

MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Alan W. Wattles

Across The President's Desk

Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship Program



About the scholarships

The Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program awards 15 \$2,000 scholarships annually to deserving students in the “electric cooperative family” entering college to assist them with their educational costs.

- 9 scholarships** are awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2022).
- 4 scholarships** are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two- year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2022).
- 1 scholarship**, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2022).
- 1 scholarship**, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship, is awarded to a student to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL (deadline to apply April 30, 2023).



SCAN ME

for information and to apply

Application and information are available on our website at mcec.org.

For questions contact Julie Rohr at jrohr@mcec.org or call 939-7171 or 1-800-757-7433.

**\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**

Gary Gregson earns Board Leadership Certificate

Board Chairman George Obernagel recently presented director Gary Gregson with the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) from the NRECA. BLC recognizes individuals who continue their professional development by completing 10 credits in advanced, issues-oriented courses.

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. MCEC directors have a commitment to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative members.

Thank you, Gary, for your commitment to your cooperative, and congratulations!

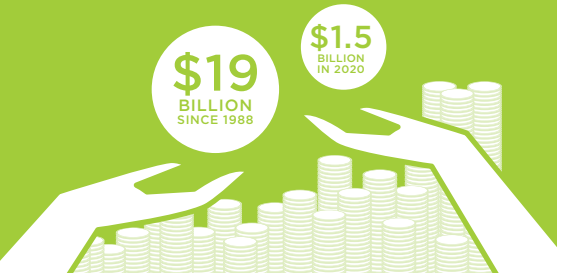


Did you know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$19 billion to members since 1988 – \$1.5 billion in 2020 alone.

Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

Source: National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation



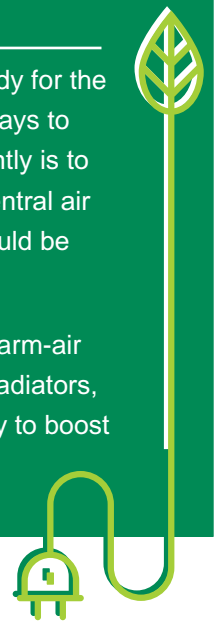
Our office will be closed Nov. 24 & 25.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days.

If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to boost efficiency.

Source: energy.gov



MCEC line outages September 2022	Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
	9/4/2022	1:10	17	G Rd	Trees, Other	Fults
	9/18/2022	1:02	12	Chas Young Rd	Small Animals or Birds	East Carondelet
	9/26/2022	1:06	3	Roachtown	Small Animals or Birds	Smithton
	9/29/2022	0:33	40	Five Forks Rd	Construction	New Athens



Stay safe while hunting

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that 101.6 million Americans participate in wildlife-related activities each year, such as hunting, fishing and wildlife-watching. It is estimated that there are 11.5 million hunters and nearly 36 million anglers.

Hunting is ranked as one of the safer activities when compared with other sports, including baseball, football, basketball and jogging. Over the past 20 years, the number of unintentional firearm fatalities has declined. From 1997 to 2017, the number dropped by 50%, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF.org).

Hunters should put safety first, as incidents and accidents do happen. Cardiac disease, lacerations and tree-stand accidents are the most common reasons for hunters to visit the emergency room.

Be safe out there and follow these guidelines:

1. Watch for the warning signs of a heart attack or other life-threatening condition. Hunters can walk far distances when shooting and dragging an animal. Completing these activities (especially if the person is not otherwise active) can increase the heart rate and induce heart attacks.
2. Wear a full-body harness when in a tree stand to prevent falls that can cause serious injury.
3. Check tree stands regularly; they can deteriorate over time.
4. Do not lean tree stands against utility poles. Keep them far from overhead power lines.
5. Watch for power lines in wooded areas. Make sure they will not be in your line of sight when shooting.
6. Write and share a hunting plan. Where will the hunt take place and for how long?
7. Have a way to get in touch with the outside world. Keep your cell phone in a pocket rather than in a pack. Take a portable battery charger.
8. Know the hunting area. Check national forest boundaries and avoid private land. Survey the area for potential electrical hazards.
9. Always carry a first-aid kit.
10. Respect firearms: Have the safety on, handle the gun like it is always loaded, always point it away from others and know what and where the target is.
11. Do not fire at power lines, insulators or conductor cans. They can drop to the ground and energize it or cause a fire.
12. Wear blaze orange.

To learn more about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.



www.mcec.org

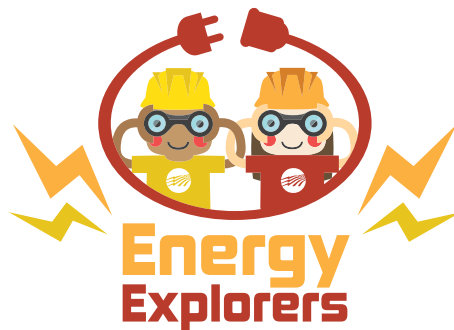
6132 State Rt. 3 • P.O. Box 128 • Waterloo, Illinois 62298
618-939-7171 • 800-757-7433

Office hours: Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fall safety word search

Fall is finally here! The leaves are changing, the weather is cooler and the holidays are just around the corner. But Fall also brings greater risks of home fires and electrical hazards.

Read the safety tips below, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.



Adults should always stay in the **kitchen** while food is **cooking**.

Smoke alarms should be tested monthly to ensure they're working properly.
Batteries should be replaced every year or right away if the alarm starts to chirp.

Candles should never be left burning when someone isn't in the room.

Keep flammable items away from the **stove, toaster** and other cooking **appliances**.

S	M	R	A	L	A	E	K	O	M	S	E	C	A	W
S	M	C	K	J	P	M	H	G	X	V	O	B	P	S
X	E	K	A	H	O	R	I	E	O	O	M	Z	P	C
R	B	I	X	T	F	O	A	T	K	H	C	U	L	N
P	O	Y	R	Y	U	G	S	I	T	G	X	M	I	K
K	E	G	K	E	L	L	N	L	V	F	H	K	A	C
T	I	W	U	D	T	G	R	I	C	D	S	H	N	H
S	W	T	D	Q	Q	T	M	E	K	Z	E	V	C	O
M	Q	Y	C	E	R	W	A	Z	X	S	L	K	E	Q
P	D	M	L	H	P	Z	X	B	E	W	D	N	S	Q
C	H	T	B	K	E	W	U	R	I	S	N	W	W	H
A	K	R	S	C	G	N	W	U	L	R	A	R	X	A
T	O	A	S	T	E	R	O	K	F	P	C	G	D	X
O	R	N	B	U	W	J	G	D	K	E	X	V	C	L
E	I	A	U	F	Q	Y	L	U	H	F	H	F	Z	D