

Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Norris Electric Cooperative

8543 N St Hwy 130
Newton, IL 62448

Phone: 618-783-8765
or **Toll-Free:**
1-877-783-8765

Report an Outage:
1-877-783-3221

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Chairman
Gordon McClureJasper

Vice Chairman
Justin Parcel..... Clark

Secretary/Treasurer
Dean Dietrich..... Richland

Directors
Gary Buser.....Crawford
Kurt HolscherCrawford
Gilbert Garbe Effingham
Ted Helmink Cumberland
Scott Weiss.....Lawrence
Dan Strine Wabash
Dave Sheppard.....Jasper
Ron Viehman.....Lawrence

General Manager
Tamara Phillips



2021 scholarships awarded

Sixty students applied for the 2021 scholarships offered by Norris Electric Cooperative. Paperwork was sent to all area high schools for seniors to complete. The forms were also available on the co-op website. A panel of judges reviewed the applications and with much difficulty narrowed down the list to three students.

Tamara Phillips, co-op manager said, “The employees and board members of Norris Electric Cooperative have always been involved in our local schools and communities. We live here too, and like our members, have a vested interest in the future of our children. These scholarships are just a small way we can help make a difference for students like Shaley, Maria and Katelyn.”

Congratulations to all area graduates!



Katelyn Wilber

Katelyn is a 2021 graduate of Palestine High School. Katelyn will be attending Missouri Baptist University to get a bachelor’s degree in Biology with a concentration in biomedical sciences and minor in biotech. She aspires to be a pediatric cardiology physician’s assistant.



Maria Vahling

Maria is a 2021 graduate of Teutopolis High School. Maria plans to attend Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in the direct-entry nursing program.



Shaley Murray

Shaley is a 2021 graduate of Newton Community High School. Shaley will be attending Eastern Illinois University majoring in biological sciences.

Congratulations!

Norris Electric would like to congratulate Katelyn, Maria and Shaley for their accomplishments and wish them well in their future endeavors.

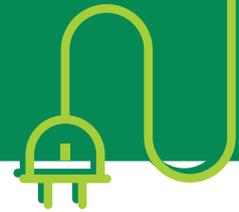


Recent survey results show
Norris Electric Cooperative
has the **lowest co-op rates**
in the state of Illinois!!

***Congratulations
Norris Electric***

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat (like clothes dryers and dishwashers) during the evening when it's cooler. This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.



AVOID UTILITY SCAMS

Scammers will threaten you with everything from shutting off power to your home to legal action. Don't fall victim to these types of scams.



- Our employees will never show up at your door to demand payment.
- Never give personal information to an unknown caller or visitor. Our representatives have access to the details they need to service your account.
- Demands for immediate payment by wire transfer, cryptocurrency, gift cards or cash reload cards should immediately raise red flags.
- If you think you've been contacted by a scammer falsely representing the co-op, please let us know as soon as possible.

Do you know the 8 WAYS to pay your bill?

1

AUTOMATIC DRAFT

The day before your bill is due each month, Norris will automatically draft your checking or savings account.



5

MOBILE APP

Sign up with our mobile app. On the Norris Electric app, you can pay your bill, set up notifications, review billing and payment history, view usage graphs, and report an outage.



2

BANK ONLINE

An electronic payment will be transferred to Norris from your bank. This option is set up through your bank.



6

LOCAL BANKS

See if your local bank participates in accepting Norris payments. Just remember, banks cannot accept late payments.



3

BY PHONE

Make payments any time through our automated payment center.



7

AT THE OFFICE

Stop by the Norris Electric office and drop off your payment in the lobby or drop box.



4

WEBSITE PAYMENTS

Make payments on our website NorrisElectric.com.



8

BY MAIL

You can always mail in your payment.



What is the power grid and how does it work?



When people go without power during widespread outages, it seems like discussions turn toward the power grid. But what exactly is the power grid, and how does it work? In the U.S., the power system consists of more than 9,200 electric generating units with more than 1 million megawatts of generating capacity connected to more than 600,000 miles of transmission lines, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

- First, power is generated at a power plant by converting some form of energy into power. Examples of energy sources include wind, water, steam, oil, coal, nuclear, solar and natural gas.
- Once the power is generated, it is converted to high voltages so it can be pushed a long distance through the grid via transmission lines (345,000 volts) or sub-transmission lines (69,000 volts).
- Eventually, it is stepped down so it can be sent on to lower-voltage power lines called distribution lines (7,200 volts), which take the electricity to houses and businesses.
- Once it makes its way there, it gets stepped down again before it enters the structure through drop-down lines (220 volts).
- Sensors are located at key points throughout the grid to monitor outages.

Some electric utilities generate all the electricity they provide using their own power plants. Some utilities purchase electricity from other utilities, independent power producers or a wholesale market.

How consumers, or end users, purchase energy varies from region to region:

- The utility providing power may be a not-for-profit municipal electric utility; an electric cooperative owned by its members; a private, for-profit electric utility owned by stockholders (often called an investor-owned utility); or in some states, a power marketer.
- A power marketer is often a trading company engaged in the purchase and sale of electricity. Generally, these marketers do not own generation or transmission facilities. Rather, they buy electricity from utilities, independent power producers and other suppliers to sell wholesale to other utilities or marketers.

Newer technology is improving how the grid works, inspiring the phrase “smart grid” to describe this evolutionary process. For example, some improvements include:

- Individual microgrids. With some sources of energy now at consumers’ disposal, some individuals and businesses have their own power source (solar panels, for example).
- Energy storage technology. This enables companies to store excess energy when not needed and use it later when there is more demand.
- Smart meter technology. This creates two-way communication between consumers and the electric utility or cooperative by automatically notifying them about outages and other potential issues. Smart meters also allow consumers to see how much electricity they use, when they use it and its cost. Combined with real-time pricing, this allows end users to save money by using less power when electricity rates are highest.

For more information about electricity safety and energy efficiency, visit SafeElectricity.org.