria Comfort Suites, Courtyard, Residence Inn

Peoria 888-651-ROOM.
Call Chad Reisenauer at 701-355-5710 for current room rate.

Ramada Limited

Decatur 217-876-8011
\$59.99+tax for 1 or 2 people. Extra person \$5 each.
This price for 1 or 2 beds.

River Bank Lodge

Petersburg 217-632-0202
10% discount on price of a room. Group discounts available on banquet room if overnight guest rooms are occupied in connection with an event.

Springfield Comfort Inn, Courtyard, Fairfield Inn, Sleep Inn

Springfield 888-651-ROOM
Discount available. Call Chad Reisenauer at 701-355-5710 for current rate.

Super 8

Jacksonville 217-479-0303
\$49.99+tax per room/night for one or two bed/person. Extra persons \$5 each.

Services

A.C. Jones, Inc.

Beardstown 217-323-2591
5% off crane service/material hauling. Payable on completion or delivery. Some restrictions apply. Does not include state & county permits. One day limit.

Associates in Dentistry

Bartonville 309-697-2228
Peoria 309-686-4900
5% off all services paid in full at time of service.

Bard Optical

Decatur 217-422-3881
Jacksonville 217-243-0506
Lincoln 217-735-1707
Pekin 309-353-9313
Peoria 309-686-6491
Peoria 309-672-2273
E. Peoria, 309-694-2273
Peoria 309-692-8222
Peoria 309-693-9520
Save 10% on disposable & specialty contacts. Save 20-40% on all other eye care products. Reduced exam fee for preferred program providers.

Benjamin Franklin Plumbing

Springfield 217-523-2301 or 866-867-5309
\$25 off any repair.

Bill Wade Photography, Inc.

Jacksonville 217-245-5418
Get any of our reg. or better sitting-half off! Good for families, children &/or individuals. One per person/family/address per year.

BikeTek, Inc.

Springfield 217-787-2907
\$5 off complete bicycle tune-up (Reg. \$39.95).

Bond Eye Associates

Pekin 309-353-6660
15% off complete pair of eye wear or sun wear. Excludes contact lenses.

Canine Camp

Jacksonville 217-245-6857
10% off boarding & \$5 off a bath or grooming.

Creative Media Services, In.

Decatur 217-428-9950
20% off first hour of graphic design time/consulting.

Curves of Petersburg

Petersburg 217-632-5501
50% off signup fee & first month free. Retail value \$110. New members only.

Delon Dukett's Barber Shop

Springfield 217-899-5717.
\$2.00 off haircut w/card this location only. Walk-ins only. Haircuts regularly \$9.

Doyle Family Chiropractic

Jacksonville 217-243-4333
50% off 1st visit. Some Medicare, insurance restrictions.

Easton's Services

Jacksonville 217-245-2380
10% off carpet-furniture-floor cleaning. 10% off new carpet & flooring sales.

George Alarm Company

Springfield 309-827-5707
Change monitoring service & will beat existing price by 15%. Lease or purchase new security system & save 15% off installation. Existing customers save 15% on control panel & touchpad upgrades.

Illini Water Systems

Springfield 217-544-8677
Call for current offer.

J & J Electric Motor Repair Shop

Springfield 217-529-0015
10% off any purchase.

Karen Anderson Designs, Inc.

Jacksonville 217-473-1178
\$25 off session fee.

Phone Guy

Springfield, 217-741-0405
25% off in-stock accessories. Free AT&T wireless calling plan review. 8% plan discount for Menard Electric Co-op members. Call Jim McAfee for details.

Reese Family Chiropractic

Jacksonville
10% off all nutritional products, 10% off all custom orthotics, 10% off all support pillows. Restrictions: professional services.

Scotty's Pest Control

Decatur 217-422-9372
10% off first time pest control.

Wareco Car Wash

Jacksonville 217-245-9119
\$1 off per wash-any wash.

Shopping

Aarons Sales & Lease

Jacksonville 217-245-0010
Springfield 217-241-5800
Springfield 217-522-1911
50% off 1st month lease payment.

All Occasions Flowers & Gifts

Jacksonville 217-245-0064
10% off cash & carry; must present co-op card. Not valid on special or Teleflora orders.

Antique Ranch

Ashland 217-381-7340
10% discount.

Buchheit of Jacksonville

Jacksonville 573-547-1010
\$5 off reg. priced men's & ladies' Carhartt pants in stock excluding bibs & insulated pants.

Calhoun Mohawk Floorz

Springfield 217-544-2138
10% off any carpet purchase.

Country Pickens II

Petersburg 217-632-3271
10% off reg. price, excludes firm.

Dejure Formalwear & Bridal Palace

Peoria 309-685-0313
\$40 off tuxedo rental. 30% off wedding dress purchase.

Dunham's Sports

Jacksonville 217-243-0046
Peoria 309-685-6819
10% off non-sale purchases. Excludes firearms, ammunition, licenses, trading cards, DVDs, select Nike & Under Armour products, Titleist Pro V & NXT golf balls, select Taylormade products, gift cards & special order items. Cannot be comb. w/ any other offer or used on Dunham's web site. Not for resale.

Estep & Associates Mercantile

217-632-4154
10% discount on purchases of \$10 or more except coin, knives & firm.

Hill Prairie Winery

Oakford 217-635-9900
Free wine tasting. 10% off case purchase.

Loving Creations

Petersburg 217-632-2629
10% off all silk swags & wreaths.

Kevin Denney Precious Jewelers

Jacksonville 217-245-0671
Free inspection & cleaning of jewelry.

Makin Waves

Jacksonville 217-245-0700
10% off in store. Restrictions: Pools & spas.

Mattress Doctor

Peoria 309-691-8600
135 Radio City Dr, Pekin 309-382-2600
10 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday, receive 20% off non-sale items & 15% off sale items. Otherwise receive 15% off non-sale items & 10% off sale items. Must present card upon entering store.

Medicine Stop of Peoria Pharmacy

Peoria 309-685-5939
5% discount on prescriptions, vitamins & over-the-counter medications.

Memory Lane Antiques

Petersburg 217-632-2058
10% off.

Paul Tree Farms

Pleasant Plains 217-971-7876
10% off Pines, Spruces, Maples, Oaks.

R & H Farm & Home

Beardstown 217-323-9000
10% off your purchase of \$100 or more. Must present co-op card.

Salt Creek Attic

Mt. Pulaski 217-792-5117
Save 10% on purchases of Dept. 1 items of \$20 or more of reg.-priced items.

Sunrise Ag Services-Virginia Country Plaza

Virginia 217-452-3268.
Store purchases only. Does not apply to all items. 10% off purchases totaling \$50 or more, 5% off purchases totaling less than \$50. 5% only on feed products. Not applicable with other discounts/promotions.

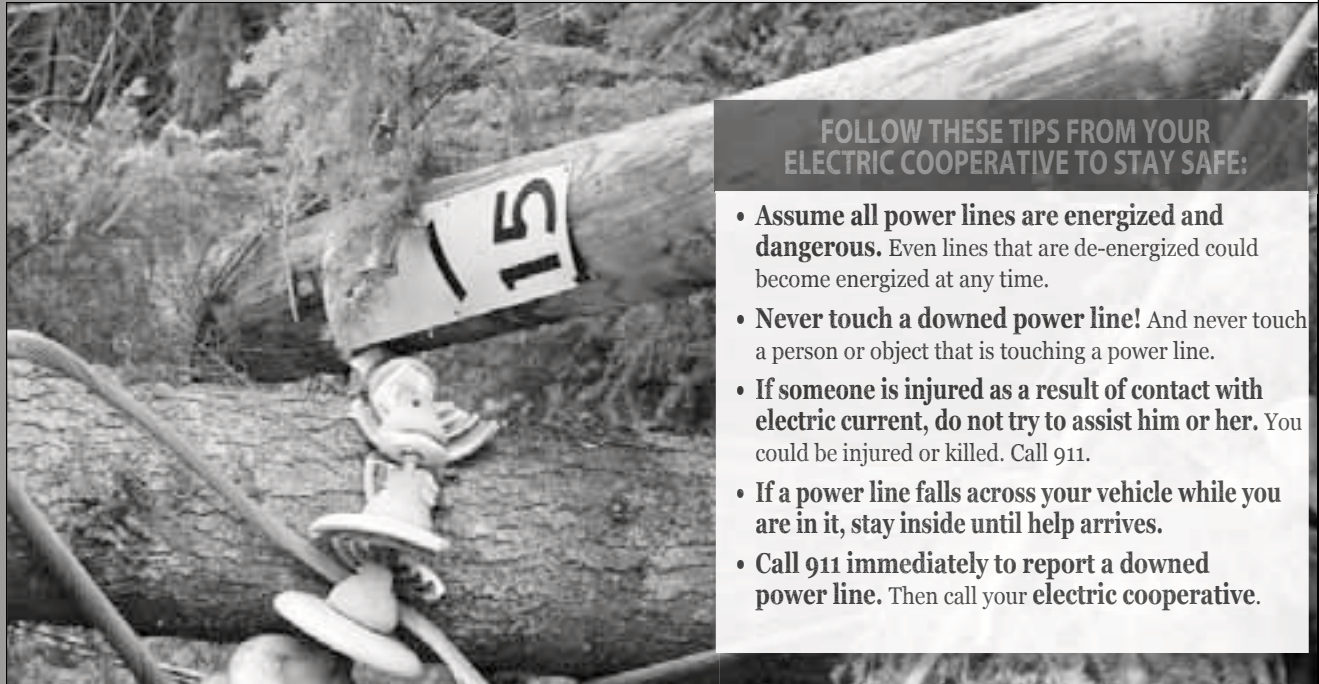
Triple Creek Farm Greenhouse

Virginia & Petersburg. 217-452-3381.
\$5 off purchase of \$50 or more. Open seasonally April 1-Oct 31.

Didn't see your favorite business listed here? Let them know! They can call our office or visit www.menard.com for more information on joining this free program.

Stay Clear!

*A downed power line may not be a dead line.
It could cause serious injury or death.*



FOLLOW THESE TIPS FROM YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE TO STAY SAFE:

- **Assume all power lines are energized and dangerous.** Even lines that are de-energized could become energized at any time.
- **Never touch a downed power line!** And never touch a person or object that is touching a power line.
- **If someone is injured as a result of contact with electric current, do not try to assist him or her.** You could be injured or killed. Call 911.
- **If a power line falls across your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives.**
- **Call 911 immediately to report a downed power line.** Then call your electric cooperative.

Save Time and Money with Automatic Payment

Our Automatic Payment Plan allows you to have your electric bill automatically deducted from your checking or savings account on the 10th of each month. It's always on time and you don't need checks, envelopes or stamps! We will deduct the net amount shown on your bill, and proof of payment will appear on your monthly statement. This form must be received in the co-op office by the 20th of the month prior to the month you wish payments to begin.

Mail with a voided check to Menard Electric Cooperative, PO Box 200, Petersburg, IL 62675.

Name: _____ SS# _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone#: _____ Map Location # _____

Bank Name: _____

Bank Account # _____

Checking acct. Savings acct.

I, _____, authorize Menard Electric Cooperative (MEC) to draw monthly bank drafts through the automatic plan (ACH) on the account shown above for the payment of my electric bill in full and any other services I authorize. I understand that I may discontinue my participation at any time by notifying MEC in writing. Both Menard Electric Cooperative and the bank may terminate this agreement with 10 days written notice. I understand that MEC reserves the right to limit participation in this program to customers whose accounts are in good standing. I understand that the amount of my bill each month will be drafted on the 10th or next business day after. I understand that if funds are not available in my account for the draft to clear, there will be a charge posted to my MEC account, for NSF, and I will still be required to make full payment before the due date of the bill.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Board Meeting Report

Menard Electric Cooperative
From the Board Room
November 24, 2009

The monthly Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of Menard Electric Cooperative was called to order by President Gary L. Martin at 6 p.m. at the headquarters of the cooperative, 14300 State Highway 97, Petersburg, County of Menard and State of Illinois.

On roll call the following Directors were present: Jerry W. Brooks, Michael L. Carls, D. Jay Frye, Warren D. Goetsch, Gary L. Martin, Donald E. McMillan, Michael E. Patrick, Roy H. Seaney and Steven L. Worner. Also present was Manager Lynn A. Frasco and Attorney Charles K. Smith.

President Martin reviewed the Consensus Agenda. It was moved and seconded that the Consensus Agenda be approved. Motion carried.

Manager Frasco presented the Manager's Report for the month of October 2009. He reviewed the Balance Sheet, Budget, as well as the Outage Summary and Safety Report.

Under the Operations Report, Manager Frasco reported on the work done by the cooperative crews for the month.

He advised that there had been no response to the cooperative's Smart Grid Grant Application. He advised that there was a Co-Bank regional customer meeting scheduled for March 29-30, 2010. He suggested that Board members might wish to attend that meeting.

Manager Frasco advised that he had received a request from Viper Mine employees asking that the cooperative send a letter to Congressional Representatives inquiring

as to why the Mine Safety Health Administration had changed its protocol in dealing with mine safety issues.

Manager Frasco advised that he had received correspondence from the Mayor of the Village of Mechanicsburg advising that the Village had increased its utility tax from 3% to 5%, effective January 1, 2010. Manager Frasco advised that such would affect approximately 18 cooperative members, who reside in the corporate limits of the Village.

He reported on the results of the Safety Accreditation Inspection and advised that Menard had passed and received a score of 91, which was higher than last accreditation score. It was moved and seconded that the Manager's Report be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Manager Frasco presented the Financial Report for the month of October. Year to date margins were \$1,294,355 compared to \$1,532,132 a year earlier. Equity as of the end of October was 34.73% and the number of members served was 10,519 compared to 10,484 a year ago. Net Utility Plant at the end of October was \$35,373,683 compared to \$34,177,515 last year. The cooperative continues to meet the requirements of the RUS, FFB and NRUCFC.

Director Goetsch reported on AIEC activities.

Director Carls reported on Prairie Power, Inc., and the Board meeting held November 4, 2009. He reviewed the October energy charge.

Manager Frasco discussed his proposed recommendations for

changes to the Menard's Health Savings Account Plan. It was moved and seconded that the Cooperative adopt the recommended changes to the Health Savings Account Plan, as presented by Manager Frasco. Motion carried.

Manager Frasco reviewed a summary of the proposed 2010 Financial Budget.

The Board reviewed, for second reading, the Policy entitled Section V - "Computer, Network, E-mail & Internet Use." It was moved and seconded that the policy be adopted. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed revisions to the Policy Section IV - "Billing and Terms of Payment." It was the consensus of the Board to move this to second reading for approval at next month's meeting.

The Board reviewed a new policy - Section V - "ARC Rated Apparel & Personal Protective Equipment." It was the consensus of the Board to move this to second reading for approval at next month's meeting.

Manager Frasco discussed who would be attending the NRECA Annual Meeting scheduled for February 15-17, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Manager Frasco reviewed the Capital Credit Estate Refunds Report.

President Martin advised that next month's Board Meeting was scheduled for December 22, 2009, at 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved and seconded the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Mark Your Calendar

73rd Annual Meeting is June 5

