



Rural HIGHLIGHTS

Local News from Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative

RURAL HIGHLIGHTS



Holzwarth Flying Service

Virden, Illinois



Chris Flesch, Colten Thomas, and Michael Gordon



Cooperative Communicators Committee - Summer Meeting

How do you communicate with your co-op?

Are you getting your billing statement in the mail? You can opt for paperless billing at any time.

Does your electric bill get delivered on time? Statements are sent in advance, but mail delivery is often delayed.

Do you want to know when outages occur? You can be notified by email, text, or by the SmartHub App.

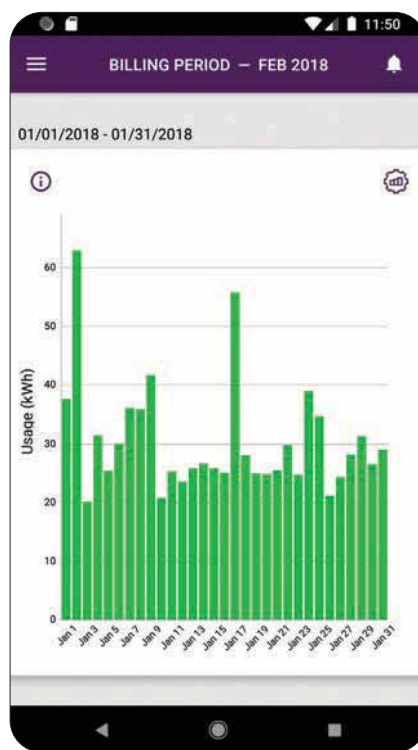
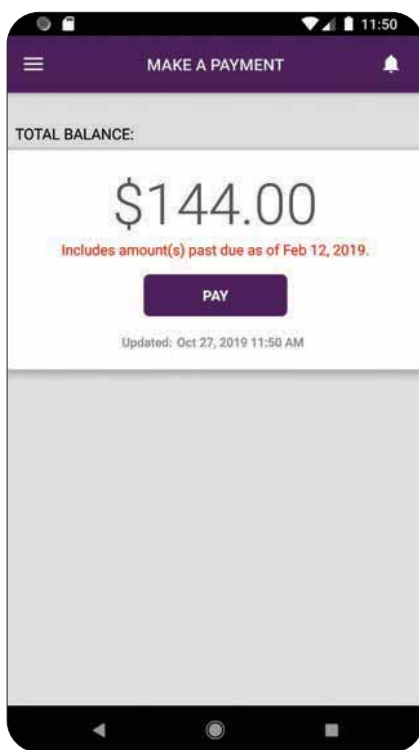
Are you notified when power is back on? Like outages, you can see notifications when power is restored.

Does RECC have your current cell number? Phones are the co-op's primary form of communication.

Will the cooperative call me? Only when there is an emergency or a pending disconnect for nonpayment.

Are you getting RECC notifications? Members are responsible for keeping contact information up-to-date.

Sign up for
SmartHub today
at recc.coop or
download the app



Bill & Pay: Get your bill immediately and without postal delay. Quickly view your current account balance and due date, manage recurring payments, and modify payment methods. You can view bill history, including PDF versions of paper bills, directly on your mobile device. Monthly payments can also be made at any time.

Usage and Notifications: View energy usage graphs to identify high usage trends. Navigate graphs quickly using an intuitive gesture-based interface. Set the types of notifications you want to receive and where we send them.

Contact Us: Easily contact your cooperative by email or phone. You can also submit one of the many predefined messages, with the ability to include pictures and GPS coordinates.

Service Status: Displays service interruption and outage information. You can also report an outage directly to RECC.



Farm Progress Show



Decatur, IL



Quick tips: Electrical safety for hunters

- Never install stands or blinds on utility poles or near electrical equipment.
- Stay at least 10 feet from overhead power lines when climbing or placing a tree stand.
- Stay a minimum of 50 feet from a downed power line and call 911 to report it.
- Don't aim or shoot near power lines, poles or substations.
- Always assume power lines are live and dangerous, even if they appear inactive.



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Payment Options

- At our office front desk or outside drop-box
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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Having low-voltage issues?

When your lights suddenly become dimmer than usual, you are experiencing low voltage. This is also referred to as a “brownout.” While it is more likely to experience low voltage at farms and homes fed by 3-phase services, single-phase lines can be affected as well.

RECC has fuses to protect its equipment during these situations, but members must take care to protect their motors, pumps, appliances, etc. According to the National Electric Code, the responsibility for protecting devices within a farm, business, or home lies with the member. When low voltage occurs, a home’s circuit breaker will operate outside of its normal range for a short period of time; unfortunately, this is long enough to allow damage.

Additional safeguards are needed to fully protect your equipment from low voltage. Air conditioners and furnaces are more susceptible to brownout damage and are expensive to replace if they are damaged. Surge suppressors will not protect equipment when low voltage occurs, as their main purpose is to reduce high voltage or spikes. A properly sized fuse, in conjunction with a breaker disconnect, can protect appliances because a fuse’s protection is faster acting than a comparable circuit breaker. Grain bins should always have motor starters with electric “heaters” (small fuse strips) that disconnect the power when the voltage is low. The motor starters will prevent damage and provide a safe way to power up or disconnect fan motors.

Low-voltage occurrences are rare, but a brownout can cause serious damage to unprotected appliances and other equipment. If you suspect low voltage in your home or business, immediately turn off your breakers and call RECC at 217-438-6197.

Federal Energy Tax Credit is Ending Dec. 31, 2025



If you've been considering a geothermal system, now is the time to act! The federal energy tax credit expires this year.

Co-Op Community Grants



Organizations interested in applying for funds may submit their applications any time after Jan. 1, 2026. Schools and nonprofit organizations selected may receive up to \$5,000, thanks to the matching funds provided by CoBank, our primary lender.



Our office will be closed:

- Veterans Day - November 11th
- Thanksgiving - November 27th and 28th