

MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

Waterloo, Illinois • 618.939.7171 • 800.757.7433

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

AMPLIFY

MEMBERSHIP • INVOLVEMENT • COOPERATION • SAFETY • EDUCATION • COMMUNITY • YOUR VOICE

86TH ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Saturday, June 14, 2025

MCEC Headquarters

Registration 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast & children's activities begin at 7:30 a.m.

Kids' activities — bounce houses, petting zoo, balloon artists & more!
Breakfast served by Roy-el Catering includes pancakes, scrambled eggs,
biscuits/gravy, donuts, fruit, bacon, coffee and orange juice.

Business meeting begins at 10 a.m.

18 \$500 scholarships to be drawn.
Everyone registered will receive a \$25 bill credit!



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year, and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: energy.gov



TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



If you suspect you're dealing with a utility scam, it's crucial to slow down and take your time before taking any action. Scammers will often pressure you to make quick decisions or immediate payments. Instead, take the time to verify the legitimacy of the communication by contacting your utility directly. Use a phone number from a reliable source, such as your bill or the utility's website. Taking this simple step can help protect you from falling victim to utility scams.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams



MCEC line outages March 2025

Date	Duration	# Out	Map Location	Cause Desc	Substation
03/04/25	3:54	6	Nelson Ln	Trees, Other	E. Carondelet
03/04/25	3:30	3	Walnut Ln	Trees, Other	Millstadt
03/05/25	2:29	10	Sutterville Rd/Hern Dr	Trees, Other	Fults
03/05/25	0:48	5	Littekin Ln	Wind, Not Trees	Columbia
03/05/25	0:43	9	Harres Ln	Trees, Other	Columbia
03/14/25	2:51	1226	Poe Substation	Power Supplier	Poe
03/14/25	2:51	917	Fults Substation	Power Supplier	Waterloo
03/14/25	2:51	541	Fountain Substation	Power Supplier	Fults
03/14/25	1:07	3	Moredock Lake	Wind, Not Trees	Fountain
03/14/25	0:10	917	Waterloo Substation	Power Supplier	Waterloo
03/14/25	13:58	403	Fountain Substation	Power Supplier	Fountain
03/14/25	12:32	352	Columbia Substation	Power Supplier	Columbia
03/14/25	3:35	1213	Poe Substation	Power Supplier	Poe
03/14/25	3:08	437	N. Waterloo Substation	Power Supplier	N. Waterloo
03/14/25	6:03	541	Fults Substation	Power Supplier	Fults
03/14/25	2:37	31	Lower Saxtown Rd	Wind, Not Trees	Millstadt
03/14/25	3:21	4	Ohlendorf Ln	Wind, Not Trees	Smithton
03/15/25	10:59	77	Stonecrest/Hawthorne/CH	Power Supplier	N. Waterloo
03/16/25	2:12	75	Five Forks Rd	Corrosion	New Athens
03/16/25	1:39	36	Press Rd	Member Caused	Smithton
03/19/25	0:45	245	Lou Dell, Waterloo North	Conductor Sag	N. Waterloo
03/22/25	1:12	9	Stemler Rd	Small Animals or Birds	Millstadt
03/23/25	1:02	38	Gall Rd/Schewe Fls	Small Animals or Birds	N. Waterloo
03/23/25	1:04	2	Robinson Sch Rd	Small Animals or Birds	New Athens
03/28/25	0:49	3	Amberwood Ln	Small Animals or Birds	Poe
03/30/25	1:24	62	Zingg Rd/Wirth/Saeger	Small Animals or Birds	Millstadt
03/30/25	1:17	255	Fountain Substation	Power Supplier	Fountain
03/30/25	0:32	2	Bluff Rd	Lightning	Fountain



Keep your home's second floor cool in the summer

Are you struggling to keep the second story of your home cool on these sizzling summer days? As heat and hot air rises, so does the temperature on your upper level. Keeping it cool can be a challenge, even if you have an air conditioner. The key is to limit heat gain and to keep the air circulating.

These steps can help cool down your upper floor, as well as keep your entire home cool through the end of the season. No sweat!

- **Keep blinds and drapes closed.** Close blinds or curtains when the sun is shining to reduce solar heat. Remember that light-colored window coverings are most effective at blocking heat energy from the sun. Consider investing in thermal blocking drapes or insulated shades to keep your rooms cool and reduce demand on your air conditioning (AC) system.
- **Limit heat being created upstairs.** Devices such as computers and hair dryers emit hot air. Use them downstairs to help reduce heat upstairs.
- **Use ceiling fans.** Ceiling fans make you feel cool by circulating air and providing a cooling sensation on your skin. Be sure to set ceiling fans to rotate counterclockwise in the summer to push cool air downwards and turn them off when you leave to conserve energy.
- **Adjust the dampers.** Control airflow by adjusting dampers up and down to restrict or increase

airflow. If the second floor is warmer in the summer months, keep dampers on second-floor vents fully open, and only partially open the vents on the first floor to force more cool air to the second floor.

- **Check for air leaks.** EnergyStar.gov estimates that between 25% and 40% of the money spent on cooling and heating homes is lost due to air leakage problems. Identify air leaks in your home and use caulking, weatherstripping and insulation to seal the gaps.
- **Turn the fan from auto to on.** Use “on” instead of “auto” to keep your thermostat fan on and maintain air circulation throughout the home. This allows the entire house to stay cool, whether or not the air conditioner is running.
- **Evaluate ductwork.** Check your ductwork for leaks or improper sizing to ensure even air distribution in every part of your home. If you don't feel cold air coming from second floor vents, or you see old and cracked seals in your ductwork, it could be time for maintenance.
- **Check your air filters.** Regularly change your air filters to optimize airflow — dirty filters decrease air movement.
- **Add portable air conditioners.** Use portable AC units in specific rooms that need extra cooling. They are relatively easy to install,

effectively remove heat and provide a cool environment for sleeping.

- **Adjust HVAC systems.** Consider a zoned HVAC system, with thermostats on each floor, to control the temperature on each floor separately.
- **Keep heat-generating appliances off during the hottest hours.** Your dryer, oven and television produce heat, causing your air conditioner to work harder. Limit use of these appliances to early morning or evening when possible and consider grilling outdoors if you plan to cook.
- **Don't forget the attic:** If your roof and attic area are not properly insulated, heat will seep in through the roof and heat the second floor. You can also have an attic fan or vents installed to help remove hot air from the attic.



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Office hours:

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

Attention high school seniors!



Scholarship opportunity



Scan the code or visit
mcec.org/500-scholarships-annual-meeting
to apply.