



The power behind your power

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 11

You've likely noticed at some point Egyptian Electric Cooperative's crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our communities. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions.

This month, we celebrate Cooperative Lineworker Appreciation Day on Monday, April 11.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career – because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long, irregular hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, with high-voltage electricity, and in all kinds of weather conditions, such as snow, wind, rain, ice, and extreme heat and cold. The work required to maintain the power grid is physically demanding.

To become a journeyman lineworker it takes years of training and more than 7,000 hours (or about four years).

To become proficient, lineworkers go through

a training program as apprentices under the careful eye of seasoned lineworkers who have earned journeyman status. That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Despite the many challenges, Egyptian Electric Cooperative's lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, sometimes days later. That's why the lineworker's family is also dedicated to service. They understand the importance of the job to the community and loyalty to our membership. **48-05-0159**

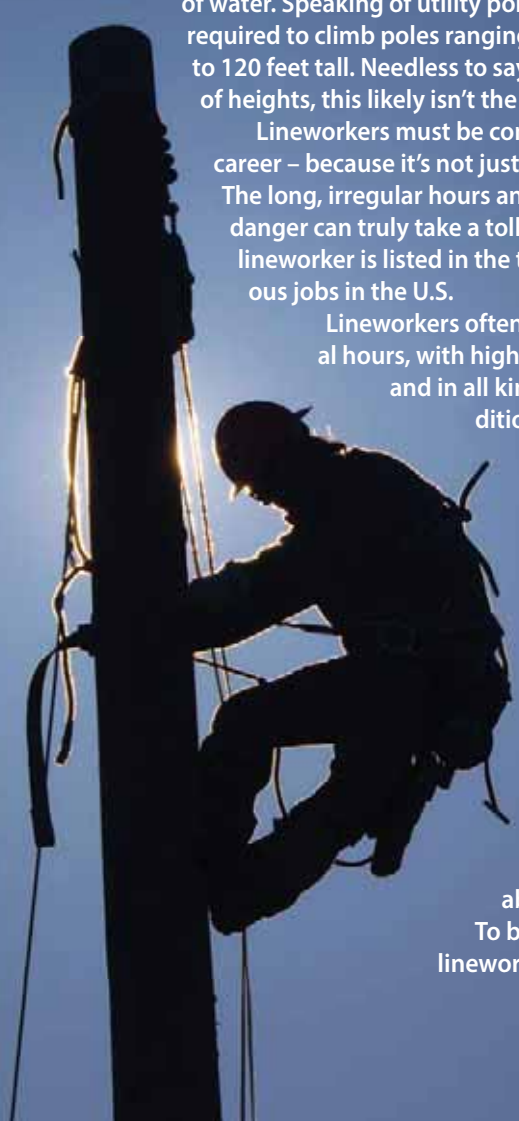
Nationwide, there are approximately 120,000 electric lineworkers. Egyptian Electric Cooperative has 16 lineworkers that are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain 2,000 miles of power lines across 10 counties.

In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire. Today's lineworkers are information experts who, with sophisticated technology, can pinpoint power outages and issues from miles away.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is essential to the quality of life in our region. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

Everyone at Egyptian Electric Cooperative works hard to provide reliable service, we not only salute our lineworkers, but also all our employees who work around the clock to keep the power on.

The next time you see a lineworker, consider thanking them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11!





1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

Board of Directors

Paul Pyatt, President
Paul Hicks, Vice-President
Kevin Liefer, Secretary-Treasurer
Rick Asaturian
Kevin Bame
Randall Campbell
Mary Jo Homan
Ken Jarrett
Steve Prest



Shane Hermetz
General Manager

Choose your payment option!

- At our office lobby, drive-thru, drop-box, or payment kiosk
- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone at (844) 759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N Reed Station Pkwy in Carbondale and 1306 N Market in Sparta

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.

2-3

3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Source: call811.com

Capital credit beneficiary form

A primary benefit of a cooperative, such as ourselves, is that we operate with a not-for-profit business model, meaning we are owned by the member-consumers we serve. As a consumer-member of Egyptian Electric Cooperative, you are considered a member-owner. Therefore, when you pay your Egyptian Electric bill each month, you are accumulating equity in your cooperative through capital credit allocations.

Margins, the dollar amount in excess of the cooperative's cost to do business, are utilized as operating capital year-to-year. When the cooperative has a positive margin at the end of a year (the excess of income over expenses), that margin is allocated through a capital credit process. **57-04-0003**

The allocation to each member is proportional to each member's contributions to the margin through payment of their monthly EECA bill. Members receive an allocation

notice each year, usually mid-year for amounts from the previous year. These allocations simply notify you the amount due to you for that year, as retirements allow.

Capital credits are refunded when the board determines that it will not jeopardize the financial condition of the cooperative, typically on a 30-year rotation, and are refunded in accordance of the cooperative bylaws. When capital credits are issued, checks are mailed to the address we have on file. It is important that you keep your address up to date with us even if you move off our lines so we can find you when a retirement is made. **08-10-0002**

Our board of directors established a policy that allows discounted capital credit payouts for deceased members. If a former or current cooperative member has passed away, Egyptian Electric should be contacted by a relative or other legal representative, so the remaining

funds in their capital credit account can be properly dispersed.

We have recently adopted a **Capital Credit Designation of Beneficiary Form** that is now available to all members, active or inactive, to designate a beneficiary (or beneficiaries) to their capital credits upon their death. It authorizes us, EECA, to pay upon death the registered ownership of capital credits designated by account holders to their sole membership or joint membership (dependent on which type).

We are encouraging all current and former members to complete and return a beneficiary form for your capital credits. For questions on capital credits, contact our Capital Credits Coordinator at capcredit@eeca.coop or (800) 606-1505.

The new Capital Credit Beneficiary form can be found on page 6, and at eeca.coop/member-services/capital-credits.

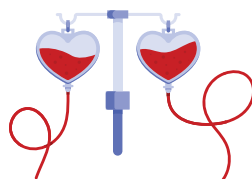
MEMBER PRIZES

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.



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Applications are being accepted to our Operation Round Up Charitable Fund until April 4, by visiting eeca.coop/applytoroundup. Consider supporting our Operation Round Up effort by signing up to participate by rounding up your bill to the nearest dollar at eeca.coop/roundup.



Blood Drive

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

EECA headquarters

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Register at redcross.org

Office Closure



Friday, April 15th, 2022

Document Shredding & Electronics Recycling Day



Electronics Accepted:

- ✓ Computers (desktop, laptop, tablets)
- ✓ Monitors (CRT & flat screen)
- ✓ Printers, Scanners
- ✓ Fax Machines
- ✓ Keyboards & Mice
- ✓ Televisions
- ✓ Cable & Satellite Receivers
- ✓ Cords & Cables
- ✓ VCR & DVD Players
- ✓ Digital Converter Boxes
- ✓ Portable Digital Music Players
- ✓ Video Game Players
- ✓ Small-Scale Servers
- ✓ Cell Phones

Documents Accepted:

For on-site shredding, confidential documents such as tax returns, receipts, insurance papers, and emptied manila folders will be accepted. Paper clips, staples, and plastic binder clips attached to documents are also accepted.

Not Accepted:

- ✗ Radios
- ✗ Stereos
- ✗ Cameras
- ✗ Answering Machines
- ✗ Copy Machines
- ✗ Typewriters
- ✗ Calculators
- ✗ Other Phones
- ✗ Power Tools
- ✗ Clocks
- ✗ Microwaves
- ✗ Blenders (without glass)
- ✗ Coffee Makers
- ✗ Toasters
- ✗ Fans
- ✗ VHS Tapes
- ✗ Washers & Dryers
- ✗ Stoves
- ✗ Freezers
- ✗ Water Heaters
- ✗ Refrigerators
- ✗ Humidifiers
- ✗ Dehumidifiers
- ✗ Smoke Detectors
- ✗ Lamps
- ✗ Light Bulbs
- ✗ Vacuum Cleaners
- ✗ CDs/DVDs



Saturday, April 9, 2022
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro

 **Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 