


Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Norris Electric Cooperative

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2026 scholarships awarded

Norris Electric Cooperative offers three \$1,000 scholarships every year to high school seniors to further their education. Applications were available at all area high schools and on the co-op website. A panel of judges reviewed the applications and with much difficulty narrowed down the list to three students.

The 2026 recipients are: Hayden Wending, Effingham High School; Ryley Engel, Effingham High School; and Jailyn Hall, Newton Community High School.

Co-op Manager Luke Johnson said, “The employees and board members of Norris Electric Cooperative have always been involved in our local schools and communities. We live here, too, and like our members, have a vested interest in the future of our children. These scholarships are just a small way we can help make a difference for students like Hayden, Ryley and Jailyn.”



Hayden Wending and Ryley Engel



Jailyn Hall

Congratulations to all area graduates!



High school senior shadows Norris linemen

Fred Thomas, a senior at Casey-Westfield High School and the son of Lucas and Sarah Seaton, visited Norris in May for a job-shadowing experience with our linemen. After graduating high school, Fred plans to attend the North American Lineman Training Center in McEwen, Tenn., where he will complete a 15-week training program. After graduation, he hopes to begin a career as a lineman.

During his visit, Fred spent the day with Clayton Mellendorf and his crew, assisting with revamping services and changing out meter poles. We appreciate Fred's interest in the lineworker profession and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.



A graphic celebrating NEC's July Service Anniversaries. It features the NEC logo with the tagline 'OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE'. The text 'JULY SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES' is prominently displayed. A photo of Clayton Mellendorf is shown with the text '1 Year Clayton Mellendorf'. To the right, the words 'THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE' are written in a stylized, colorful font. The background is decorated with stars.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Running multiple major appliances at the same time—like your dishwasher, laundry machines and oven—can spike energy demand and strain the electric grid, especially during peak hours (typically late afternoon to early evening). Instead of stacking appliance use, spread it out throughout the day or shift chores to off-peak hours when energy demand is lower. This not only helps improve overall efficiency but can also reduce your energy costs. A simple habit change, like doing laundry in the morning and running the dishwasher overnight, can make a meaningful difference for both your wallet and energy reliability.

A graphic for SmartHub sign-up. It features a smartphone displaying the SmartHub app interface, which shows account overview, bill amount (\$121.30), and usage overview. The text 'SIGN UP FOR SMARTHUB' is written in large, bold letters. The SmartHub logo is at the top right. A QR code is located at the bottom right of the graphic.

Member notification

This letter serves as formal notification that work is being performed by Utility Asset Management on behalf of Norris Electric Cooperative. Norris Electric Cooperative regularly utilizes qualified contract services to assist with the planning, engineering, maintenance, and construction of our electric distribution system.

The work being completed by Utility Asset Management is part of our 2026 Annual Utility Pole Inspection Program.

The general areas scheduled for pole inspections this year include:

- North and southeast of Effingham
- Southeast of Lake Sara
- South of Teutopolis
- Directly west and south of Dieterich
- South of Sumner
- West of Lancaster
- South, east, and west of Bridgeport
- West of St. Francisville
- North of Oblong, Stoy, and Robinson
- Southeast of Greenup between State Route 130 and State Route 49

If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact our office.

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we continue maintaining and improving the reliability of our electric distribution system.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS ⚠️

Scammers are increasingly using “smishing” — fake text messages designed to look like they’re from legitimate businesses, including your electric utility. These texts may claim your bill is overdue, your service will be disconnected or you’re owed a refund. They often include a link that directs you to a fake payment site or asks for personal information. Never click suspicious links or respond to unexpected texts, even if the message appears urgent. Instead, log in to your utility account through the official website or mobile app to verify any claims. We will never ask for sensitive information like passwords or banking details through text messages.



How to SAVE ENERGY in your HOME OFFICE

Small changes = lower bills + more comfortable workspace

Bright ideas for lighting

- Swap old bulbs for LEDs.
- Use task lighting such as a desk lamp.
- Turn lights off when you leave and use daylight when possible.

Cut always-on power

- Use a power strip or smart strip to shut off power.
- Avoid leaving printers on all day.
- Unplug chargers and equipment when not in use.

Use power management settings

- Reduce screen brightness.
- Use sleep mode on computers and monitors.
- Skip screen savers; they don't save energy.

! **Tip:** Laptops use less energy than desktops.

! **Safety tip:** Don't overload outlets or daisy-chain power strips. Use a surge-protector power strip.





Electrical Safety *around* Water

Prevent
shocks around
pools, hot tubs and
spas before
they happen.



- Use a qualified electrician for any new pool, hot tub or spa wiring.
- Use covered outdoor outlets.
- Make sure outlets are GFCI-protected and tested monthly.
- Keep cords away from water. Don't use extension cords for pool equipment.
- Replace cracked outlet covers, frayed cords, loose plugs or damaged equipment.
- Choose battery-operated and waterproof TVs, radios and speakers.
- Don't handle phones, tablets, laptops or charging cords when you're wet, and keep them away from pools, spas and sinks.
- Check power line clearance with an electrician or your utility when installing pools, spas and structures like diving boards; and have utilities marked before digging.
- Schedule periodic electrical inspections and upgrades for your equipment.
- Have an electrician show you how to shut off all power in an emergency and make sure the shut-off switch is labeled.

Know the risks: Wet skin + wet surfaces = increased risk when electricity is present.

Warning signs of shock in the water:

- Tingling sensation.
- Muscle cramps.
- Restricted movement.

If you suspect electrical shock:

- Turn off all power immediately.
- Do NOT enter the water to rescue anyone.
- Use a non-conductive rescue tool (such as fiberglass).
- Call 911.

If you feel a shock in the water, move away from the source and get out.

 Learn more at:
Safe Electricity.org[®]