



Egyptian Electric News

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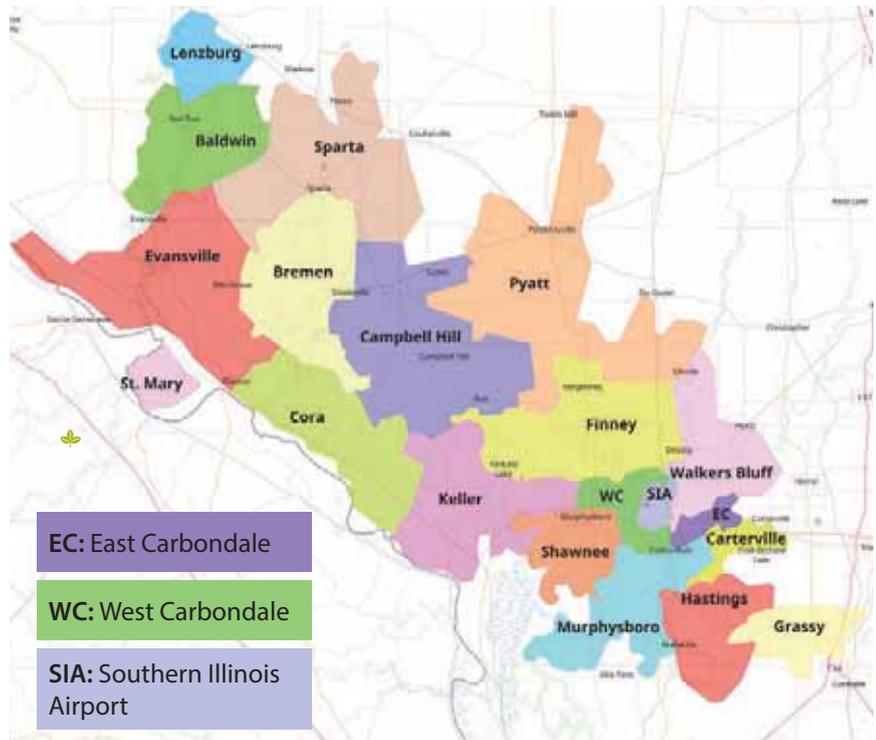
MARCH 2026

Vegetation maintenance helps EECA reduce power outages

As your electric service provider, it is our duty to keep lines maintained so that we can provide our membership and communities with the safest and most reliable electricity possible. One of the most impactful ways we can do that is to keep up with effective vegetation maintenance. **Neal E. Foland**

The strip of land underneath and around power lines is known as right-of-way (ROW), and ROW maintenance is the No. 1 factor that affects outage occurrences and outage duration. Over the last 20 years, EECA has seen a direct correlation between our forestry crew's ROW maintenance efforts and a significant reduction in power outages. When we are faced with extreme weather events such as wind and ice, having this maintenance program really proves its investment.

Our goal is to trim and mow all ROW on a four-year rotation. This year, EECA will be doing vegetation maintenance on our SI Airport, Walkers Bluff, Bremen, Cora, Evansville and Campbell



Hill substations. (To help our members understand where we will be working, we've provided our substation map above.)

If your lines may be affected, you should receive an automated phone call prior to tree work in your area. If you have questions, we encourage you to read through our Tree Trimming FAQs on our Tree Trimming & ROW webpage.



Egyptian Electric forestry personnel trim branches west of Carbondale.

EECA Forestry Manager Travis Deterding is also available to answer questions about tree-trimming procedures. In addition to mowing and trimming on a four-year rotation, EECA applies herbicide to areas that have had forestry work completed two years prior.

This year, that work is occurring throughout our Baldwin, Lenzburg, Sparta, Keller and Shawnee substation lines and feeders.



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
855-939-3675

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

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- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale



Pictured from L to R: Andy Ahner, Hunter Lodge, Travis Deterding, Owen Bradley, and Chris Barton

Egyptian Electric recognized for outstanding workplace practices in safety

Safety leadership and training were the focus of the 2026 Safety and Energy Conference, held Jan. 28-29 in Springfield. The two-day event brought together electric cooperative professionals, safety leaders and industry partners for educational sessions, networking and recognition of outstanding safety performance. **Kelly S. Gray**

The conference, which was held by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, covered a range of topics focused on leadership, safety and workplace culture, including personal influence and leadership, technical safety training, and the role of safety culture in the workplace.

Safety awards were also given, recognizing cooperatives for exemplary safety performance over the past year. Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) received the 2025 Best Incident Rate Certificate of Achievement. The award recognizes the cooperatives with the lowest overall number of recordable workplace incidents, including minor injuries.

As the electric industry continues to evolve, safety remains a top priority. EECA will always be committed to a strong safety culture for both employees and cooperative members.

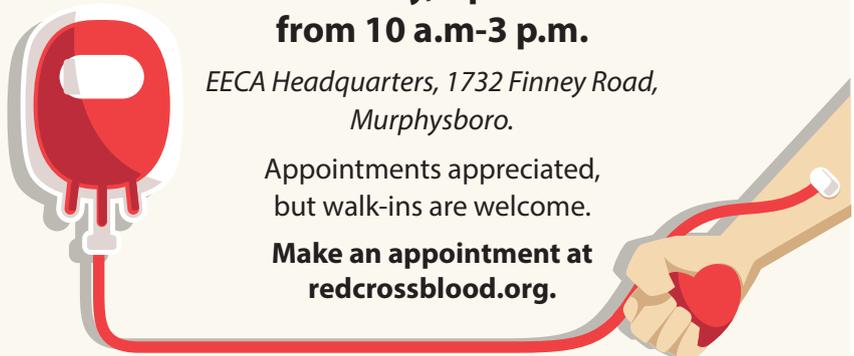
Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, April 14
from 10 a.m-3 p.m.

*EECA Headquarters, 1732 Finney Road,
Murphysboro.*

Appointments appreciated,
but walk-ins are welcome.

Make an appointment at
redcrossblood.org.



JOIN EGYPTIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE FOR COFFEE WITH THE CO-OP

Members can sit down with our team, ask questions, talk about their electric service, and learn about new programs while enjoying **free coffee**.

TUE
MAR
3

8 AM - 9:30 AM
PISTOL CITY
RESTAURANT
505 E. GRANT ST
COULTERVILLE, IL

THUR
MAR
5

8 AM - 9:30 AM
SUNNY STREET
CAFE
900 E. WALNUT ST
CARBONDALE, IL



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As spring arrives, take advantage of milder temperatures to save energy at home. Open windows on pleasant days to bring in fresh air instead of running your HVAC system. It's also a great time to replace dirty air filters, which helps your system run more efficiently and improves indoor air quality. As daylight increases, turn off unnecessary lights and rely on natural sunlight when possible. Small seasonal adjustments like these can reduce energy use, lower monthly bills and help keep your home comfortable as winter transitions into spring.



CO-OP 101 DAY

For High School Students Interested in
Youth Tour 2026 to Washington, D.C!

WED, MARCH 25

STUDENTS WILL SPEND THE MORNING AT EECA LEARNING:

- How electric cooperatives work and serve their members
- Leadership and teamwork skills
- How to advocate for their communities

APPLY BY
MARCH 9

PROUDLY HOSTED BY:





EECA's Classroom Grants at Work!

There's nothing better than seeing the impact of our Classroom Grants come to life in local schools. One of our recent \$500 Classroom Grant recipients, Bonnie Forby of General John A. Logan Elementary School in Murphysboro, recently shared how her grant is already making a difference in her classroom.

With the help of these funds, Ms. Forby was able to purchase sensory-based learning materials designed to strengthen how students engage with letters and numbers, making the learning process both fun

and effective. These hands-on tools support a more interactive learning environment, one that encourages curiosity, creativity, and confidence as students build foundational skills. **Bobby E. Ellis**

Supporting educators like Ms. Forby is one of the ways EECA is proud to invest in the communities it serves and in the future of local students. If you know a teacher who could benefit from an EECA Classroom Grant, be sure to spread the word! We accept applications each fall, so keep an eye on our social media or website for details!



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.