Egyptian Electric News
1732 Finney Road • Murphysboro, IL 62966 • 800-606-1505 • eeca.coop
NOVEMBER 2021

Fourteen 2022 IEC Memorial Scholarships available

Illinois electric cooperatives will now award 14 scholarships in 2022 to financially assist deserving students in the electric cooperative family. The 14 scholarships, $2,000 each, will be awarded through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

"We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with these scholarships," says Shane Hermetz, Executive Vice President/General Manager. "Egyptian Electric Cooperative and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our youth and investing in them through programs like this one." **42-14-0021**

Eight scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric co-op member. A ninth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director. Four additional scholarships are reserved for high school seniors enrolling full time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees, and/or directors.

The 14th scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship, will help pay for costs to attend lineworker school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Ill. Sons and daughters of co-op members, relatives of co-op employees or directors, and individuals who have served or are serving in the armed forces or National Guard are all eligible for this scholarship.

Applications will open on November 1. Deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2021. The lineworker scholarship deadline is April 30, 2022. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact EECA Member Service Manager, Brooke Guthman. Information has also been shared with area high school guidance counselors and is available online.

APPLY ONLINE
aiec.coop/iec-scholarship/?coop=EGT
or at eeca.coop

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
OPERATION ROUND UP
eeca.coop/roundup

Sign up for Operation Round Up by Friday, Dec. 17 and your name will be entered into a drawing for a prize! Winner will be announced in January 2022.

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
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Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
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- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N Reed Station Pkwy in Carbondale and 1306 N Market in Sparta

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association

As a local company, it is important for us, and also most beneficial to you, to have your most up-to-date mailing address, email and best phone number on file. Whether it be to ask an operational on-site question or internal billing question, we want to make sure you are kept in the loop on all communications!

If you've had any changes, please submit your most up-to-date information through SmartHub, our website (eeca.coop), by emailing info@eeca.coop, or by calling us at (800) 606-1505.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Fall is the perfect time to prep your home for the upcoming winter chill. One of the best ways you can save energy and stay comfortable is to caulk and weatherstrip areas that typically need sealing. Start by sealing around windows and doors. Seal plumbing, ducting, and areas where electrical wiring comes through walls, floors and ceilings for additional energy savings.

Source: energy.gov

Mike Smith, an EECA Line Foreman, has once again completed another donation of scrap metal recycling this past month for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in the amount of nearly $11,000. Thank you Mike!

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MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three map location numbers hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your location number, that corresponds to the one on your bill, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a $10 credit on your next electric bill.

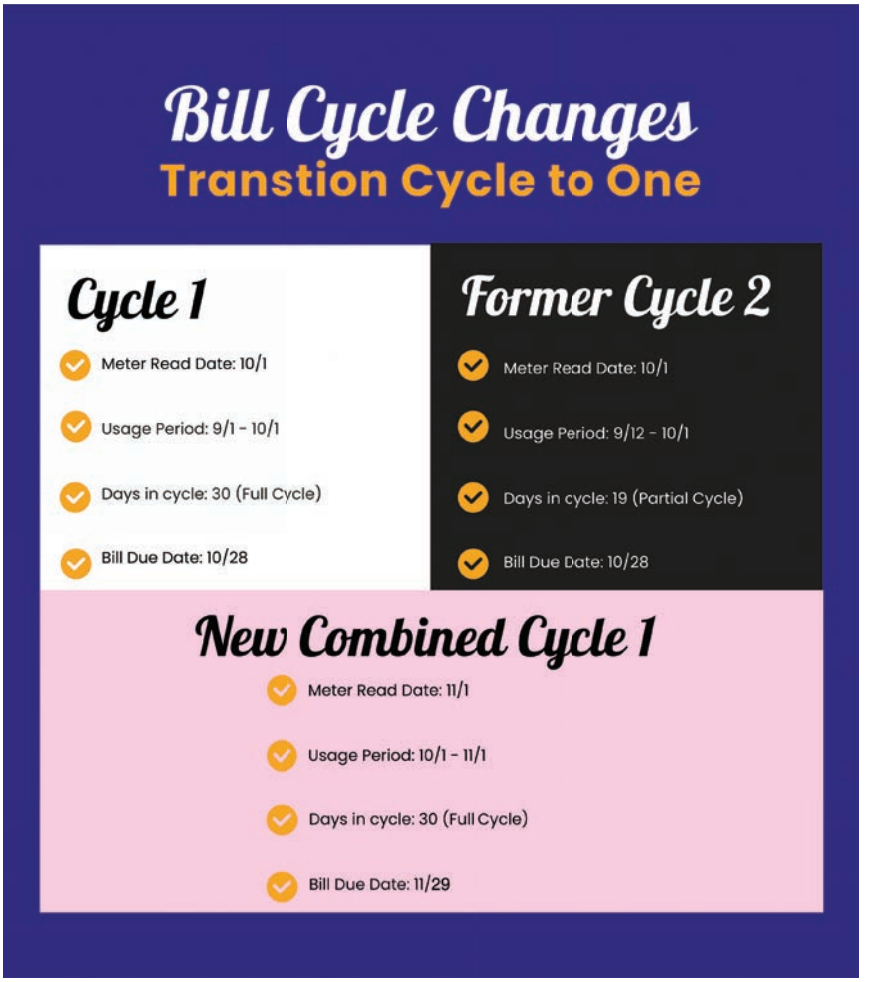
Reminder of bill cycle changes

Effective October 1, Egyptian Electric Cooperative moved from two bill cycles to one. These changes will result in billing all member-consumers for the same usage period that coincides with our wholesale power billing cycle that we in turn pay.

Those who are on Cycle 1 billing (former bill due date of the 23rd) should only see one change – an extended due date of the 28th of each month. This became effective October 28. **15-35-0106**

Those previously on Cycle 2 billing (former bill due date of the 4th) will have seen changes in reading dates, usage period, bill processing dates and due dates. These members will have received a one-time partial bill from September 12 to October 1, that was due October 28.

All member bill cycles will be read and processing begun on November 1. All member bills will be due on November 29 (since the 28th falls on a Sunday). Please let us know of any additional questions you have. We will provide an extended grace period and waive late fees during this transition for all accounts.



Our office will be closed for Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11 and Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26

Reminder
TEN $500 CLASSROOM GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
Applications due November 19
and can be found at eeca.coop

Is your home's envelope well sealed?

When we hear the word "envelope," we usually think of the outer covering that our mail comes in. However, you could save on energy, and in turn money, on your utility bill if you focus on your home's "envelope", which consists of its outer walls, windows, doors, ceilings, crawl spaces, basements, and other openings.

A well-sealed envelope, coupled with the right insulation, can reduce your energy usage and your utility bills. According to EnergyStar.gov, 9 out of 10 homes in the U.S. are under-insulated. Homeowners can save an average of 15 percent on heating and cooling costs by air sealing their homes and adding insulation in attics, floors, crawl spaces and basements. **20-13-0002**

To determine if your home's envelope is in good shape, Egyptian Electric and Safe Electricity recommend having a home audit conducted to pinpoint the leaks that allow energy to escape your home. A qualified energy auditor will include an insulation check as part of a whole-house energy assessment and will identify areas of your home that need air sealing and identify insulation shortfalls.

If you would like to complete your own DIY home energy audit, find out the following:

- The type of insulation in your home (walls, attics, crawl spaces).
- The R-value (rate of thermal resistance) of the insulation. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating power. R-value recommendations and ratings are dependent on climate zone, insulations type, and location inside the envelope.
- The thickness or depth of the insulation you have.

To complete a DIY energy assessment, you will need to check the following items:

In the attic

- When inspecting the attic, if the attic insulation is level with or below the attic floor joists, or you can see plywood, entrance cables or joists, you will want to air-seal and add more insulation.
- Insulation should be evenly distributed with no low spots. Check throughout the attic to determine if there are any thin spots.
- Make sure the insulation in your attic has the appropriate R-value for where you live. Check the value printed on your existing insulation. If you cannot find the value, measure the depth of the insulation in inches. Multiply the depth by the following insulation type: 3.2 for fiberglass batting, 2.8 for the loose fiberglass, 2.8 for rock wool and 3.7 for cellulose. Check EnergyStar.gov for the most up to date recommended R-values.

Crawl Spaces (where applicable)

- Is there insulation?
- Is the insulation under the floor joists or on the inside exterior walls?
- Is it air-sealed and secured?
- Is there HVAC duct work that needs insulated?
- Is there a secured vapor barrier on the ground floor?

Behind the walls

- Turn off the power to the outlet before beginning this work.
- Remove the outlet cover and shine a flashlight into the crack around the outlet box to see if there is insulation in the wall and how thick it is.
- Pull out a small amount of insulation if needed to help determine the type of insulation.
- Check outlets on all floors. Just because you find insulation in one wall does not mean it is uniform throughout your home.

To help you create a more energy-efficient home, Egyptian Electric Cooperative offers home energy audits and up to date written information and interactive online methods to do it yourself online. To learn more about energy efficiency and electrical safety, visit eeca.coop and SafeEletricity.org.