

Illinois Country Living

MJM'S NEWSLETTER JOINS
ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING!



A Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative 
mjmeccoop

ALONG THE LINES PAGES 18A-18D

- Preparedness During An Outage
- Electricity Brings Everyday Value
- Farm Equipment Safety
- Operation Round Up
- Member Trading Post



2026 MJM Board of Directors with President/CEO, Joe Heyen, and Attorney, Amy Jackson.

MJM History: Did You Know?

MJM was first officially organized on April 5, 1939, and the first official meeting of the board of trustees was held on April 10 at 2 p.m., in Mowery's office in Carlinville. The name was suggested by Loren L. Love of Carlinville and stands for Macoupin, Jersey, Montgomery – the three counties initially served by the Cooperative. When the Cooperative officially formed in 1939, it counted 940 members in Macoupin, 250 in Montgomery, and 410 in Jersey.

MJM Cooperative's first member had power turned on in 1940. The average member, in 1941, used an average of 79 kilowatt hours a month.

Your Cooperative now provides electricity to more than 9,600 accounts and services 2,122 miles of power lines through Macoupin, Jersey, Montgomery, Bond, Fayette, Green, and Madison counties. The average member uses about 1,100 kilowatt hours per month.

Just like in the 1930s, MJM does not aim to turn a large profit but to provide our member-owners with quality service. Your money isn't going into the pockets of wealthy investors; it pays for what it costs the cooperative to deliver electricity to you and keep the lines in working order, with a little bit set aside to help the community.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Your smart thermostat, security camera, video doorbell and other connected devices make life more convenient—but they can also be targets for cybercriminals if they're not properly secured. Change default usernames and passwords, use strong, unique passwords for each device and enable multi-factor authentication when available. Keep your devices up to date by installing software and firmware updates, which often include important security fixes. Secure your home Wi-Fi network with a strong password and modern encryption. A few simple steps can help keep your personal information and smart devices safe from scammers.

Source: CISA

NEWSLETTER TO MAGAZINE

MJM's "Along the Lines" monthly newsletter has joined with Illinois Country Living Magazine as a 4-page center insert! If you are currently on MJM's mailing list, you will receive the physical magazine. MJM members on our digital newsletter email list will continue to receive the newsletter emails with the new format. The MJM Along the Lines newsletter insert is on pages 18A-18D.

You will get the same local MJM news and gain additional information, recipes, business features in the Prairie Table section, photo contests, and resources that Illinois Country Living Magazine has to offer.



Energy Detective Challenge

School is back in session, and it's time to put your observation skills to work! Complete the challenges below and earn points by finding ways your family can save energy.



Goal:

Score 20 points to become an Energy Detective! After you've earned 20 points, cut out the badge below and display it for all to see!



SCAVENGER HUNT

COMPLETED

- A light is left on in an empty room (2 points) ☐
- A smart or programmable thermostat (4 points) ☐
- A ceiling fan spinning in a room where no one is spending time (2 points) ☐
- A charger plugged in with nothing connected to it (2 points) ☐
- An ENERGY STAR® label on an appliance (3 points) ☐
- A window or door left open or cracked when the heating/cooling system is on (3 points) ☐

MISSIONS

COMPLETED

- Turn off the lights when you leave a room (3 points) ☐
- Open blinds or curtains during the day instead of turning on a light (3 points) ☐
- Unplug a charger that isn't being used (3 points) ☐
- Remind family members to close the refrigerator door quickly (3 points) ☐
- Help your family create a "lights out" check before bedtime (4 points) ☐



THANK
YOU
MJM
MEMBERS