

The **SOUTHEASTERN** Light

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

*Wishing you a Very Merry Christmas
& The Happiest of New Years*

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Readership Prize Winner: Danny York, Pittsburg, IL

Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holidays? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet, even when they're not in use.

Source: *energy.gov*

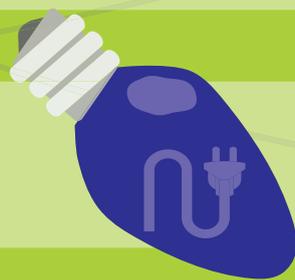


Holiday LIGHTING Safety

Use only holiday lights that have been safety tested and have the **UL label**.



Before using, **check each strand** for broken sockets, frayed cords, or faulty plugs.



Don't string together more than **three** standard-sized incandescent sets of lights or you could **overload the circuit**.



Don't throw lights over tree branches that are **near power lines** and service connections.



Always unplug lights before leaving your home or going to bed; a timer can help with this.



Learn more at



Deadline approaching for scholarship application

Twelve 2019 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Illinois electric cooperatives will award 12 \$2,000 scholarships in 2019 through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program designed to financially assist students in the electric cooperative family.

Six scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member.

One scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director.

Four scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

One scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship, will help pay for costs to attend lineworker's school at Lincoln Land Community College. Sons and daughters of co-op members, relatives of co-op employees or directors, students enrolled in the Lincoln

Land lineworker's school, or those who have served/are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible.

Deadline to apply for the first 11 scholarships is Dec. 31, 2018. The deadline for the lineworker scholarship is April 30, 2019.

For more information, contact Sunday Whitlock at 618-273-2611. Information has been shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available for completion at the cooperative's website at www.seiec.com.



A CORD IS NOT A CHEW TOY

Q: What's the most common type of electrical injury for household pets?

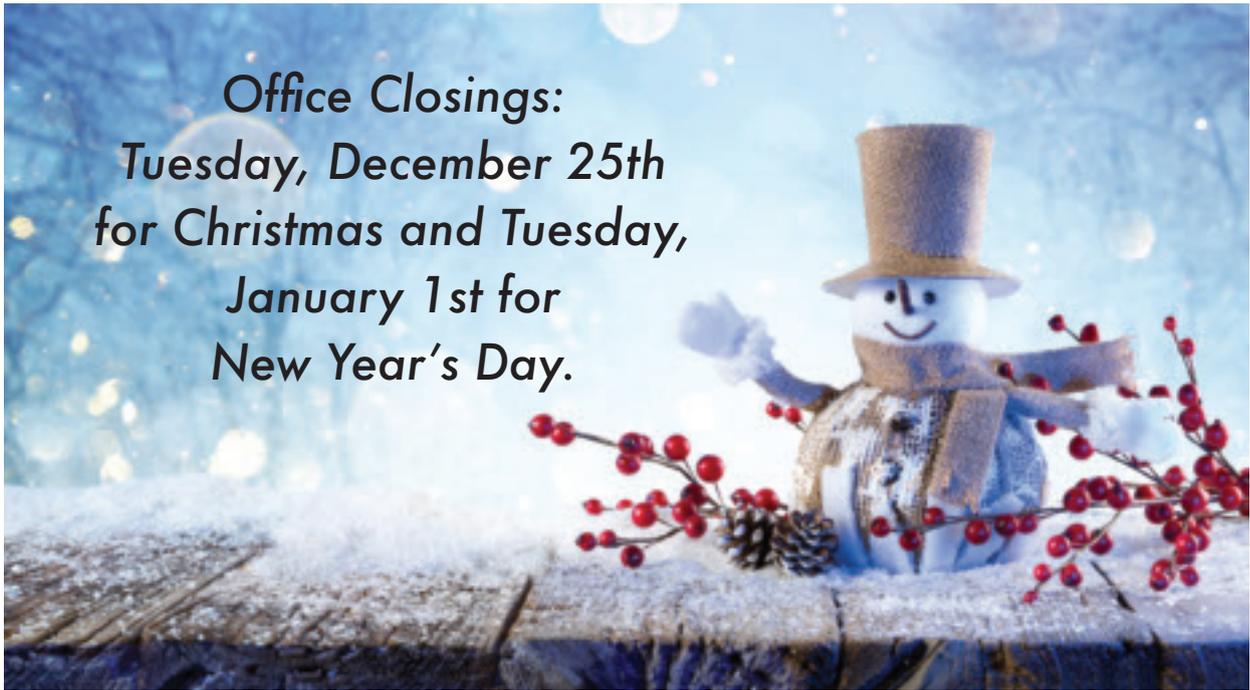
A: Electrocutation from chewing on an electrical cord

TAKE ACTION:

Pet proof your home by covering or enclosing electrical cords and taking steps to prevent other electrical hazards.

Although any pet can chew on a cord, puppies are the most likely culprit.

Learn more about pet safety at SafeElectricity.org.



Office Closings:
Tuesday, December 25th
for Christmas and Tuesday,
January 1st for
New Year's Day.

POWER OUTAGE

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions

1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-877-399-8405. This phone number is monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. Your phone call will be handled by SouthEastern's automated outage reporting system and will be identified automatically through ANI (Automatic Number Identification). An outage record will then be generated

for your location. Please note that the phone number from which you place the call will be the number used to generate the record. If the system fails to recognize your phone number, members having touch-tone phones may simply enter their seven-digit phone number (without area code) in order to report the outage. Members not having touch-tone phones will be asked to leave a message. It is important you leave your name, phone number and location of the outage. Retrieving messages and entering them into the system is time consuming; therefore, please leave only a message that will help in restoration of electric service. Do not remain on the line for an operator because a live operator is not there to respond. In order to keep a current listing of all numbers, it is important that you notify the Cooperative of any changes in your telephone number.

6. Handling outage calls electronically allows you to report power failures very quickly. Once your outage has been reported, it will be dispatched to repair personnel who will restore your outage as soon as possible. Calling back repeatedly will not shorten the length of the outage, but may hinder the efforts of other members who are trying to report outages.

OUTAGE CALLS ONLY 1-877-399-8405

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F