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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Pounding the pavement at Co-op Lobby Day in Springfield

Every year, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association welcomes co-op grassroots advocates to Washington, D.C. for the Legislative Conference. Directors and employees of member-owned electric cooperatives from across America come to educate legislators regarding issues affecting electric cooperatives and their member-owners. The event is so successful that this year, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) decided we should be doing something similar on a statewide level.

They did just that! The first ever Co-op Lobby Day in Springfield was held on May 15. Attending on behalf of EnerStar were CEO Mike Clark, CFO David Clinton, and Angela Griffin, VP of Utility Services.

Duane Noland, CEO of the AIEC, former state legislator, and farmer in the Blue Mound area, welcomed leaders from the cooperatives. He encouraged attendees to reach out to legislators and explained current issues that affect Illinois electric cooperatives, which ultimately impact co-op member-owners. The EnerStar group was fortunate to meet with Representative Tom Bennett, Representative Brad Halbrook, Senator Chapin Rose and Senator Dale Righter.



Angela Griffin, Mike Clark and David Clinton, along with other co-op leaders, discuss the issues with Senator Dale Righter



The Honorable Mike Frerichs, Illinois State Treasurer, discussed the state's budget issues and cost saving measures in his office.

EnerStar welcomes two interns

Shelby Hollis is employed as a communication intern. She is currently a senior at Indiana State University studying communication with a focus in public relations. She will be with us for the summer working on building our new

website, community engagement and assisting with the management of social media.

"I am so excited to be a part of the EnerStar family for the summer and to be able to learn more skills with amazing mentors," Shelby says. We are excited to have her and cannot wait to watch her grow in her field of study.

Another new member of the EnerStar family is Alex Stewart. Alex is the intern for the operations department and will be assisting with preparations for linemen, painting and other general labor. Alex will be a senior at Paris High School this fall. After high school, he plans to attend Northwestern Iowa Technical College to attend linemen school. Alex is excited to be at EnerStar



Alex Stewart

because he gets to gain experience for his future career.

Shelby Hollis



Graham, Swango accept new positions

Earlier this year, two EnerStar employees, Chase Graham and Austin Swango, accepted new positions of apprentice lineman here at the cooperative. Both men were previously employed in the co-op's forestry department.

Graham joined the Enerstar team in 2013 after graduating from Northwest Iowa Technical College's power line school. He most recently served as Enerstar's right of way



crew leader.

Swango's employment at EnerStar began in late 2016 as an intern. During that time, he attended Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Ill. in the power line course. After receiving his lineman certification, he was hired into Enerstar's forestry department.

EnerStar congratulates both employees and is pleased to start the apprentice process with them!



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COOPERATIVE HEADQUARTERS

EnerStar Electric Cooperative
11597 Illinois Highway 1
Paris, IL 61944

TELEPHONE

800-635-4145

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*Serving the Illinois counties of
Edgar, Clark, Vermilion, Douglas
and Coles.*

Local student earns electric cooperative scholarship

As an Illinois electric cooperative, EnerStar Electric Cooperative participates along with 23 other Illinois electric cooperatives in the Thomas H. Moore IEC Memorial Scholarship Fund to assist deserving students in the “electric cooperative family.” Besides benefiting cooperative students, this scholarship fund provides a means for honoring deceased cooperative family through memorial gifts.

EnerStar is pleased to announce that Chrisman High School senior, Kyle Webster, has been one of nine winners in the Illinois Electric Cooperative’s Memorial Scholarships. This one-time award for high school students attending a 2-year community college has a

value of \$2,000. He is the son of EnerStar member-owners Tom and Karen Webster of Chrisman. Kyle competed for this scholarship along with 275 other students from across the state. Candidates were judged on grade-point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and an essay demonstrating their knowledge of electric cooperatives. It was a rigorous and thorough vetting process, and the winners are well-deserving.

Kyle and his family can be very proud of his efforts, as is EnerStar, in winning this scholarship. Congratulations!



EnerStar board member Kevin Julian of Metcalf presents Kyle Webster with a \$2,000 IEC scholarship. Webster is a senior at Chrisman High School.

Survey says! Member survey coming soon

Your opinion matters to us

Every other year, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) conducts a statewide member survey project on EnerStar’s behalf. Participants are randomly selected by a marketing survey firm, with close ties to our national organization, is conducting the survey.

“These surveys are very important to our co-op, and we welcome your input,” EnerStar CEO Mike Clark said. “If a member/owner receives a survey and cannot rate EnerStar with a score of 8, 9 or 10, please give us a call prior to completing the survey. We want the best experience for our member-ship-owners.”

Neither the AIEC or the survey firm, will ask for credit card numbers or sell or share your

private information. They will provide us with the anonymous survey results, and we will evaluate the information that is gathered to help improve our service to our member-owners.

The more completed survey questionnaires we receive, the more accurate the information will be, so if you’re selected to participate, please take the time to complete the short survey. We anticipate that survey questionnaires will be distributed in August and September.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact EnerStar’s Angela Griffin at 800-635-4145 or via email at agriffin@enerstar.com. We appreciate your help!





Warning: *Signs on utility poles can cause harm*

In the summer we often see utility poles littered with fliers. While it may seem like a harmless act, these little pieces of paper can cause big harm for utility workers.

Utility workers are tasked with climbing these utility poles to work around power lines that carry 7,200 or more volts of electricity. Foreign objects such as staples or nails embedded in the pole can lead to the utility worker snagging or getting a hole in their gloves. Those gloves are meant to insulate workers from high voltages and protect them from being electrocuted.

Bird houses and basketball hoops are other items that have been found attached to utility poles. It is extremely dangerous for utility workers, yourself, and anyone who uses these items.

There's also a public safety risk that comes with posting signs and other items on utility poles. Nails, staples, and other materials put into wooden utility poles can cause poles to deteriorate faster. This can reduce their structural integrity and stability, increasing the risk for the pole to fall over when struck by a vehicle.

Fallen poles mean power outages, and electric utilities must spend valuable resources on repairing

Save Energy with LEDs

LED lights last up to 30 times longer than incandescents, reducing the need to replace bulbs in high or hard-to-reach places. Below are LED lighting suggestions for your home.

- Living Room Lamps**
Table or floor three-way lamps using LED bulbs provide 620, 1,600 or 2,150 lumens of soft white light and deliver up to 25,000 hours of light.
- Kitchen**
Dimmable recessed LED conversion lights add a warm glow of up to 1,200 lumens for kitchen workspaces and add far less heat to your kitchen. Each bulb could last 10 years.
- Bedrooms and Hallways**
Long-life LEDs are ideal for ceiling fixtures. A 9-watt LED produces the same 800 lumens of light as a 60-watt incandescent, and uses about 80 percent less energy.
- Bathrooms**
Omnidirectional LED globe bulbs are designed to provide a warm glow ideal for bathrooms. A 6-watt bulb produces 450 lumens and lasts up to 15,000 hours.
- Outdoors**
A 6-watt, 500 lumen LED bulb can replace a 40-watt incandescent bulb. Designed to last up to 30,000 hours, it could be a one-time switch.

or replacing damaged utility poles. Downed lines also create dangers for pedestrians and motorists. If you see a downed power line, stay away and call 911.

Keep yourself and those in your community safe by not posting or hanging anything on utility poles. Find other alternatives to post in your community, such as yard stakes or online community groups.

For more information on staying safe around power lines, utility poles and electricity, visit SafeElectricity.org.