

President's Report



William R. Dodds
President/CEO

It's a matter of (co-op!) principles

For me, this is a time of year for reflection, and topping my list of things I'm grateful for is our wonderful community. I know I speak for all Spoon River Electric employees when I say we are thankful to be in such an incredible place. We are fortunate to live in the same place where we work, which makes our ties to this community that much stronger.

The Cooperative Principles are essential to the co-op business model and benefit all members of the co-op, and I'd like to tell you more about four of them.

Autonomy and Independence

Autonomy and Independence means the co-op operates in an autonomous way that is solely directed and guided by its members, reflecting the values and needs of our local community. This means the co-op is not being influenced by leaders or shareholders several states away. Instead, the co-op is led by the local members it serves.

Education and Training

Education and Training focuses on enhancing the knowledge of co-op employees and board members, which enables them to contribute to the development of the co-op. By investing in continuous learning for our employees and board members, our co-op is making a commitment not just to individual professional and personal growth, but to the future of the co-op and the high quality of service our members expect and deserve. It's a win-win situation.

We also strive to inform our members (that's you!) and the public about the mission and operations of the co-op. In fact, that's why you receive this magazine every month, so we can share the latest co-op news and updates, as well as energy efficiency and safety tips.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperation Among Cooperatives fosters the way co-ops work together to address bigger challenges. While this principle applies to all types of cooperatives, it is especially relevant in the energy industry. In our case, we put this principle in action after major storms and disasters that cause widespread power outages. When this happens, we call on nearby co-ops to come to our aid and assist with restoration efforts—and we extend the same help to them when they need us.

In addition, because we are part of the national electric co-op network, we can connect and collaborate with other electric co-ops to tackle industry-related challenges, like cybersecurity and an everchanging energy landscape.

Concern for Community

Concern for Community is essential to who we are as cooperatives. We serve our community not only by being an essential service, but by helping to power our local economy. Whether through economic development, volunteerism or donations to local causes, we invest in this community because it's our home too. Our Operation Round-Up Program has assisted 53 organizations within our service territory totaling \$97,825 donated back to our communities. If you know of any organizations eligible for our program and have more questions, please contact Taryn at 309-647-2700.

I think you'll find that most cooperatives bring good people together to make good things happen in the community. We hope you feel that way about us, your local electric co-op. On behalf of everyone at Spoon River Electric, we're thankful for your membership, and we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving.



Our office
will be closed
November 25 & 26
for Thanksgiving

Spoon River Electric Cooperative

930 South Fifth Ave, PO Box 340,
Canton, IL 61520
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
309-647-2700 • www.srecoop.org

President/CEO

William R. Dodds
bdodds@srecoop.org

Chairman

Bernard Marvel, Browning

Vice Chairman

Terry Beam, Cuba

Secretary

Jack Clark, Lewistown

Treasurer

Lyle Nelson, Abingdon

Board of Directors

Joe Davis, Canton
Kurt Duncan, Lewistown
JoDee Pedigo, Canton
John Spangler, Marietta
Wesley Strode, Marietta

Editor of Spoon River News

Taryn Mellert
tmellert@srecoop.org

Spoon River Electric Cooperative – By the Numbers

Miles of line energized: 1,272
Number of members served: 5,022
Number of power poles
in territory: 29,361

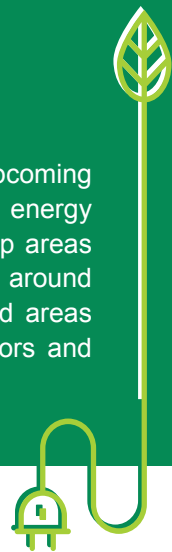


Community born.
Community led.
Focused on YOU.

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



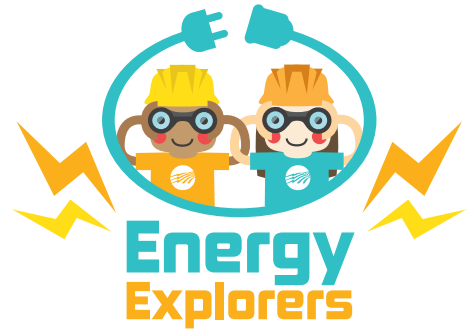
COOK UP ENERGY SAVINGS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

- Clean oven burners regularly.
- Match the pan size to the burner you're using.
- Use small appliances like slow cookers and toaster ovens when possible.

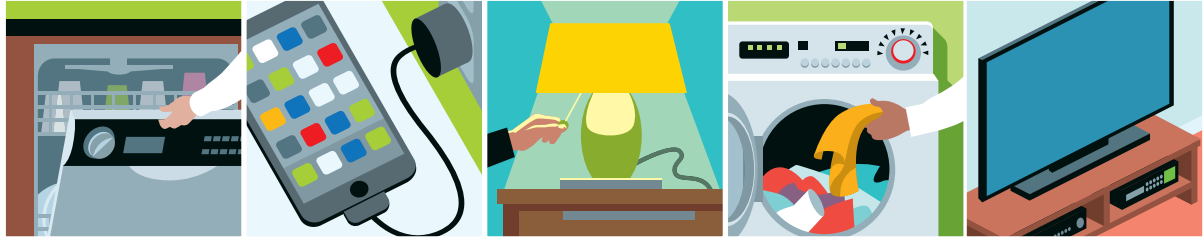
From our table to yours,
Happy Thanksgiving!

ENERGY SAVINGS FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Saving energy at home can help your family save money and help our environment. Test your energy efficiency knowledge by completing this fill-in-the-blank activity.



Tip: Use the word bank for help. Don't forget to check your answers in the key below!



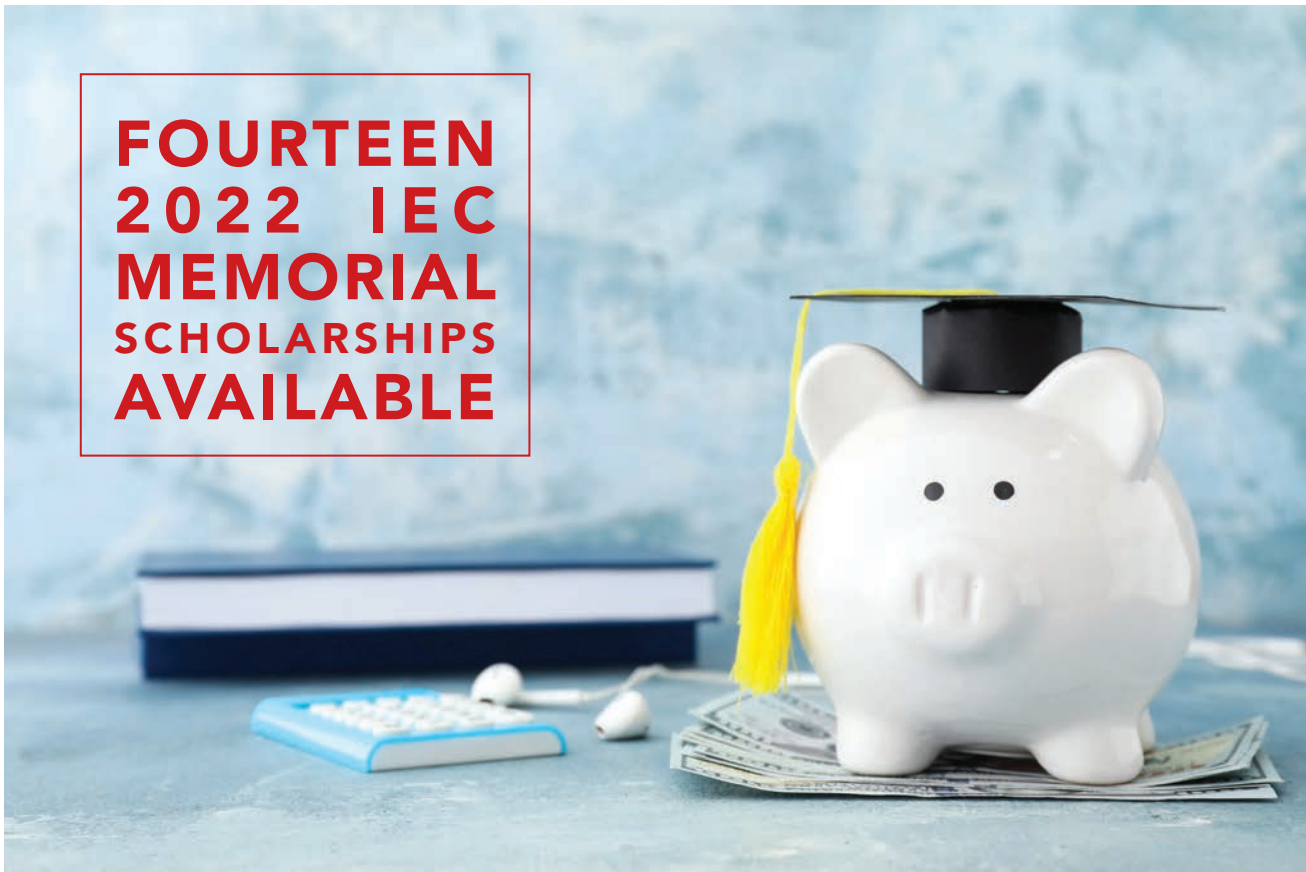
1. Turning off the tap water while brushing your teeth can save up to four _____ of water per minute.
2. Energy vampires, like TVs and phone chargers, consume _____ even when they're not in use. Turn these devices off to save energy.
3. Turning off _____ every time you leave the room saves energy.
4. Wash clothes in _____ water to reduce the load on your water heater.
5. LED light bulbs typically use 75% less energy than _____ light bulbs.
6. To save energy, only run full loads when running the _____.

Word Bank:

incandescent	dishwasher
electricity	gallons
lights	cold

Answer Key: 1) gallons 2) electricity 3) lights 4) cold 5) incandescent 6) dishwasher

FOURTEEN 2022 IEC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Illinois electric cooperatives will 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 Bill Dodds, president/CEO. “Spoon River Electric 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.”

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 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.

Deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2021. The lineworker scholarship deadline is April 30, 2022. For more information regarding the scholarships, contact Taryn Mellert.



Jenna Spangler, a 2021 THM IEC Memorial Scholarship recipient