

LIGHTING THE WAY

By now, you should have received your annual meeting notice in the mail. This notice contains information about the cooperative, registration information, and the meeting agenda. As a consumer-member, you have a vote and a financial stake, so plan to attend this year's annual meeting on Friday, June 10.



We will once again be holding an in-person business meeting with a sit down meal. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. **Each registered member will receive an attendance prize of a \$15 bill credit.**

The Shelby County Pork Producers will be serving a barbecue pork chop dinner between 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 1 p.m. inside the show arena. The festivities will be held at the Shelby County 4-H Fairgrounds located behind the Shelby County Farm Bureau and Shelby Electric Cooperative offices in Shelbyville.

If you didn't receive your annual meeting notice or misplaced it, call the cooperative at 217-774-3986.

Keown obtains national recognition certification



An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills, and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model.

We are pleased to announce that Director David Keown, serving district 3, has completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative training required to become a Credentialed Cooperative Director. Congratulations, David!



The Hood Family Band

Employee News

Shane Kircher joins Shelby Energy Company



Shane Kircher

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Shane Kircher. He was hired to the position of Propane Technician/Driver. Before accepting this position, Shane worked for the Shelby County Highway Department for eight years.

A Shelbyville native, he lives in the Westervelt area with his two dogs. When he is not working he likes to fish, hunt, and helps a friend farm. He is excited to get to work and assist Shelby Energy customers anyway he can.

Cooperative welcomes Carmen Foster

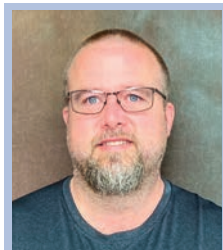


Carmen Foster

Carmen Foster recently accepted the position of Member Coordinator at the cooperative. Previously, Carmen worked at the Shelby County Courthouse in the Assessor's office for four years. A Shelbyville High School graduate, Carmen then went on to receive an associate's degree in Elementary Education from Lake Land College. She is excited for the new challenges this position brings and getting to know the cooperative members.

Carmen, her significant other Chad Kirksey, and her 17-year-old twins (Austin and Erin) reside in Shelbyville. She likes to go fishing, spending time with family and friends, and trying new restaurants.

Brandon Faulkner hired as a Generator Technician



Brandon Faulkner

We would like to share with you the hiring of Brandon Faulkner to our propane subsidiary Shelby Energy Company. Brandon was recently hired to the position of an LP/Generator Technician for Shelby Energy Company. Many of our generator customers might recognize the face and name as Brandon worked for Figgins Electric the past nine years and provided service on Generac generators.

Brandon, who is a Generac certified technician, is excited for this opportunity and will continue to provide the same installation support and servicing of all the generators on our system as he did for Figgins Electric.

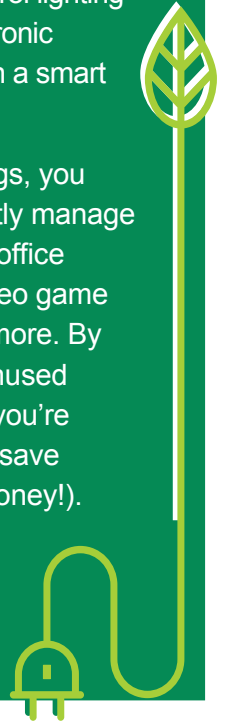
Like most people living in this area, he likes to hunt and fish in his spare time. What he enjoys most is spending time with his daughter (Baleigh) who is in the 7th grade. They travel to side-by-side mud parks in various states.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you are looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smart phone app.

With smart plugs, you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!).

Source:
energystar.gov




SHELBY News

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Office Hours:
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Co-op Connections® & Healthy Savings Discounts

We would like to reintroduce our members to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives' Co-op Connections® Program. This program helps you save more and live healthier every day! The highly successful prescription discount program also includes healthy savings discounts on dental, vision, hearing, lab work and imaging, and chiropractor visits. Best of all, you get these great benefits FREE!

Save with hundreds of local and national discounts – pharmacy savings, online offers, discounts on events, online cash back shopping through connections.coop, the Co-op Connections mobile app, or by using the card. If you do not have a card or have lost yours, contact the cooperative for a replacement or print it off online. Sign up today at connections.coop.

HEALTHY SAVINGS

Save on dental, vision, hearing aids, chiropractic care, lab testing, and MRI/CT scans. Pharmacy discounts are not insurance, and are not intended as a substitute for insurance.

HOTEL SAVINGS

Save an average of 20% at over 400,000 locations worldwide.

CASH BACK SHOPPING

Earn up to 20% cash back when you shop at over 2,000 online retailers.

EVENT DISCOUNTS

Save 10% at your favorite sporting events, concerts, and theaters.

NATIONAL DISCOUNTS

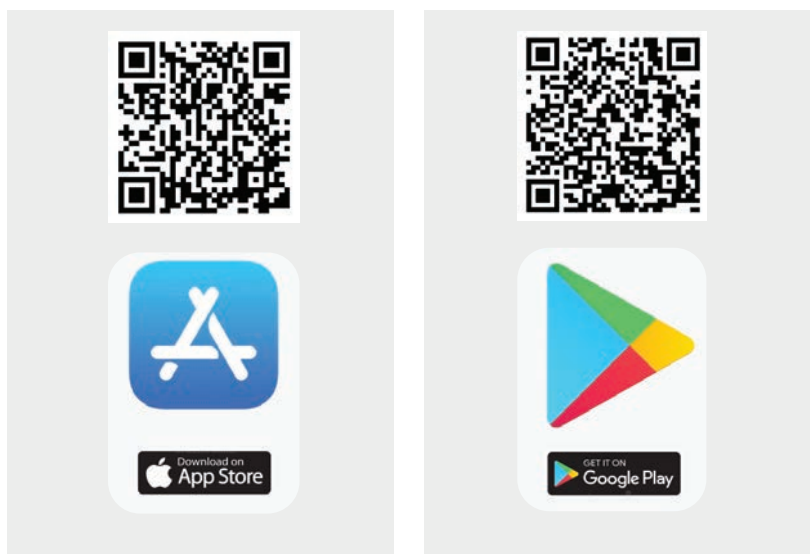
Enjoy a wide variety of discounts that will save you money.

INSURANCE

Save money by getting competitive insurance products.



Go Mobile!



Scan the QR code for a quick and easy way to download the Co-op Connections app!

REAL LIFE  REAL POWER

Getting Real with Marla and Outdoor Lighting

Enjoying summer evenings outdoors is a much-anticipated activity for many of us. At least until we are dive-bombed by June bugs, scavenged on by mosquitoes, and/or trip in the dark as we turn in for the night. Summer nights can be made even more wonderful (and safe) with the right outdoor lighting.

To decrease the chance of attracting bugs to lights, LED lights in warm colors (yellow tones) are the best option. The brighter and hotter a light, the more it will draw bugs. Plus, LED lights are the most energy efficient.

Next is deciding the type of outdoor lighting needed. If you have ever been mesmerized by the dancing flames of a fire, then turned

away, you know that it takes a bit for the eyes to adjust to the darkness. Overhead or pathway lighting can help you and your guests navigate more safely.

Again, it is LED bulbs for the win. Their low power requirements allow you to connect multiple strands together without overloading any circuits. They also have acrylic bulbs which greatly reduce the risk of breakage unlike glass incandescent bulbs. If you choose to proceed with incandescent lights, as they often provide a tranquil ambiance, try to use shorter string lengths with larger spacing between bulbs.

Solar-charged lighting is also an option, especially for those areas without nearby electricity sources.

Keep in mind, they may not stay charged long enough to provide light for the entire night. Placement matters, too. Solar lighting on a shaded path may not receive the necessary amount of sunlight needed for charging.

Lighting around pools and other water sources require extra safety measures. All outdoor receptacles should be ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected. Avoid placing lighting directly over a pool. SafeElectricity.org states:

- Do not place electrical appliances near pools or hot tubs. Use battery operated appliances, rather than electrical, near swimming pools.
- Any electrical outlets within 20 feet of a pool or hot tub should be equipped with a GFCI. A GFCI monitors the flow of electricity in a circuit. If there is an irregularity of electrical flow, the power is cut off, preventing an electric shock. GFCIs are recommended anywhere water and electricity share the same area.

Of course, a jar of fireflies is the original summer nightlight! They are safe around water, quite energy efficient, and only attract more of their kind. Have kids do the collecting and you are all set. Plus, the price is right!

*~Marla Foor,
Communication Specialist*



ONLINE BILL PAY

Pay your bills online and monitor usage with the **smarthub** app!

