



# ELECTRIC CO-OPS COMMIT

---

## Co-op Month 2017

### 10 reasons to support your local cooperative

1. A co-op is not-for-profit. After bills are paid, any remaining funds are either reinvested in the co-op or retained as capital credits and returned to members when it is feasible to do so.
2. Co-ops provide retail opportunities in areas where for-profit entities might not see the value, such as cooperative grocery stores that are now established in rural areas and small towns.
3. Your local electric cooperative is located in the area it serves and supports the community through fundraisers, donations and manpower.
4. In a state that depends so heavily on farming, many organizations that support agriculture are cooperatives, such as insurance providers, grain elevators and lending institutions.
5. The Seven Cooperative Principles, to which all cooperatives must adhere, insure that co-ops are ethical businesses.
6. As a member-owner, cooperatives put your needs first.
7. Cooperation among cooperatives – cooperatives help one another by pooling resources to provide better products and services at a lower price.
8. Co-ops help build local leaders through cooperative leadership.
9. Cooperatives provide stable, good-paying jobs in the community.
10. One member, one vote – each cooperative member has equal voting rights to help guide the cooperative's business.

*Happy Cooperative Month  
from the Illinois Touchstone  
Energy Cooperatives*



**Southern Illinois  
Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

