MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

tentatively planned for Saturday, October 2nd at the MCEC warehouse



Because of the uncertainty on the possible COVID-19 restriction level at that time, we will be conducting only a business meeting this year. There will be no activities for the children prior to this meeting because of COVID-19 precautions. We hope to resume those activities at next year's meeting, tentatively planned for a date in June 2022.

Stay in touch with us on our website, Facebook page and Twitter account for updates.

Meeting Agenda

- Cooperative business reviewed for 2020
- Director elections
- The first 250 members receive a \$25 restaurant gift card for attending (one per membership)
- We plan to LIVESTREAM the meeting on our Facebook page and provide the opportunity for ONLINE VOTING



This meeting is subject to change depending on the possible COVID-19 restrictions at that time mandated by our state.

Receive a \$20 bill credit for attending the meeting



Most adults have a vague memory of a time when "checking for messages" meant listening to an answering machine. We carried on with our days without relying on cell phones and managed just fine. But today, we are more connected than ever through our smartphones and other devices.

From cameras to calendars to social media connections, our phones do so much more now. Truly disconnecting from them can be tough. But it's even harder for our kids to unplug because they only know life with these tiny screens. It's difficult for them to imagine life without computers, gaming devices, tablets or cell phones.

But there's great value in unplugging for children and adults, even if it's for a short period of time. For kids, time away from the screen to be outside with other children allows them to connect with nature and others in a way that a virtual experience simply does not allow. They are able to experience life in the moment and allow their creativity and energy to break free.

Fortunately, we have access to great community programs and

organizations like 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc., that provide children with a safe place to play, learn and grow, while cultivating new skills and interests.

These types of clubs and programs offer kids an opportunity to explore activities and interests outside of school academics. Children can investigate areas they might not otherwise have access to and discover new interests and passions. They often learn new skills and strengthen existing ones. It's no secret that the broader the range of experiences and activities children are exposed to, the more likely they are to find their own path and possibly a career. Community programs also foster important leadership development and public speaking skills. Through guided and informal play and activities, children learn problem-solving and interpersonal skills that enable them to resolve conflicts peacefully and improve interpersonal relationships.

Adults can also find meaningful opportunities to spend time with the kids when we all unplug. From board games to craft projects to playing in

the park, there are many ways we can unplug for some family fun.

While you and your children are disconnecting, take a moment to identify potential energy savings. Unplug electronics that are not in use to avoid "vampire" energy loss. This is the energy that is drained from technology and electronics even when they are not in use. For example, although it is turned off, your TV is waiting to receive a signal from the remote and your DVR is waiting to record the next show or perform an update.

Let's encourage youngsters to step away from the screens and join in. To play and be part of an organization that helps them connect with others and find meaningful interactions and explore new activities and interests.

When you do plug back in, Monroe County Electric Cooperative is here to help you save money and energy by connecting you with our energy saving programs and services. While we'd love to see you in person, we're also just a call or click away. Our office number is 939-7171 or 1-800-757-7433.



Meet the Directors Jeff Hoffmann

What is the most important duty of a director?

I feel the most important duty of a director is to contribute to the board's oversight of the CEO and to make strategic and policy decisions.

What has surprised you most about serving as a director?

I was initially intimidated joining something I wasn't overly knowledgeable about, but the helpful staff, abundance of training opportunities, and family atmosphere of the board have brought me to a level of comfort I wouldn't have imagined in less than one year.

What is your projection of the future for the cooperative?

I feel the cooperative is well positioned in the market with an excellent reputation in the community, which will enable us to serve our members for years to come.

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

I have to split that credit between my parents. Without their guidance, I would not be where I am today.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I enjoy spending time with my family and working on the farm.

Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Energy used for cooling and heating your home makes up the largest portion of your monthly energy bills. By combining regular equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30% on your energy bills while helping our environment.



MCEC line outages July 2021

Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
7/10/2021	1:33	56	Sportsman Rd	Unknown	Poe
7/10/2021	1:08	9	Brickey Rd	Small Animals Or Birds	Poe
7/10/2021	1:24	33	LL Rd	Trees, Other	New Athens
7/11/2021	2:43	5	K Rd	Lightning	Waterloo
7/14/2021	0:41	3	IL Rt 158	Small Animals Or Birds	Millstadt
7/15/2021	1:27	7	Fountain Rd	No Cause Code	Fountain
7/30/2021	2:28	2	DD Rd	Lightning	Columbia
7/30/2021	1:30	24	IMBS Station Rd	Other, Faulty Equipment	East Carondelet



www.mcec.org

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















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