

# MONROE ELECTRIC NEWS

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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Alan W. Wattles

## Across The President's Desk

Monroe County Electric Cooperative was proud to support local youth at this year's record-setting Monroe County 4-H Livestock Auction.

MCEC purchased a market hog from **Kegan Schultheis** and a market steer from **Blake Koester**, recognizing the hard work, dedication and responsibility these young exhibitors demonstrate throughout the year. The annual 4-H Livestock Auction provides youth with the opportunity to showcase the results of countless hours spent caring for and raising their animals while developing valuable life skills such as leadership, responsibility, teamwork and financial management.

## MCEC supports local youth at record-setting 4-H Livestock Auction

"MCEC is committed to investing in the communities we serve, and supporting our local 4-H members is one way we can encourage the next generation," said Julie Rohr, Director of Billing & Member Services. "We congratulate Kegan, Blake and all of the exhibitors on their outstanding accomplishments."

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's auction and helped make it a record-breaking success. We are honored to support an event that invests in the future of our local youth and our communities.



Top: A smiling Blake Koester presents his market steer to Board Director Rich Hollis and Director of Billing & Member Services Julie Rohr.

Right: Kegan Schultheis poses with his market hog.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

September kicks off the fall shoulder season, when cooler mornings and milder evenings often mean you can give your heating and cooling system a break. Open windows, use ceiling fans and enjoy the fresh air whenever temperatures allow. It's also the perfect time to schedule annual HVAC maintenance before colder weather arrives. Because demand is typically lower during the fall, heating and cooling professionals often have greater availability, making it easier to book an appointment. Regular maintenance can improve your system's efficiency, help prevent unexpected breakdowns and keep your home comfortable all year long.

Source: Department of Energy



### MCEC line outages July 2026

| Date     | Duration | # Out | Map Location                 | Cause Desc              | Substation    |
|----------|----------|-------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 07/03/26 | 2:03     | 2     | Sutterville Rd               | Lightning               | Fults         |
| 07/03/26 | 1:29     | 2     | N Moore St                   | Lightning               | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/03/26 | 1:17     | 9     | Summer Rd                    | Lightning               | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/03/26 | 2:12     | 77    | Five Forks Rd                | Vandalism               | New Athens    |
| 07/04/26 | 1:37     | 795   | East Carondelet              | Power Supplier          | E. Carondelet |
| 07/04/26 | 1:15     | 651   | North Waterloo               | Power Supplier          | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/04/26 | 1:47     | 4     | Dori Ln                      | Trees, Other            | Millstadt     |
| 07/04/26 | 2:28     | 8     | Keim Rd                      | Lightning               | Millstadt     |
| 07/04/26 | 1:24     | 18    | Rt 156/Prairie Du Long Cr Rd | Trees, Other            | Poe           |
| 07/04/26 | 2:14     | 3     | LL Rd/Smith Rd               | Lightning               | New Athens    |
| 07/08/26 | 1:12     | 5     | Glauber Rd                   | Trees, Other            | E. Carondelet |
| 07/09/26 | 1:04     | 2     | LL Rd                        | Other, Deterioration    | Poe           |
| 07/10/26 | 1:00     | 651   | North Waterloo               | Power Supplier          | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/10/26 | 1:31     | 795   | East Carondelet              | Power Supplier          | E. Carondelet |
| 07/13/26 | 0:34     | 77    | Five Forks Rd                | Public Accidents, Other | New Athens    |
| 07/17/26 | 1:09     | 77    | Gall Rd/Gg Rd                | Vehicles Or Machinery   | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/17/26 | 3:07     | 71    | Gall Rd/Gg Rd                | Vehicles Or Machinery   | N. Waterloo   |
| 07/19/26 | 0:56     | 5     | Rt 159                       | Lightning               | New Athens    |
| 07/23/26 | 1:07     | 30    | Chas Young Rd                | Other, Deterioration    | E. Carondelet |
| 07/27/26 | 0:42     | 28    | Powellrd/Doyle Rd            | Unknown                 | Poe           |
| 07/29/26 | 1:33     | 366   | Wagner Rd/Triple Lakes Rd    | Vandalism               | E. Carondelet |
| 07/31/26 | 1:02     | 822   | New Athens                   | Power Supplier          | New Athens    |

# BLUE ARMY BULL BASH

Presented by: Waterloo Rural King



Presenting Sponsor



[www.nextlevelprobullriding.com](http://www.nextlevelprobullriding.com)  
Matt Noble (815)651-6661

## Tickets

**Available at:** Waterloo Rural King  
Sydenstricker Nobbe John Deere • Shelby's Automotive  
Outsider Bar • Happy Hour Bar • First National Bank of Waterloo

September 19, 2026  
7:00 PM CDT  
**WATERLOO, IL**  
Monroe County  
Fairgrounds

**Order**  
**online at:** [www.WaterlooLOptimist.org](http://www.WaterlooLOptimist.org)

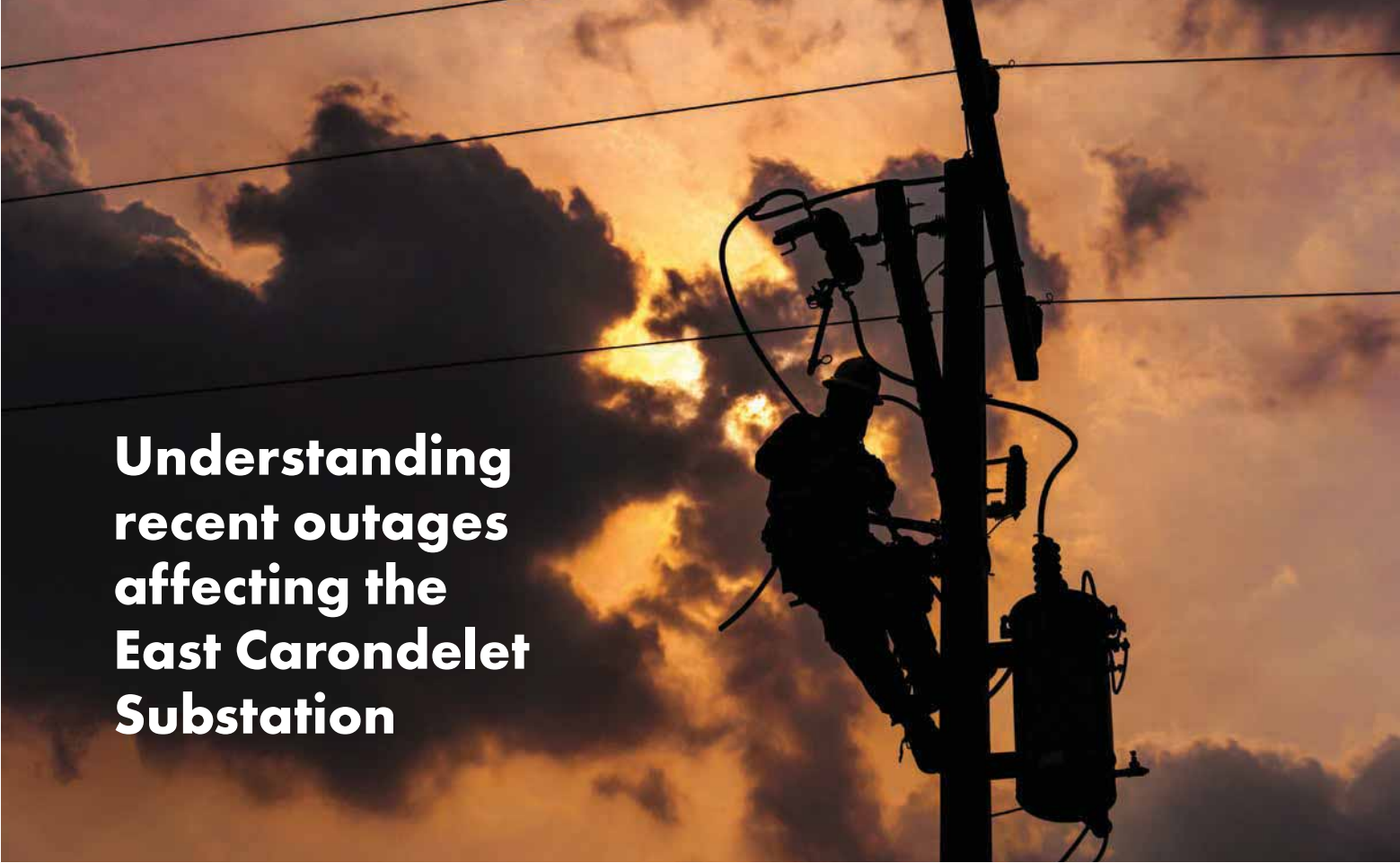
**Advance Tickets \$25 • \$30 at the Gate • 12 Years & Younger FREE**



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[www.mcec.org](http://www.mcec.org)



# Understanding recent outages affecting the East Carondelet Substation

Monroe County Electric Cooperative understands how frustrating power outages can be, and we appreciate the patience and understanding our members have shown during the recent outages affecting those served by our East Carondelet Substation.

While these outages occurred within a relatively short period of time, they were **not related to a single issue**. Each outage had a different cause, and our crews responded quickly to restore service as safely and efficiently as possible.

## **July 4 & July 10 – Transmission line issues**

The outages on July 4 and July 10 were caused by severe storms that impacted the **Ameren transmission line** supplying power to our East Carondelet and North Waterloo substations. During the storms, protective equipment on the transmission system operated as designed, resulting in momentary outages and ultimately a loss of the transmission feed.

Although the transmission system is owned and operated by Ameren,

MCEC crews were immediately dispatched to restore service. Thanks to years of investments in strengthening our electric distribution system, crews were able to reroute power through alternate substations whenever possible, significantly reducing restoration times for many members.

MCEC has documented these incidents and continues to work with Ameren to address the reliability of the transmission system serving our area.

## **July 17 – Vehicle accident**

A separate outage occurred on July 17 when a vehicle left the roadway and struck a utility pole near the intersection of Gall Road and GG Road. The damaged pole caused an interruption of service until crews could safely make repairs and restore power.

## **July 29 – Vandalism**

Most recently, an outage was caused by vandalism to our electrical equipment. Intentional damage to utility infrastructure not only disrupts electric service but also creates significant safety hazards for the public and

utility workers. Acts of vandalism can increase restoration times and put lives at risk.

## **Our commitment to reliability**

Every outage is carefully reviewed so we can identify its cause and look for opportunities to improve reliability. While MCEC cannot control the transmission system that delivers power to our substations, we remain committed to investing in our own distribution system to minimize outage durations whenever possible.

The ability to transfer members to alternate substations during transmission outages is the result of years of planning and infrastructure improvements designed to provide greater flexibility and resilience throughout our electric system.

We know that any power interruption is an inconvenience, and we share in our members' frustrations. Thank you for your continued patience and support as our employees work every day to provide safe, reliable electric service to the communities we serve.