



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

HOMEPAGE

www.enerstar.com | A monthly newsletter for co-op members of EnerStar Electric Cooperative

EnerStar Electric Cooperative observing National Co-op Month in October

EnerStar Electric Cooperative is proud to join 30,000 cooperatives nationwide in October to celebrate National Co-op Month, which recognizes the many ways cooperatives are committed to strengthening the local communities they serve. “Co-ops Commit” is the theme for this year’s celebration, spotlighting the countless ways cooperatives meet the needs of their members and communities.

“Our cooperative delivers electricity to more than 5,000 member-owners in our five-county service area in east, central Illinois,” says CEO Mike Clark. “Delivering safe,

reliable, affordable power is our top priority, but we are also invested in our communities because we are locally owned and operated. Revenue generated by EnerStar goes back to Main Street, not Wall Street.”

Rural America is served by a network of about 900 electric cooperatives, most of which were formed in the 1930s and 40s to bring electricity

to farms and rural communities that large, investor-owned power companies had no interest in serving because of the higher costs involved in serving low-population and low-density areas.

In addition to providing the vital power co-op members depend on, EnerStar proudly supports community activities and opportunities that are vital to a positive quality of life for our members.

We are proud to be a part of the local community!

“Delivering safe, reliable, affordable power is our top priority, but we are also invested in our communities because we are locally owned and operated.”

**ELECTRIC
CO-OPS
COMMIT**

Co-op Month 2017

CO-OP STATS

- ▶ There are **900 electric cooperatives** located in **47 states**.
- ▶ Electric co-ops provide power to **18 million homes, schools and businesses**.
- ▶ Electric cooperatives serve **56 percent of the nation**.

#coopmonth

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR CO-OPS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Youth To Washington candidates sought

For over 50 years, the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois have given tomorrow's leaders the opportunity to learn from today's public officials. And EnerStar is on the hunt to for two outstanding students to represent our cooperative at the Youth Tour this year.

EnerStar's Youth Tour is actually two separate events: Youth Day in Springfield will be held in April 2018, and the week-long, all-expense paid Youth to Washington trip on June 8 - 15, 2018.

The "Youth to Washington" tour was inspired by Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957. The program actually began in 1964 with 400 students from 12 states participating in the first event. Today more than 1,500 students from across the country attend the Youth to Washington tour.

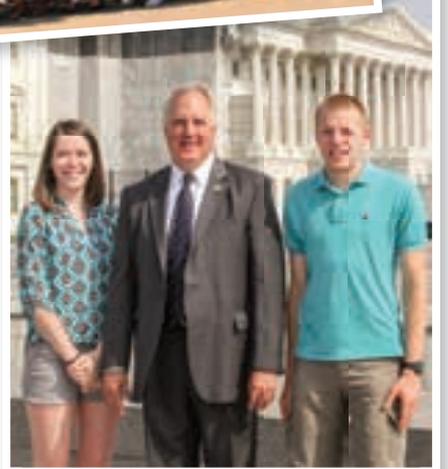
During the week in the nation's Capitol, the Illinois contingent meets with Illinois senators and the downstate Illinois congressional delegation at a Capitol Hill luncheon. Visits with elected officials provide participants a better understanding of federal government and the democratic process.

And of course, the students have



the opportunity to visit many historic sites during the week. In the past, sites have included Gettysburg, Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, several Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial, and memorials to Presidents Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington and Roosevelt just to name a few.

Candidates should be high school sophomores or juniors in the fall of 2017. In addition, candidates must reside in the EnerStar service territory and receive their electricity from EnerStar.



Shelbie Kile and Phillip Gorrell, both of Marshall, attended the 2017 Youth to Washington trip and encourage students to apply for next year's event.

Applications can be completed online at www.enerstar.com under the "Youth Programs" section by December 31, 2017. If you have any questions, please contact EnerStar's Angela Griffin at 800-635-4145 or via email at agriffin@enerstar.com.

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Get to know your cooperative departments

As we continue our series of getting to know co-op employees and their duties, we look at two different departments for you to meet. Both serve vital roles at the cooperative.

Trees and other vegetation contacting power lines and other electric facilities are one of the main causes of power outages, especially during severe weather events. Therefore, in the forestry department, two employees, Chase Graham and Austin Swango, are responsible for keeping the right-of-way clear. With more than 1,500 miles of line, it's a year-round job.

Both men have a lineworker background and know the EnerStar system well. So, their job is more than just trimming trees. They are an extra set of eyes on the electric system that can spot issues before they become problems. Graham began his employment at the cooperative in 2013 and became full-time this past January. He graduated from Ivy Tech with an associate degree in applied sciences and received his lineman certification from Northwest Iowa Community College. Swango began his employment as an intern in November 2016 while attending Lincoln Land



Left to right: Austin Swango, Galen Satterfield and Chase Graham

Community College in Springfield where he received his lineman certification. He became a part-time employee in January 2017.

The Boy Scouts have nothing on an electric cooperative with good supply chain management skills. Keeping a warehouse stocked with proper equipment, as well as the service trucks prepared for a day in the field or a storm that may pop up, is Galen Satterfield. And because of his mad carpentry skills, he also keeps the cooperative office in ship shape.

Galen began his employment at EnerStar in September 2003. He was previously employed as a computer programmer at GTE/Verizon and retired after 27 years of service. He holds degrees in computer science from Southern Illinois University and in business administration from Indiana State University.

Forestry and warehouse departments are important spokes in the wheel at our cooperative!

Jake Keys achieves Journeyman Lineman designation

EnerStar President and CEO Mike Clark has announced that Jake Keys received Journeyman Lineman status on August 16, 2017. Jake began the 4-year Apprentice Lineman step program in 2013, after 3 years in EnerStar's Forestry department. Jake attended Lincoln Land Community College's Electrical Distribution Lineman School in Springfield. Congratulations Jake!



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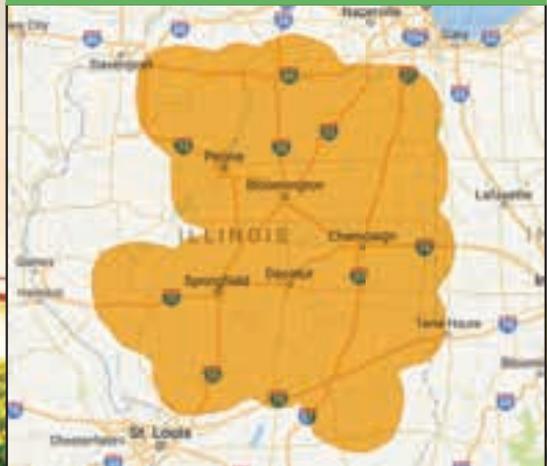
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