



Clinton County Connection

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Patronage returned to the membership CCEC refunds \$667,000 to members

At their December 2019 Regular Board Meeting, Clinton County Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees approved retirement of 2019 margins in the amount of \$667,000. Current members saw this refund in the form of a one-time credit. The line item on the bill received in January 2020 was labeled "Reduction of 2019 Margins." This credit was based on their consumption between Jan. 1, 2019 and Nov. 30, 2019.

Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (CCEC's wholesale power provider) returned \$417,000

of their 2019 margins to CCEC. CCEC in turn gave that back to its membership along with \$250,000 of their own 2019 margins. A combination of higher than expected energy sales and an effort to control costs led to additional margins for CCEC and SIPC in 2019. We felt it would be prudent to return these dollars to the membership this year instead of retaining them for future patronage retirements.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, all margins are eventually returned to the members based on the percentage each paid throughout the

year. CCEC allocates these operating margins to each individual member as patronage dividends and keeps track of how much each member is owed. The funds are invested into new plant and equipment helping to keep our rates low. Each year, based on the financial health of the cooperative, the board may retire a portion of the allocated margins and returns it to the members. Clinton County Electric Cooperative recognizes that returning margins is one of the most powerful ways for members to recognize the "cooperative difference."

Negative Power Cost Adjustment for 2020

At their December 2019 Regular Board Meeting, Clinton County Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees approved management's recommendation of implementing a negative \$0.00177 per kWh Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) to be reflected on the members' 2020 bills starting with the bill they receive in

February (January consumption).

A PCA is a way to temporarily alter rates without having to do a permanent rate change. Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (CCEC's wholesale power provider) lowered its rates to Clinton County Electric (CCEC) and we are passing that savings along to

the membership. This PCA will remain in effect through 2020. Since the future of SIPC's rates remain uncertain, management decided to implement a PCA verses re-doing the entire rate structure. A re-evaluation will be done at the end of 2020 to determine the future of CCEC's rates.

For any questions regarding the refund or the PCA, do not hesitate to contact President Bob Kroeger at kroeger@cceci.com

Clinton County Electric Cooperative annual scholarship program

For many years, Clinton County Electric Cooperative has awarded scholarships to students who live on CCEC's electric lines. We are proud to announce that we will again carry on the tradition by proudly sponsoring 16 – \$500 scholarships, totaling \$8,000 this spring to benefit students whose primary residence is served by CCEC. Two – \$500 scholarships

will be awarded to two seniors at each of these six area high schools: Carlyle High School, Central High School, Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, Mater Dei Catholic High School, Mascoutah High School and Wesclin High School. Four – \$500 scholarships will also be awarded to four students attending Kaskaskia College. The scholarships

are awarded based upon criteria set forth by the school they are attending. Please contact the guidance department at the schools mentioned above for an application and more details.



Applications are still being accepted for 2020 Youth Day and Youth Tour

There is still time left for high school sophomores and juniors to apply to attend Youth Day in Springfield to be held on March 31, 2020. This event is sponsored by the cooperative and the Association of

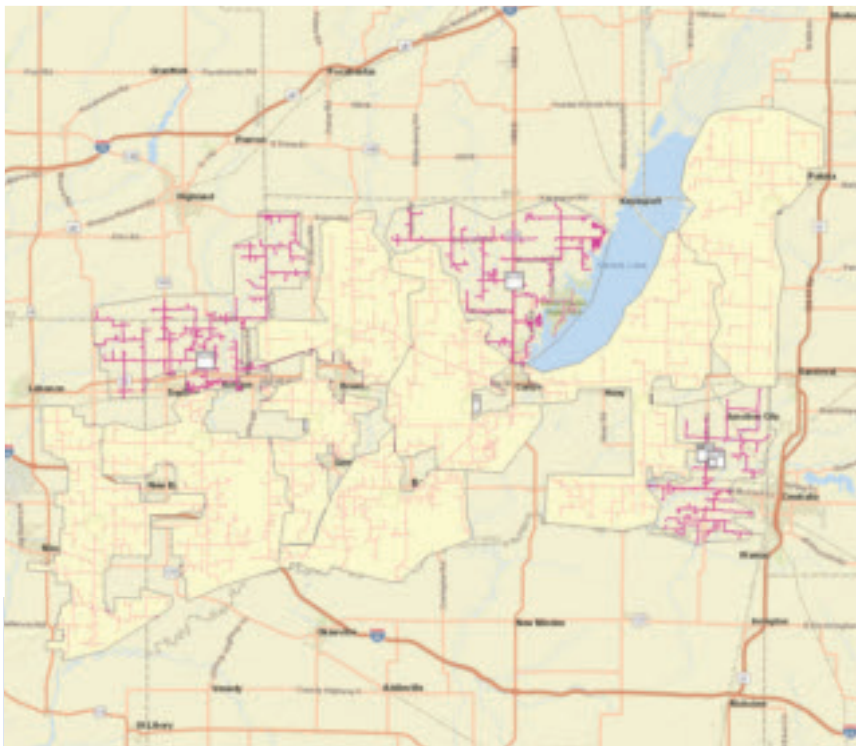
Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Please visit our website, www.cceci.com for an application and more information about Youth Day. Deadline to apply is Thursday, February 20, 2020.

This program may be suspended

at any time due to inadequate funding or participation. There will be a maximum number of 12 participants chosen. Notifications will only be made to those chosen to participate in the program.

2020 maintenance programs

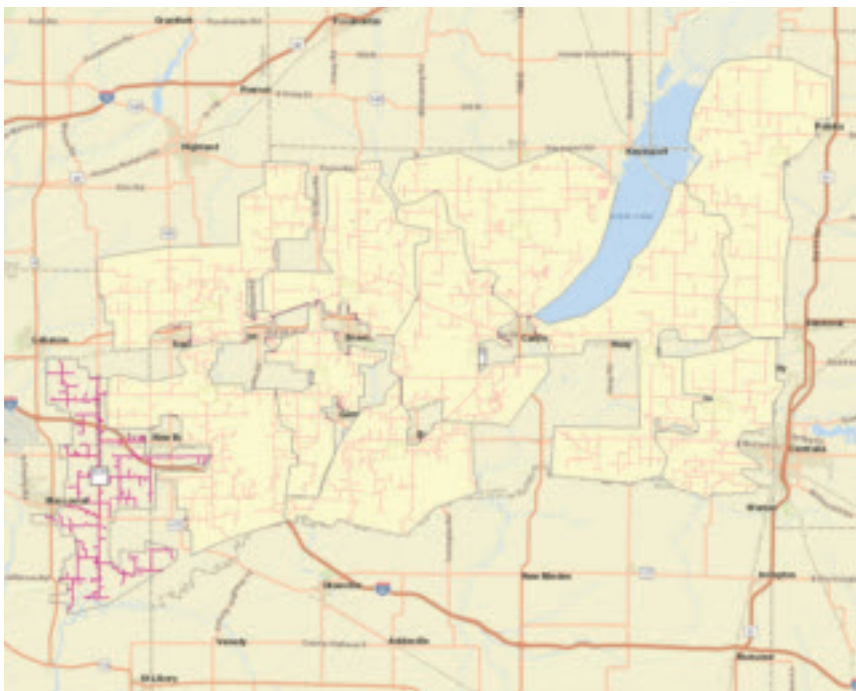
In 2020, we have again contracted with Rensing Tree Service to continue with our 4-year trimming program. This year we will be trimming trees in areas served by our Trenton, Keyesport and Shattuc I Substations. Since weather conditions play a big part in where and what they can cut, you can expect to see Rensing Tree Service crews throughout most of the year. Rensing Tree Service has worked with Clinton County Electric for many years, and we believe they are a valuable partner for us to ensure reliable service to the membership.



Trees will be trimmed in the area served by the Trenton, Keyesport and Shattuc I Substations.

Also in 2020, Clinton County Electric has contracted with Osmose Utilities Service to inspect and possibly treat all electric utility poles served by the Mascoutah Substation. Osmose will start their work this spring. Osmose will be using both pickup trucks and 4-wheelers to move from pole to pole, inspecting and treating them.

For a more detailed map of the areas affected by the 4-year trim or pole treating programs, visit our website www.cceci.com. Please do not hesitate to call the office at 800-526-7282 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. if you have any questions or concerns.



Poles will be treated in the area served by the Mascoutah Substation.

Considering Solar? Call us first!

As interest in “green” energy and ways to save money on utility bills continue to grow, some cooperative members may be considering the installation of a solar array.

Since these types of systems have the capability of returning electricity back to the electric grid, there are some major safety considerations to sort through before a system is installed.

Before deciding to buy a solar array, examine the economics to determine if such a system will lower your monthly electricity costs. If you do decide to install a solar array, contact our office as early as possible in the process.

A CCEC representative will provide information on our interconnection process and policies, as well as answer any questions you may have. That way, you and your installer will have the information needed as you progress with your system.

For more information on CCEC policies and requirements, please contact our office Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 800-526-7282.



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