

## EECA hosts successful member events!

On Oct. 10, EECA hosted a Key Accounts Luncheon for local business representatives from some of our largest member accounts. The event included an in-depth discussion on important topics such as rates, reliability and power supply to help them plan for the coming year. EECA also returned over \$127,000 in capital credits to various businesses in attendance, including Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the City of Carbondale.

In celebration of Coop Month, EECA also hosted a Member Appreciation & Recycle Day on Saturday, Oct. 19, which was a big success! We had over 96 vehicles come through for recycling — 85 EECA members and 11 nonmembers. In partnership with the Jackson County Health Department and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, EECA provided battery and electronics recycling, document shredding and prescription disposal. Together, we collected several truckloads of recyclables and delivered them to the Southern Illinois Recycling Center in Carbondale. To show our appreciation to our attending members, we served coffee from the Wicked Bean in Campbell Hill and donuts from Mark's Bakery in Du Quoin.

Thank you to everyone who joined us! We appreciate your participation and look forward to more successful events in the future.

### Key Accounts Luncheon



Steve Mitchell, City of Carbondale



Justin Harrell,  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale



### Member Appreciation & Recycle Day





Egyptian Electric  
Cooperative Association  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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](http://www.eeca.coop)

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- By phone at 844-759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale



## Youth Tour 2025

For over 58 years, more than 50,000 young Americans have taken advantage of the **Electric Cooperative Youth Tour** offered by their local electric cooperatives. At least 1,500 high school students will be invited to Youth Tour 2025!

Each June, hundreds of electric co-ops across the country send participants to Washington, D.C., for a chance to learn about the cooperative business model and a full week of sightseeing. While in D.C., participants have a chance to meet with their elected officials and discuss the issues that are important back home. Without a doubt, Youth Tour has grown into an invaluable program that gives young Americans an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. **This month, EECA will begin the application process to select local students to attend Youth Day and Youth Tour June 16-23, 2025.**

If you are a high school sophomore, junior or senior interested in traveling to Washington, D.C., to experience the trip of a lifetime, consider applying!

Students will be chosen to attend the all-expense-paid bus trip to Youth Day this spring to meet their elected senators and representatives at the State Capitol alongside their counterparts from other Illinois high schools and communities. From these students, at least two will be



EECA was represented by Auna McClure of Elverado High School and Allie Robinson of Trico High School in 2024.



For more information about Egyptian Electric's Youth Tour program, email [rcroxell@eeca.coop](mailto:rcroxell@eeca.coop), or visit [eeca.coop](http://eeca.coop).

invited to attend the weeklong trip to D.C. Youth Tour is so much more than a sightseeing trip. Students have repeatedly shared that this experience has helped them grow into successful professionals. Youth Tour participants return home with a deeper understanding of what it takes to be a leader. As a result, they put these skills to use right here in our community!

Help us find the next generation of leaders by sharing the Youth Tour opportunity with a promising student.





## LIHEAP

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a heat and electric assistance program through the state of Illinois that is a benefit payment program, per heating season, that is intended to help with a portion of a qualified household's heating and electric costs.

The benefit amount depends on household size, income and energy costs where the benefit is applied as a credit directly to the household's Egyptian Electric account. Qualifications are based on income and household size, if your household's combined income is at or below the levels shown on this chart. To apply for assistance, go to [helpillinoisfamilies.com](http://helpillinoisfamilies.com) for the online application or contact your local administering agency at the applicable phone number below. Applications for the 2025 LIHEAP season are available Oct. 1, 2024-Aug. 15, 2025 or until funding is exhausted.

**Amy D Carter**

Are you eligible? If your household income is within 200% of the federal poverty level for the 30 days prior to the application (gross income for all household members, before taxes are deducted) you could be eligible.

### Questions? Contact your local office.

Jackson/Perry/Randolph/Monroe Counties ..... 618/965-3458

St. Clair County ..... 618/277-6790

Washington County ..... 618/532-7338

Williamson/Franklin Counties ..... 618/937-3581

Union/Johnson Counties ..... 618/634-2201

### Illinois LIHEAP income guidelines for the 2024–2025 heating season

Family Size (total # in household)	30-day Income	Annual income
1	\$2,510	\$29,160
2	\$3,407	\$39,440
3	\$4,303	\$49,720
4	\$5,200	\$60,000
5	\$6,097	\$70,280
6	\$6,993	\$80,560

For more details, visit  
[helpillinoisfamilies.com](http://helpillinoisfamilies.com)

## IEC scholarships available!

Sixteen IEC memorial academic scholarships will be awarded again to high school seniors this school year. Each scholarship is worth \$2,500. Deadline to apply online is Dec. 31, 2024.

**10** scholarships are awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative.

**5** 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.

**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.



Information has been shared with area high school guidance counselors. For more information or to apply online, go to:  
<https://aiec.coop/iec-scholarship/?coop=EGT>



 IEC MEMORIAL  
SCHOLARSHIPS

## Keep your family safe and your holiday season merry with these winter fire safety tips

### Cooking Safety

The kitchen is a top spot for holiday fires. Keep safety in mind:

- Never leave the oven or burners unattended.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Ensure children stay clear of the kitchen.
- Install smoke detectors at least 10 feet from cooking appliances and test monthly.

### Fire Risks

Holidays bring additional fire risks from candles, fireplaces and decorations. Fire departments respond to an average of nearly a thousand holiday-related fires annually.

### Candle Safety

- Only burn candles when you're in the room and extinguish them when leaving.
- Use heat-resistant surfaces and keep candles away from flammable objects.
- Opt for battery-operated candles near flammable items.

### Christmas Tree Safety

- If using a real tree, choose a fresh tree, keep it away from heat sources and check water levels daily.
- Place trees away from high-traffic areas, and if using an artificial tree, ensure it's labeled fire-resistant.



### Lighting Safety

- Purchase lights from reputable retailers and ensure they are approved by recognized testing labs like UL or CSA.
- Only use lights designed for outdoor use when hanging outside.
- Use circuits equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) for outdoor lights.
- Avoid water and snow when using extension cords and outdoor lights.
- Stay at least 10 feet away from power lines while hanging lights.
- Check for broken sockets and frayed wires before use.

- Avoid plugging too many devices into a single outlet.
- Turn off indoor and outdoor decorations when going to bed or leaving the house.

### Fireplace Safety

- Avoid hanging flammable decorations on the mantel, and have the fireplace cleaned annually.
- Use a screen to prevent embers from escaping, and don't burn trees or wrapping paper.

By following these fire safety tips, you can enjoy a joyful and safe holiday season with your loved ones.

## MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, 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.