

THE GRID

**P.O. Box 709
(104 Dewitt Ave., East)
Mattoon, Illinois 61938**

Phone: 217/235-0341
or **Toll-Free:**
1-888-661-CMEC (2632)
Office hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

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**To Report an Outage
call #888-661-2632**

**Send your current email
to info@cmec.coop
for a chance to win a
\$50 bill credit**



LINEWORKERS
BRING THE LIGHT.

Lineworker Appreciation Day

On April 12, remember to
#ThankALineworker.

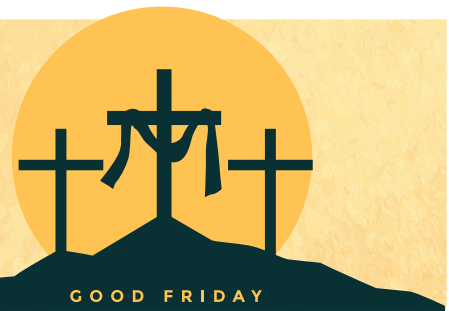
Member Celebration & Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for Thursday evening, June 17, 2021 to meet us in person or virtually as we celebrate you, our members, and hold our 81st Annual Meeting. Watch for more details in our May Grid and be sure to follow us on social media.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**Our office will be closed
April 2nd in observance
of Good Friday.**



Find Your Name and Win \$50

Find your name hidden inside this issue of The Grid and receive a **\$50 bill credit**. Credit must be claimed by the end of each month in which this newsletter is published.



Unclaimed Capital Credits

We have placed a list of Unclaimed Capital Credits on our website, www.cmec.coop, under the MY COOPERATIVE, CAPITAL CREDITS menu. Contact us if you or a relative are on this list. Be sure to click on the message from our legal counsel concerning capital credit retirements while you are on that page.



FINAL REMINDER

CMEC Scholarship applications are due no later than April 30, 2021.

Know What's Below

Spring is just around the corner, and there's never been a better time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. Perhaps you're making plans for a new garden or a lawn makeover. Remember to keep safety in mind for all projects--especially those that require digging. **call 811**

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Source: call811.com

ELECTRICAL LINWORKERS

Lineworkers install and maintain overhead and underground electrical systems. We rely on their expertise to power our world.

They must commit to safety above all else for the benefit of those they serve (you!), fellow crew members and themselves.

WHAT THEY WEAR

Protective clothing is required to shield lineworkers since they work around high voltages. Gear can vary depending on pole structure (wood or steel) and weighs up to 45 pounds.



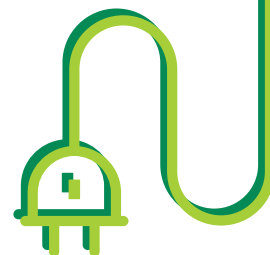
Safe
Electricity.org®

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Some manufacturers set water heater thermostats at 140 degrees, but most households usually only require them to be set at 120 degrees.

Consider lowering your water heater’s temperature to save energy and slow mineral buildup in the heater and pipes.

Source:
www.energy.gov





LOCAL & LOCAL Places & Faces



Alliance Coffee Co

601 Dewitt Ave, Mattoon • 217-295-1027

This cute little locally owned coffee shop, formerly known as Crave, was purchased in July 2020. It is situated at a great location on the corner of North 6th Street and DeWitt Ave East. Take home their roasted blends or a Revival City doughnut, which is brought in daily from Charleston. They have convenient drive up, an outside deck for seating and are within walking distance from the Roundhouse Sports Complex.

Jackson Avenue Coffee

708 Jackson Ave, Charleston • 217-345-5283
jacksonavenuecoffee.com

There is no place like home, but this place sure feels like it with free Wi-Fi and local art on display. They are just off the square and have been a part of the downtown scene for years. Choose from blended teas, smoothies or frappes while you relax in their cozy atmosphere. Enjoy some java and their wonderful vibe for your next meeting or study group.



5 West Coffee and Wine Lounge

5 W Jefferson Street, Sullivan • 217-728-4506
5westcoffee.com

This is more than coffee as they offer wine and cocktails along with great conversation. Folks of all ages enjoy their casual comfortable upscale ambience. They are near downtown and have something for everyone from hot chocolate to sangria. Stop by and meet friends, play chess or rent their private space for your next gathering.

We are helping support and kick-start small business comeback in our communities.
Email info@cmec.coop if you have a business, product or service you provide.

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: www.cmec.coop