NEWS, NOTES & VIEWS 02/22

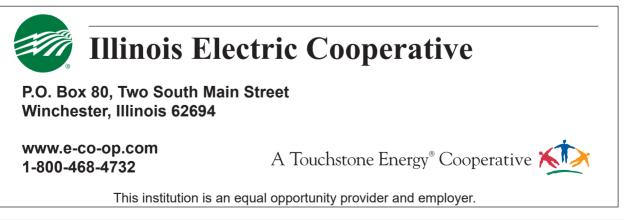


TEXT MESSAGE OUTAGE ALERTS NOW AVAILABLE

The co-op is now able to send outage alerts as well as receive outage reports from members all by text message.

Illinois Electric is launching a new text messaging service to keep you more informed. We can now send outage alerts, status reports, and restoration notifications, all by text. We will also have the ability to send a general informational text about planned outages, construction and inspection operations, tree trimming, and meeting notifications.

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Working to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve since 1936.

Registered members will also be able to report an outage by text message. Simply by texting the word OUT from the phone number in our system to 1-800-468-4732. Members will also be able to report outages by scanning a QR code.

In February, we will send an initial text message to all members with a valid cell phone number in our records. The text will give you the option to "opt-out" if you wish.

If you would like to receive notifications and you believe our records are out-ofdate, we encourage you to give us a call to update your contact information. Members can also visit our website at *e-co-op.com* and click on the Outage Text Alerts icon shown on the right to update their contact information.



Have a question? Want to hear from your general manger? Let's Talk.

Our Member Service representatives do a great job of taking your calls, answering your questions, and handling your requests, but occaionally, you may have questions or concerns about other things, such as your cooperative's Bylaws and policies, standard operating procedures, or even rate structures. If you do, let's talk.

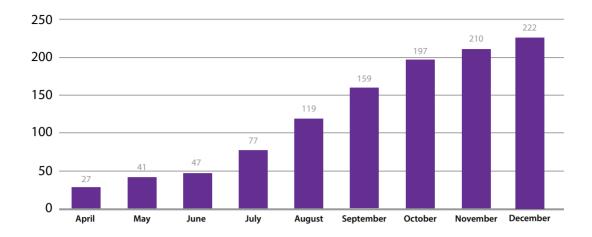
Your concerns are important to us, and I would be happy to discuss them at your convienence. If you would like to talk with me personally, simply go to our website at *e-co-op.com* and click the Let's Talk icon shown on the right. Give me your name, phone number, your question or concern,



and the date and time you would like me to call. Nothing is better than personal interaction. I look forward to speaking with you.

Randy B. Long General Manager Illinois Electric Cooperative

Calhoun Fiber Connections



Progress continues on the multi-year build-out of fiber internet infrastructure in Calhoun County. Winneberg fiber installations will begin in February. We've also increased the number of crews working on our overhead and underground infrastructure.

As new areas become available for fiber service, we will continue to reach out to residents. If we don't have a phone number for a consumer or cannot reach the consumer by phone, we will send a postcard. There are two postcards a consumer may receive. Both postcards are shown below. The first is the "You're Ready" postcard. Residents in areas where we are getting ready to start construction or have just begun construction but cannot contact by phone may receive one of these postcards. Please call us if you receive one of these postcards and are interested in fiber service.

The second postcard we are sending out is to inform residents, that we have not been in contact with, that fiber service is available in their area, and crews are finalizing the initial build. If you receive one of these postcards and would like fiber service, please call us by the date marked on the postcard to avoid future construction and installation costs.



Attention High School Juniors: Apply Now for CEO

CEO is now accepting applicants for the fall 2022 class. Students who will be entering their senior year may apply.

The CEO programs take high school seniors out of their schools and meet in business settings throughout the year. Around 40 business, agricultural, and professional leaders make presentations to the groups, and the classes visit a similar number of businesses throughout the year.

In the first half of the school year, the students develop a class business, which helps fund their individual businesses in the second half of the year. Students in the program are also paired with a mentor from their business community.

Over 100 investors sponsor the programs, along with Jacksonville Regional Economic Development Corporation, the Health and Wellness Foundation of Pike County, District One Foundation, and Illinois Electric Cooperative.



CREATING ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES

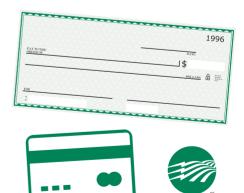
MORGAN-SCOTT • GREENE-CALHOUN • PIKE

Interested high school juniors should speak with their high school guidance counselors. To learn more and see photos of the class in action, search any of the programs on Facebook or vist one of the program websites below.

morganscottceo.com greenecalhounceo.com pikeceo.com

Pay Your Bill Online Today at e-co-op.com!

- Avoid Late Charges
 - View Your Usage
 - Schedule a Future Payment
 - Pay with Check, Debit, or Credit Card
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Don't forget to download the <u>IEC Connect</u> app available for Android and iPhone!

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