

MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

CANCELED

Attention Members:

It was originally reported in our July/August Co-op Echoes newsletter, Facebook & Twitter pages and website that the annual meeting was rescheduled in November.

However, due to continuing challenges posed by the coronavirus, it is not practical to hold an annual meeting at this time. Therefore, we are **CANCELING** our 2020 Annual Meeting of Members.

Keeping the health and safety of all members at the forefront, and considering the executive order established for COVID-19 recovery and restoration of permitted activities in Illinois, the board decided this was the best course of action.



**WE WILL BE ANNOUNCING THE
2021 ANNUAL MEETING DATE
AFTER THE FIRST OF NEXT YEAR.**

Attention Educators and Administrators!

CLASSROOM GRANTS

A Commitment to Our Schools



Enter our Touchstone Energy's Classroom Empowerment Grant Program and your submission could win a \$500 grant for classroom and education projects!

Touchstone Energy Empowerment Grants totaling \$7,500 are being funded by Monroe County Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year. For more information about the grant program, go to our website at mcec.org. You can also contact Allan Masterson at amasterson@mcec.org.

Grant applications will need to include the following information:

- A description of the project and what it will accomplish
- The estimated cost of the project
- An explanation of why outside funds are necessary to complete the project
- Whether other funding options have been pursued, and if so, how
- When project will be completed
- The number of people affected by the project

- If the project's goals are measurable, and how
- How the project ties in Touchstone Energy's four core values of Integrity, Accountability, Innovation, and Commitment to Community

Photos and supporting data are required. Grant applications must be received at Monroe County Electric Cooperative by Friday, November 6, 2020. Entries will be evaluated by an impartial panel of judges. Awards will be announced on December 11, 2020.

Dear MCEC,

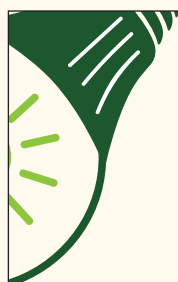
St. James Catholic School in Millstadt received a 2019-2020 \$500 Classroom Empowerment Grant. We have used the money to purchase electrical kits to provide students in grades K-4 with hands-on experiences. Thank you so much for offering these types of grants to area schools! We feel very fortunate that we were chosen. We will look forward to the opportunity to apply for a future grant.

Judy Glaeser – 4th Grade Teacher
St. James Catholic School
Millstadt



MCEC line outages - August 2020

Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
8/1/2020	1:43	1183	Red Bud Area	Other, Faulty Equipment	Poe
8/3/2020	1:52	12	Harley Ln	Unknown	New Athens
8/6/2020	0:32	14	Kern Rd	Other, Faulty Equipment	Poe
8/10/2020	7:12	23	Baum Rd	Trees, Other	Waterloo
8/10/2020	2:43	210	Country Club Ln	Trees, Other	North Waterloo
8/10/2020	20:37	150	Gall Rd/Cedar Ridge Ln	Wind, Not Trees	North Waterloo
8/10/2020	3:02	350	Columbia Area	Power Supplier	Columbia
8/10/2020	10:51	26	Lou Dell	Trees, Other	North Waterloo
8/10/2020	3:36	213	Bluffside Rd/Triple Lakes Rd	Trees, Other	Millstadt
8/10/2020	7:05	64	Deer Hill Rd	Wind, Not Trees	Waterloo
8/10/2020	17:54	253	Millstadt South	Trees, Other	Millstadt
8/10/2020	6:49	272	New Athens/Hecker Area	Trees, Other	New Athens
8/10/2020	8:14	29	Doyle/Powell Rd	Trees, Other	Poe
8/10/2020	6:39	9	Holcomb School Rd	Unknown	Smithton
8/10/2020	8:00	16	Stringtown Rd/Regtown Rd	Trees, Other	Fults
8/10/2020	21:34	2	High Prairie School Rd	Trees, Other	Smithton
8/10/2020	2:16	9	Stemler Rd	Wind, Not Trees	Millstadt
8/11/2020	0:14	25	G Rd	Wind, Not Trees	Poe
8/11/2020	6:33	3	Sleepy Ln	Trees, Other	Millstadt
8/11/2020	2:32	38	Rt 156/Lake of the Woods	Trees, Other	Waterloo
8/11/2020	10:46	8	Keim Rd	Trees, Other	Millstadt
8/11/2020	6:29	13	Deer Run Rd	Trees, Other	New Athens
8/11/2020	1:42	2	East Rose Ln	Weather, Other	North Waterloo
8/11/2020	5:09	4	Brenner Rd	Corrosion	New Athens
8/11/2020	2:23	12	Brenner Rd	Wind, Not Trees	New Athens
8/11/2020	1:39	35	LL RD	Other, Scheduled	New Athens
8/12/2020	0:37	282	Smithton South Area	Trees, Other	New Athens
8/14/2020	1:54	19	Algonquin Forest	Other, Deterioration	Millstadt
8/14/2020	1:41	13	Algonquin Forest	Other, Deterioration	Millstadt
8/28/2020	0:23	3	J Rd	Maintenance	Poe
8/29/2020	0:40	3	Rt 3	Other, Faulty Equipment	Poe



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The average household owns 24 electronic products, which account for roughly 12% of home energy use. When shopping for electronics, consider purchasing ENERGY STAR®-certified products, which can be 70% more efficient than conventional models.

Source: energystar.gov.



MCEC supports Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Monroe County Electric Cooperative (MCEC) is committed to National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, held annually in October. This year's Cybersecurity Awareness Month theme is "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart," aimed to empower individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyberspace.

"By increasing awareness and enhancing understanding of basic cybersecurity practices, we can all work together to combat cyberthreats," said Alan Wattles, MCEC president/CEO. "The human element is often-times the biggest cybersecurity risk. Each of us has a critical role to play to ensure the security of our personal and professional data."

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is spearheaded by the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The overarching message of this year's theme, "If you connect it, protect it," dives into the importance of keeping connected devices safe and secure from outside influence.

With more people spending time at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, now more than ever before, connected devices are an integral part of how we communicate and access services essential to our well-being. Data collected from these devices can include highly-specific information about a person or business, which can be exploited by bad actors for criminal gain.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month aims to shed light on these security vulnerabilities, while offering guidance surrounding simple security measures to limit the susceptibility of threats for common devices.

This year, the Cybersecurity Awareness Month focuses on the following areas:

- How connected devices play a pivotal role in the future of healthcare
 - The overall future of connected devices for consumers, professionals and the public domain
- If everyone does their part—implementing stronger security practices, raising community awareness, educating vulnerable audiences or training employees – our interconnected world will be safer and more resilient for everyone.
- Now in its 17th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month continues to build momentum and impact with the goal of providing everyone with the information they need to stay safer and more secure online.
- For more information about Cybersecurity Awareness Month, visit staysafeonline.org/cybersecurity-awareness-month/. You can also follow and use the official hashtag #BeCyberSmart on social media channels.
- Understanding and following general security hygiene for connected devices and home networks
 - The importance of maintaining the security of connected devices for remote workers



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

www.mcec.org

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Office hours: Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.