



Mike Smith
President and CEO

Operation Round-Up awards more than \$7,000



The Operation Round-Up trustees met in October to review quarterly applications. They awarded \$7,011.63 to three deserving organizations which provide wonderful services in our communities.

Roseville Kids Place, a licensed pre-school and daycare facility in Roseville that serves children and families of Warren County, received \$3,000 toward its security project. Funds will be utilized toward a security door access and fire alarm monitoring system and software to secure the daycare center.

Alternatives for the Older Adult offers services to residents in multiple counties within McDonough Power service territory, including a care coordination program, adult protective services, money management, support counseling and ombudsmen. The \$3,000 grant will be used to pay for a portion of travel expenses to connect with residents in McDonough County.

St. Paul School in Macomb received \$1,011.63 to purchase decodable text chapter books for its students. These books are used to remediate reading challenges and will be age-appropriate for older readers.
525HH59-951B

To date, the Operation Round-Up program has awarded \$121,151.49 in the communities we serve; all thanks to YOU, the members!

Operation Round-Up funds are administered by nine member-volunteer trustees. These funds are available to tax exempt organizations within the McDonough Power Cooperative service territory encompassing portions of Fulton, Hancock, Henderson, Knox, McDonough, Schuyler and Fulton counties. For more information or to download an application form, visit www.mcdonoughpower.com. The next entry deadline is Jan. 4, 2021.





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WINTER WONDERLAND WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words associated with winter in the puzzle below?
Use the word bank to check your work.



E	M	C	C	G	H	S	L	B	N	F	L	L	B	L
P	K	E	A	R	M	U	F	F	S	L	R	L	K	L
P	B	A	V	I	S	I	E	A	X	A	A	K	L	
X	W	E	L	H	S	E	T	B	W	N	D	I	C	U
P	B	C	N	F	G	O	W	T	K	I	I	C	B	S
N	L	A	F	Y	W	O	Q	E	E	Z	G	I	C	R
R	C	L	C	E	N	O	T	Y	G	N	E	C	V	U
L	O	P	C	S	X	M	N	I	D	Y	S	L	I	H
W	A	E	H	D	N	S	M	S	A	Z	C	E	B	R
Z	I	R	Y	L	L	I	H	C	O	U	J	S	K	W
C	X	I	R	Q	H	C	Z	L	C	A	X	W	W	L
P	H	F	O	Y	V	S	I	W	O	H	O	C	S	M
B	P	I	P	C	O	O	Y	J	C	D	A	J	Y	L
I	Z	W	Q	F	H	E	V	F	M	D	S	P	S	P
Y	F	E	U	H	Z	V	D	N	L	W	R	B	Q	F



WINTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP:

Instead of turning up the heat in your home, wear an extra layer of clothing or get cozy under your favorite blanket!

WORD BANK:

- snowflake
- mittens
- scarf
- snowball
- chilly
- icicles
- cocoa
- earmuffs
- fireplace
- blanket

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Energy bills can increase during winter for a variety of reasons, like houseguests, more time spent at home, and shorter days and longer nights. Small actions, like turning down your thermostat, replacing old bulbs with LEDs and washing clothes in cold water can help you save.



Stay safe going over the river and through the woods

The holiday season is a busy time of year for many of us. Along with putting out decorations and baking cookies, we often spend more time in our cars than usual – shopping for presents, traveling to family gatherings or attending holiday events. However, all that time in the car can also mean facing extreme weather conditions that can make safe driving difficult. **5333D3A-1212C**

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, winter weather conditions such as snow, sleet and slush cause more than 550,000 traffic accidents each year, leading to approximately 138,000 injuries and 1,700 fatalities.

Along with risk of injury, possible damage to your vehicle, and plain inconvenience, collisions may also involve downed power lines or other electrical hazards. Unfortunately, when this happens, it adds another significant danger to the mix that can cause severe shock, burns or electrocution. Knowing what to do in this situation can save lives.

If you are in an accident involving a downed power line:

- Call 9-1-1 and tell the dispatcher a downed power line or other electrical equipment is involved in a collision. Co-op personnel will be dispatched to the scene to deenergize the power.
- Put your window down and alert others not to approach the scene. They could be shocked or electrocuted if they walk or run over the energized area or touch anything that is energized.
- Never attempt to drive over a power line or through water, snow or other debris that could be hiding one. There is no way to tell if a power line is energized, even if it is not sparking or buzzing.
- Do not exit the vehicle UNLESS the vehicle is on fire or you see smoke. The vehicle acts as an insulator that keeps you safe from stray electricity.
- If you MUST exit the vehicle, cross your arms across your chest, put your feet together, and make a clean jump from the vehicle. Then hop with feet together as far as you can — at least



50 feet away. Once a power line is in contact with a car or truck, the ground or other objects, it energizes the area. The electrical current spreads to the vehicle and ground, and it ripples out. Each “ring” of the ripple represents a different voltage. Stepping from one voltage to the next can cause your body to become a path for electricity and electrocute you.

- If a power line is inside the vehicle due to damage or an open window, stay in

the vehicle. DO NOT touch or try to move the wire. DO NOT attempt to use other objects to move it.

- If your vehicle collides with a pad-mounted transformer, which houses electrical equipment connected to underground power lines, the same safety precautions apply.

Keep your family safe while on the road this holiday season! For more information about safety around electricity, go to SafeElectricity.org.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Holiday Office Closures

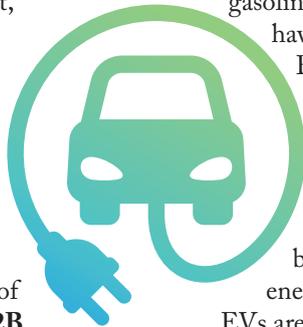
Christmas Eve – December 24
Christmas Day – December 25
New Year's Day – January 1

Unpacking the different types of electric cars

The electric car movement is gaining speed. Offering many benefits to both owners and the environment, driving an electric car emits 54 percent fewer carbon dioxide emissions per mile than the average new gasoline car. Moreover, the cost of “fueling” an electric vehicle averages \$1.20 per gallon, much less than the average cost of a gallon of regular gasoline. **729C9-112B**

With more than 1.5 million electric cars currently operating in the U.S., electric car sales are forecasted to surpass 3.5 million per year by 2030. Not all electric cars operate the same way. Four main types of electric cars exist on the roads today.

Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs) are the type of electric car that has been on the market the longest. HEVs include a small battery pack that is not charged by plugging in, but rather the batteries in hybrids are charged by the internal combustion engine and/or the braking process. HEVs function as battery-assisted vehicles and are not powered solely by batteries at any given time. Many HEVs are touted to make around 50 mpg for both city and highway.



Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) (also known as EVs) do not rely on any gasoline to power the vehicle and have zero tailpipe emissions.

EV operators simply plug their vehicles into their home electric grid or a public charging station to charge. BEVs also generate electricity from braking as a secondary energy source. Unfortunately, EVs are somewhat limited in how far they can drive on a single charge. Most EVs have all-electric ranges of 80 to 100 miles, while a few have ranges up to 250 miles. On longer road trips, EVs rely on the availability of charging stations, which are sometimes difficult to find. Depending on the model, it may take anywhere from 30 minutes to several hours to recharge a vehicle.

Plug-in Hybrid EVs run on both battery power and gasoline and have much smaller battery packs than BEVs. The all-battery range in these vehicles is typically between five and 30 miles, and then the internal combustion engine is responsible for anything beyond that. Plug-in hybrids effectively reduce operator emissions for short trips around town; longer trips are powered by gasoline. **6121C9-164C**

Range Extender Hybrid EVs (REHs) function the same as plug-in hybrids, but have higher battery ranges due to design differences. Examples include the BMWi3 and the

discontinued Chevrolet Volt. Some REHs drive more than 50 miles on a single charge. In addition to battery power, they also feature a traditional internal combustion engine with some models making more than 40 miles per gallon once the battery is drained.

It is worth noting that EV battery ranges can vary depending on weather conditions. For example, cars must work harder to run in colder temperatures and using the defrost or heat decreases the range. At-home charging times depend on how you charge at home (120 volts versus 240 volts). These are caveats you will want to consider when shopping for an electric vehicle.

For more information about energy efficiency and electrical safety, go to SafeElectricity.org.

Scholarship Deadline

Thomas H. Moore
Illinois Electric Cooperatives
Memorial Scholarship

Application Deadline – December 31

Apply at:

mcdonoughpower.com/community/scholarships

Member Prizes

Every month we will have four map location numbers hidden throughout The Wire. If you find the map location number that corresponds to the one on your bill (found above the usage graph), call our office and identify your number and the page that it is on. If correct, you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

