

Ten Reasons to apply for Youth Tour

You could stay home next summer **OR** you could kick it off with a 10-day trip to Washington, D.C. On Youth Tour, you'll laugh until your face hurts, crane your neck at tall buildings, stand humbled by national memorials and get inspired by leaders. You'll love it so much that you'll weep when it's over. Still not convinced? Here are 10 more reasons to apply.

1. **It's FREE!!!** By entering the Youth to Washington WebQuiz contest, a high school sophomore, junior or senior could win this free trip.
2. **It's FUN!!!** Days are spent touring popular attractions in D.C., including memorials, monuments and museums.
3. **You get to travel!** Leave your home, your siblings and your routine for 10 days. No making your bed for 10 days. (7710-24)



4. **You meet new people.** You'll join around 75 other Illinois students to travel to Washington, D.C. to meet up with about 1,500 more high school students from all across our nation.
5. **You get a classic American adventure.** Washington, D.C. is rich in history and heritage. That's why Youth Tour was created more than 50 years ago, inspired by President Lyndon B. Johnson, to give students the opportunity to discover "what the flag stands for and represents."
6. **You learn a lot.** You are surrounded by venues that focus on science, art, history, space, American culture

and so much more. You return home with a ton of new found knowledge.

7. **You can gain leadership experience.** Any Youth Tour participant that is a high school sophomore or junior can apply to be on the National Youth Leadership Council. One student is selected from each state.
8. **You can make your voice heard.** A day is spent on Capitol Hill to meet with our elected officials from Illinois. You get face time with some of the most powerful people in the nation and talk about what's important to you.
9. **You can put it on your resume.** When you apply for college or a job, Youth Tour can help you stand out. The trip offers experiences that can shape your college application, essays and career path.
10. **You connect with opportunity.** You get plugged into the electric co-op community and are in a great position to learn about scholarships, internships and jobs offered through this network. (856-32)

To enter the contest or to get more information, go to www.wiec.net or talk to your high school counselor. Applications need to be returned to WIEC by Feb. 15.



You can't win if you don't apply!





524 North Madison | P.O. Box 338
Carthage, IL 62321
www.wiec.net | 800/576-3125

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

BUSINESS OFFICE

217-357-3125

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

800-576-3125

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MAP LOCATION CONTEST

Every month we are printing four members' map location numbers in the newsletter. If you find your map location number call the WIEC office by the 25th of the following month, tell us where it is and we will give you a \$10.00 bill credit. Keep on reading the WIEC News.

Preparation is power: Weathering winter outages



Anyone who has weathered prolonged outages due to an ice or winter storm will tell you it is more than inconvenient. Such an outage during cold weather creates an additional set of challenges and safety requirements. Prepare now to ensure you're not left in the cold when the next one happens.

Safe Electricity recommends assembling an emergency kit with essential items such as:

- Flashlight, portable radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit and essential medicines
- Non-perishable food
- Bottled water
- Basic tools and related materials
- Extra blankets and clothing to dress in layers
- Outerwear at the ready, including hats, gloves and scarves
- Rags or duct tape to seal air leaks

If you have a wood stove or fireplace, have plenty of wood on hand, and if you have a fuel-based heater, have extra fuel and the means to vent the fumes.

Know how you can get area weather updates, such as a weather radio, mobile notification system you can enroll in, mobile app, etc. Visit state and local websites for emergency outage plans in your area. Develop an emergency plan with your family so everyone knows what to do in an outage. Keep your mobile devices fully charged and ready to use when a storm is headed your way.

Additional tips for weathering a cold weather outage:

- Dress in several layers of warm clothing. Wear a hat to avoid the loss of heat from your head.
- Reduce the amount of wasted heat during an outage by closing doors

to rooms not being used and securing curtains and blinds to reduce heat loss from windows.

- Never use an oven or charcoal grill to (7814-18) heat the home.
- Reduce the risk of spoiling food during an outage by lowering the temperature of your refrigerator as low as possible, and avoid opening the refrigerator doors unless it becomes necessary. By doing so, you can keep your food cool for up to 24 hours.
- Protect your sensitive electronics by unplugging devices such as televisions and computers. Use surge protectors to protect electronics when power comes back.
- Be alert to the signs of frostbite, which can include loss of feeling in the extremities, and hypothermia, such as shivering, memory loss, incoherence or drowsiness.
- Use caution when going outside. Downed power lines could be hidden by snow or ice. If you see a downed power pole or line, stay far away and report it to your electric utility.
- A portable generator can provide power in the event of an outage. Have an electric cord long enough to keep the generator at least 20 feet from any door, window or vent to keep carbon monoxide out of the home. Read your instruction manual before use and operate your generator in well-ventilated areas.
- Never use a portable generator in the home or garage – and never plug it into a home wall outlet or connect it directly to the home's electrical system. Install battery-powered or battery back-up carbon monoxide detectors near floors on each level of the home.

For more information on electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Capital credit checks remain outstanding

Last fall, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. mailed capital credits checks to members who lived on WIEC lines during 1982.

Below is a list of the member's

names whose checks have not been cashed. Due to the advance printing of the WIEC News, any checks cashed after January 1 will still appear on the list.

If you see your name listed below, please cash your check as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance.

AKERS LAURA E	FULTON FORREST	LUKENS DALE G	SARTORIUS DAVID
AKERS RON	GEISSLER JUNE E	LUKENS GLEN A	SCHOCH MARVIN D
ANNEGERS RAYMOND R	GERHARDT GENE	MARBOL CU'FT INC	SHIELDS MARY K
ASHER L E	GERHARDT SHARON L	MARTENS RAYMOND	SHIPMAN FRANCES
BALMER DONNA	GERLING GRANT H	MCCLINTOCK REALTY	SIEGRIST HOPE
BARNES WARREN P	GITTINGS VERDA MAE	MCCLURE GERALD L	SIEGRIST MILDRED
BARR MARION A	GLISAN LARRY	MCCOY DONALD	SMITH ANTHONY J
BELSHAW EILEEN	GREENSLAUGH ALBERT	MCCOY JUDY	SMITH HERBERT JR
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BOLTON W T	HARMS MARIE	MEEKER ARTHUR R	SNYDER ROBERT FLOYD
BROWN NANCY	HARRELL DICK	MELVIN MARK D	SPORY ERNA
BURT MAE C	HARRIS MARK	MILLER TONY	SPURGEON KATIE
CASADY JOEL NED	HASTEN CERICE	MONNIER DAVID E	STAFF TERESA
CASLEY VERNA	HICKS MARTHA	MOORE LINDA	STARR DEAN
CHANDLER LAVERNE	HINMAN JOAN Z	MOORMANN ROSELLA C	STEVENSON
CHRISTY VIRGINIA	HOSKINS ALBERT	MOSS DUZANSKY	ANTHONY L
CLAMPITT LUAN	HOSKINS HAZEL W	MUNGER PAUL	STONEKING WILLIAM
CLAYTON ARLENE	HURST LORRAINE	MYERS JOHN E	STUEHRENBERG RAY
COEUR BOB	HUSS CHARLES J	NAGEL CARLENE	THOMPSON VELNA
COLE LARRY	IKERD LOUISE	NAGEL DONALD	THRAPP GERALD
COMBITES CHARLES M	ILLINOIS NATURAL	NEFF ELDON	CORWIN
CONOVER GLENDA	HISTORY	NEWMAN SHARON	TOBIAS MARY
COOK SHIRLEY	JANSSEN DOROTHY	NOLDEN WILLIAM E	TUBBS DENNIS
COX FRED	JARVIS DENNIS	OLIVER BETTY	UFKES GREGORY J
CUMMINGS GEORGIA O	JOHNSON HERBERT E	PABEN VIRGINIA C	VANAUSDALL ANN
DICKERSON J ALAN	JOHNSON RONNIE L	PARKER DONALD	VANTIGER PAUL
DICKWISCH JOHN	JONES JAMES C	PETERS MIKE	VANWINKLE BRENDA
DICKWISCH PAT	KACHLE WILLIE L	PHILLIPS JOHN H	VASS DANNY
DIEW RUTH M	KIRBY NORMAN E	PILKINGTON DAN C	VAUGHN WILLIAM A
DOWELL KENNETH	KISER ROBERT DEAN	PITMAN DAVID B	VINCENT MICHAEL
DOWELL MADELINE	KISTLER CO CONTR	POLAND DAVID	WADDELL SHIRLEY A
DRISH RANDY J	KOEHLER GLADYS	POLLOCK EVA	WARSAW GUN CLUB
DUFFIE LOYD K	KRAFT GUY C	PRICE BETTY L	WATERMAN CONDA
DUNHAM LENA	KRIEG GALEN	PURDY DARLENE	WEAR BARBARA
DUSTMAN WILLIAM	KROW PATRICIA	RASMUSSEN STEVEN L	WESTERN IL
ELLEDGE DAVID R	LAMPORTE MARILYN R	REDENIUS PATRICIA	THRESHERS
ERBLAND JOHN A	LAND BERNARD F	REIDNER JEFFREY	WETZEL FARNEY
ESHOM BETTY	LEHR CARL	REITER PAUL	WILKENS JOE
EWING PATRICK J	LILLARD ELIZABETH J	RENSHAW NORMA JEAN	WILKENS MARY A
FEVER L W	LILLARD LEORA	ROGERS PAUL J	WOLFORD FRANCES
FIFE MYRTLE	LINNENBURGER MARY	ROGERS PAULINE M	WOOLVERTON
FINCH WILLIAM	LISH FLOYD M	ROSENBOOM HILDA V	DUANE M
FOWLER LOIS	LOHMANN FRANK T	ROSKAMP DAVID	WORDEN GLADYS
FREEMAN MARY	LOMAX SADDLE CLUB	ROTHERT C RODNEY	YOUNG ELLEN M
FROMAN MARSHA M	LORRAINE CHEE SE CO	RUHS BEVERLY	ZELLOW WILLIAM

Space Heater Safety Tips

Space heaters are a great way to warm specific rooms in your home without having to crank up the thermostat, but using space heaters doesn't come without risk! Use the tips below to keep your home safe.

DO: Plug your space heater directly into the wall outlet.

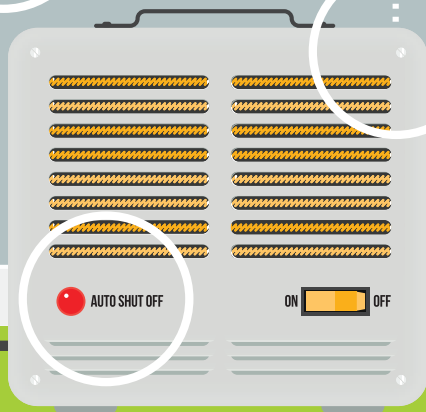


DO: Keep your space heater in low-moisture rooms.

DO: Keep your space heater at a safe distance (at least 3 feet) from kids, pets and flammable items.



DO: Buy a unit with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over, or you forget to shut it off.



DO: Always follow the directions and take a broken space heater to a qualified appliance service center.



DON'T: Leave your space heater unattended. Always unplug it before you leave the house or go to bed.



DON'T: Use an extension cord to plug in your space heater. It can cause the heater to over-heat, and can be a tripping hazard.

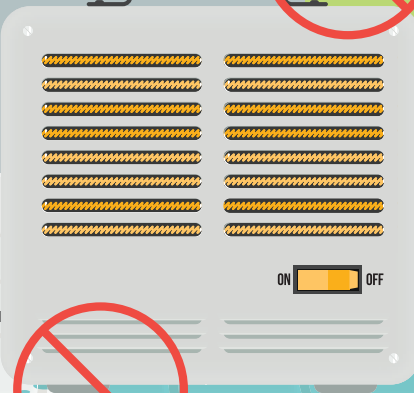
DON'T: Place your space heater near curtains, clothing, furniture or bedding.



DON'T: Try to repair a broken space heater yourself.



DON'T: Put your space heater in your bathroom. The moisture can damage the unit, which could cause it to malfunction.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Consider insulating your hot water pipes. Doing so can reduce heat loss, allow you to lower the temperature setting and save an additional 3 to 4 percent per year (8611-3) on water heating.

Source: *energy.gov*

<http://www.facebook.com/westernillinoiselectricalcoop>



Welcome New Members

Steven D. Bishop III, Niota
Amy Jo Braswell, Niota
Doran Cox, Burnside
Matthew & Emily Durkovich,
Harvest, AL

Jane M. Grossman, Hamilton
I Wireless, West Des Moines, IA
Emily Rudolph, Gladstone
Danielle Siegel, Basco
Natasha Young, Niota