


MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Alan W. Wattles

Across The President's Desk

We're ready for storm season. Are you?

Summer is in full swing, and I welcome more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the warm weather. Summer-time brings many favorite activities like cooking out with family and friends, afternoons on the water and slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

Summer months also make conditions right for dangerous storms. These weather events can cause destruction to our electrical system, but I want you



to know that Monroe County Electric Cooperative (MCEC) crews are ready and standing by to respond should power outages occur.

When major storms knock out power, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines. I encourage you to practice safety and preparedness to protect

your family during major storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the following items as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness, but visit ready.gov for additional resources.

- ✓ Have a three-day supply of non-perishable food on hand, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, water and other essentials.
- ✓ Have hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- ✓ Ensure your first aid kit is stocked with medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- ✓ Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- ✓ Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers and other electronics. This will help avert damage from a power surge, and will help prevent overloading

the circuits during power restoration.

That said, leave one light on so you will know when power is restored. If you use a small generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information, and check MCEC's SmartHub app or website for updates.

After the storm, avoid downed power lines and flooded areas where power lines could be submerged. Allow ample room for utility crews to safely perform their jobs, including on your property.

Planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and can lessen the impact of the storm's effects. Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings, and download our SmartHub app to stay abreast of power restoration efforts and other important co-op news and information.

I hope we don't experience severe storms this summer, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At MCEC, we recommend you act today because there is power in planning. From our co-op family to yours, we hope you have a safe and wonderful summer.

Check out our recorded member meeting on our Facebook page or our website.



facebook.com/monroecountyelectric



mcec.org

Matt Wiegard hired as intern tree trimmer

Matt Wiegard was hired in September 2020 as a part-time tree trimmer. He grew up in Red

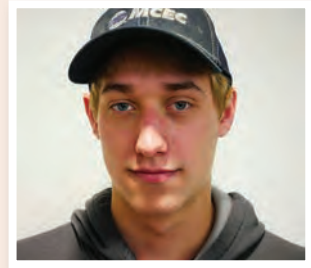


Bud and graduated high school in 2020. He was previously employed at Reinhardt Dairy Farm of Red Bud. Matt's parents are Dale and Angie Wiegard of Red Bud. He also has a sister, Claire. When he isn't working at the cooperative, Matt can be found working on his sheep farm. His hobbies include hunting and fishing.

We welcome Matt as an intern in the tree maintenance department!

Intern Sam Huebner hired as full-time apprentice tree trimmer

High school senior Sam Huebner, who was hired in December 2019 as an intern to help around the warehouse, pole yard/shed and the office, was made a full-time employee upon his graduation in May.



He officially became a full-time employee on May 24, 2021 and will be working as an apprentice tree trimmer.

This position will assist our journeyman tree trimmer in clearing trees and brush that are impeding reliable electric service in our system.

Sam lives just south of the cooperative office off Kaskaskia Road with his parents, David and Shaundra Huebner. He has a twin sister, Madi, and two older brothers, Jarett and Tyler.

His career interest is being a journeyman lineman someday. Sam has learned what the life of a lineman is like here at the cooperative and what they face day-to-day.

Sam's interests include hunting, fishing and riding four wheelers.

We congratulate Sam on his new position with the cooperative and wish him the best of luck!

Save
the Date!

2021 ANNUAL MEETING
DATE SET FOR
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

What is a brownout?

A blackout is a complete shutdown of power. A **brownout** means that **energy is reduced by 10 to 25%.**

Safe
Electricity.org®

MCEC line outages April 2021

Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
4/16/21	0:57	5	Otten Rd	Small Animals or Birds	East Carondelet
4/19/21	2:40	3	Douglas Rd	Vehicles or Machinery	Smithton
4/22/21	0:29	5	Autumn Dr	Unknown	Millstadt
4/24/21	1:09	5	Autumn Dr	Small Animals or Birds	Millstadt



Meet the Directors

Larry Kraft

What is the most important duty of a director?

To develop and review policies for the co-op and to ensure that we are operating in a financially sound manner that is fair to all members.

What has surprised you most about serving as a director?

The amount of time and education required to keep up with a rapidly changing industry.

What is your projection of the future for the cooperative?

Continued growth.

What person has had the greatest impact on your life and why?

My wife Sandy. She has been my best friend and business partner through all the ups and downs and always by my side.

How do you like to spend your free time?

Travel, golf and outdoor activities including gardening.



Follow Us

What are you missing on Facebook?

- Power outage information & restoration
- Electrical safety reminders & tips
- Learn more about the people behind your power
- Updates on weather, storms & things that impact the power grid
- Energy saving tips & ways to save money
- What's new at your co-op & much more



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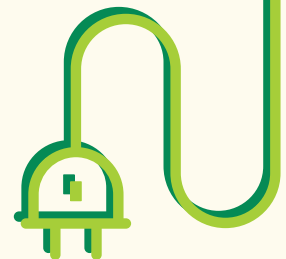
Office hours: Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary.

Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.

Source:
www.energy.gov



Solar metering – What will my bill look like?

Members who first install a solar generation system on their account may be confused on their first bill reflecting how their generation amount affects their total electric usage.

Basically, they will see three lines.

The first line will show what the member pulled off the grid from Monroe County Electric Cooperative (MCEC).

The second line will show what the member generated over what they consumed for the month. **Some members**

do not realize that on a sunny, solar generating day, the members' service will use the solar generation first, before consuming the electric off the MCEC grid. Hence, on the cloudy or less solar generating days (or nighttime), they will draw electric off the grid rather than off their solar system.

The third line represents the net balance at the end of the month subtracting line 2, the member generated electric (after using their solar generation as they needed it) from line 1, or

what they ended up pulling off the grid from MCEC. If they generate more than they use, a credit will be added to their bill the following month at the avoided cost, which is currently \$.0363/kilowatt hour. If they do not, then they pay for what they used less what they generated with their system.

If members have any questions, please contact the cooperative office at 939-7171.

Top number – The amount of electricity the member pulled off the grid from MCEC:

Middle number – The amount of electricity the member generated over their consumption:

Bottom number – Net balance between the line 2 amount subtracted from the line 1 amount which represents kilowatts that will be billed for (if +) or credited for (if -).

(	10354	—	9444	)	x	1.0	=	910	- Consumption
	<small>CURRENT READING</small>		<small>PREVIOUS READING</small>			<small>METER MULTIPLIER</small>		<small>KWH USAGE</small>	
(	6334	—	5572	)	x	1.0	=	762	- Generation
	<small>CURRENT READING</small>		<small>PREVIOUS READING</small>			<small>METER MULTIPLIER</small>		<small>KWH USAGE</small>	
(	4165	—	4017	)	x	1.0	=	148	- Net
	<small>CURRENT READING</small>		<small>PREVIOUS READING</small>			<small>METER MULTIPLIER</small>		<small>KWH USAGE</small>	

Consumer Charge		\$45.00
Energy Charge	148 kWh @ 0.086500	\$12.80
Dist Delivery Charge	148 kWh @ 0.022200	\$3.29
Power Cost Adjustment	148 kWh @ 0.000200	\$0.03
Utility Tax	148 kWh @ .00320	\$0.47

Electric usage history in kilowatt hours (kWh)

