## ENERSTAR ELECTRIC CO-OP

# HOME



NEWSLETTER FOR CO-OP MEMBERS OF ENERSTAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# INSIDE

### 20B

Stay back and help us stay safe

#### **20C**

Know what to do Kohler whole house generators

#### 20D

Fireworks safety tips





11597 Illinois Highway 1 Paris, IL 61944 800-635-4145 Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## John Marrs visits the White House

It's not often that someone gets a behind-the-scenes tour of the White House, but one young Paris man was just that lucky! John Marrs, along with his parents Greg and Jenny Marrs, visited the nation's capital on World Down Syndrome Day. The designated day promotes educational opportunities and workforce development for those with Down syndrome.

"It was amazing, beyond what I expected," exclaimed John. With a firm handshake, President Trump commented about John, "This guy knows how to dress!" As you can see from the photo, it was as if they coordinated their outfits. This comment brought a big smile to John's face.

Actually, in our interview with John, the smile was hard to hide and his eyes shined bright when he talked about his experience in the diplomatic room. John's favorite school subject is history so he very much appreciated and enjoyed the White House tour as well as meeting Ivanka Trump and Vice President Pence.

When not meeting with Washington officials, you can find John tending to his cattle and his horse at his rural Paris home.



# Stay back and help us stay safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why for EnerStar Electric Cooperative, safety is the number one priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our member-owners. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance – and your help!

#### Distractions can be deadly

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews--- and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are understandably defensive of their territory. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or



near your property. You will recognize EnerStar employees by their company uniform and the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local community.

#### Slow down and move over

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are near your

property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us. And if you see them working on the road, please move over and give them plenty of room to do their work. And please, stay off your cell phone when passing them.

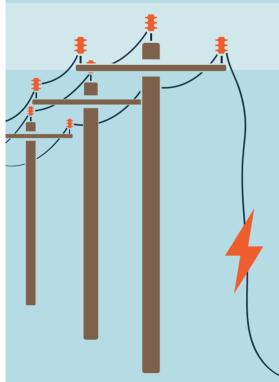


# EnerStar now offering... KOHLER Whole House Generators

When bad weather rolls through the prairie, it can mean damage to EnerStar's electric system and severe weather can bring extended outages. For those who need uninterrupted power due to medical devices or others who want to have power at all times, it may be time to install a generator. Because of this, EnerStar now offers Kohler standby power generators for purchase. Our employees and your installer will guide you to the best model for you wants and needs. Contact EnerStar's Tim Haddix at (217) 463-4145 or thaddix@enerstar.com about generator solutions.







# KNOW WHAT TO DO

Power lines can come down for a few reasons: severe weather or damage due to a car accident are two of the more common ones. When lines do go down there are precautions you need to take to stay safe:

- Call 9-1-1 to report fallen or downed power lines.
- Know that power lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be live.
- Stay at least 10 feet away from the line.
- If the line is down because a vehicle has struck it, remain in the vehicle until emergency crews say it is safe to exit.
- If there is a fire or you smell gasoline, hop out without touching the vehicle at the same time and DO NOT WALK, but hop away to safety.

Always treat a downed power line as live and never touch any wire that is down. Learn more at:



# FIREWORKS

Fireworks and the Fourth of July go hand-in-hand, and we want you to have a safe, fun-filled celebration! About two-thirds of all fireworksrelated injuries occur between June 16 and July 16, so keep these safety tips in mind:



- Make sure fireworks are legal in your community before using them.
- Never buy professional-grade fireworks. They are not designed for safe consumer use.
- Keep small children a safe distance from all fireworks including sparklers which can burn at temperatures in excess of 2,000 degrees.
- Never reignite or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Keep a bucket of water or garden hose nearby to thoroughly soak duds before throwing them away.
- Keep pets indoors and away from fireworks to avoid contact injuries or noise reactions.





