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## By the Community, for the Community

October is National Co-op Month

By Anne Prince, NRECA

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason – it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA), celebrate who we are and more importantly, the members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service, or does so at a very high price, co-ops intervene to fill the need. Similar to how Egyptian Electric Cooperative was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the community because we are locally governed. Egyptian Electric's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our Board of Directors, who helps set long-term priorities for the co-op, live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected to the position by neighbors like you.

We know our members (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we are continually



seeking your input. Whether through community events, our social media channels or the Annual Meeting, we want to hear from you.

Our close connection to the community ensures we get a first-hand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as high-speed broadband, community revitalization, solar programs, equipment and technology upgrades and electric vehicle programs. **52-17-0013** 

Another feature that sets our coop apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." We partner with local organizations like Rotary, Chamber of Commerce's, CEO student programs, economic development entities, USDA, schools and other worthy programs. We participate in the Electric Cooperative Youth Day and Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C. for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action. Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We hope you will think of Egyptian Electric Cooperative as more than your energy provider, but instead as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people. We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you – because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community.





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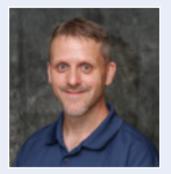
Business hours/After hours 800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone 844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. M-F www.eeca.coop

#### **Board of Directors**

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Sign up with SmartHub!

Visit eeca.coop or download our free, secure mobile app!

# **Energy Efficiency** Tip of the Month

Heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades like additional insulation and air sealing, you can save about 30% on your energy bill.

Source: energy.gov





Every month we will have three map location numbers hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your location number, that corresponds to the one on your bill, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.



CLASSROOM GRANTS

A Commitment to Our Schools





Egyptian Electric Cooperative is again offering Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants for our local schools located within our Cooperative's territorial footprint. We are aware that adequate funding for many school systems has been a challenge. Commitment to Community is one of our Touchstone Energy core principles, and we are committed to the communities we serve and want to continue to provide assistance to them.

Ten \$500 Classroom Empowerment Grants will be offered and awarded to public and K-12 schools to help them with projects that will improve educational opportunities for students. Prior applicants and recipients are eligible to apply. The evaluation of the applications will be based on the projects that best serve the purpose of improving the learning environment and/or increasing educational resources for the school. **27-16-0008** 

## How do Teachers or School Administrators apply?

Review the official rules and complete the Grant Application Form found on Page 13 of this magazine, also found on our website, www.eeca.coop.

- Attach a typewritten request, under three pages, with the following information:
- A description of the project and what it will accomplish.
- The estimated cost of the project.
- An explanation of why funds or additional funds are necessary for the completion of the project.
- Whether other funding options have been pursued and if so, the status of those requests.
- When the project should be completed.
- The number of students impacted by the project.
- If the project's goals are measurable and how they would

- be measured if the project is successful.
- How does the project tie to our Touchstone Energy core values of: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community.
- B Have the completed Grant Application Form and attached type-written request received at our office by 4 p.m. on Friday, November 4.

The grant awards will be announced on or before Friday, December 9, 2019. For questions regarding the Classroom Empowerment Grants, please contact Brooke Guthman at 800-606-1505 or bguthman@eeca.coop. It's that simple and straightforward, so don't miss this opportunity!



### SIX HELPFUL TIPS **WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT...** Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Go to another location with Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal power if heat or cold is extreme and grills should be used outside and at if conditions are safe to do so. least 20 feet away from windows. Keep refrigerators and freezers closed to maintain Plan ahead before an outage temperatures in the appliances for occurs: Have alternate plans for as long as possible. Once the power refrigerating medicines, using

#### Cooperative month

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Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C. for a weeklong immersion to experience democracy in action.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We hope you will think of EnerStar Electric Cooperative as more than your energy provider, but instead as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you – because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community.

### Learn more at Electricity.org

Check on your neighbors if you

can. Older adults and young children

are especially vulnerable to extreme

temperatures.

power-dependent medical devices and charging cell phones.

## Financing available... **KOHLER Whole House Generators**

is back on, when in doubt, throw

Turn off or disconnect

appliances, electronics or other

electrical equipment. Power may

return with momentary surges or

spikes that can cause damage.



When bad weather rolls in, 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 always want to have power, it may be time to install a generator. Because of this, EnerStar now offers Kohler standby power generators for purchase. Financing is also available. Our employees and your installer will guide you to the best model for you wants and needs. Contact EnerStar's Tim Haddix at 800-635-4145 or thaddix@enerstar.com about generator solutions.