

THE GRID

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1-888-661-CMEC (2632)
Office hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

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Vice Chairman

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President/CEO

Amy Borntager

**To Report an Outage
call #888-661-2632**

**Find Your Name
and Win \$50**

Find your name hidden inside this issue of The Grid and receive a **\$50 bill credit**. Credit must be claimed by the end of each month in which this newsletter is published.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



**Join us on Friday, Oct. 4 for our
2024 Member Celebration & Annual
Meeting at Peterson Park, Mattoon.**

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH**

Did you know ceiling fans can help you save energy? Ceiling fans create a windchill effect on your skin to make you feel a few degrees cooler. Raise the thermostat a few degrees and turn on fans to reduce air conditioning costs.

Set fan blades to rotate counterclockwise during summer months and clockwise during winter months. Remember, ceiling fans cool people but don't actually lower the indoor temperature. Turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: energy.gov

WELCOME

*Welcome Brandon Slifer,
Journeyman Lineman,
to our CMEC family.*



**CMEC Live Line Demo 2024 is rescheduled for
Thursday, Sept. 19th**

Commitment to Zero



In April 2018, the National Rural Electric Cooperative (NRECA), Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange and electric cooperative statewide safety leaders introduced the Commitment to Zero Contacts, an initiative to help reduce the chance of serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs) by electrical contact and enhance co-op safety efforts.

CMEC is participating in this program, now in its second phase,

which takes a more focused approach by working directly with operational department leaders and their teams. These teams work together to review and further understand current work practices using a hands-on approach to incorporate employee input, facilitation, and two-way discussion.

This initiative will assess co-op safety practices including: 13-question survey, Facilitated Planning

Session, Summary Report, and Plan Implementation, monitoring, and follow-up. **Tracee Golden**

Thank you to all our members who stopped by for Coffee on the Co-op at Hubbart's Downtown Diner.

Safety Tip

Only use a gas or charcoal grill outdoors. Grills are designed to be used outside where there is plenty of ventilation. Using one in a closed or partially enclosed space can cause carbon monoxide (CO) to build up and cause CO poisoning. Grill in the great outdoors.

Safe Electricity.org



HOW ENERGY EFFICIENT IS YOUR HOME?

As your electric cooperative, we take helping you reduce your energy costs seriously. Go on Touchstone Energy's Home Energy Adventure at adventure.touchstoneenergy.com. The game will tell you how energy efficient your home is and how you can make changes that will save you money!



Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

Keeping Us Safe



CMEC takes the safety of our members and our employees seriously. We have a safety committee that meets once a month, as well as, an annual all employee safety day. We close the cooperative and dedicate the entire day to mayday procedures, fire drills, cyber updates, first aid kits, and more. Your cooperative participates in the national Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program (RESAP). This program was established over 10 years ago to strengthen leadership engagement and ownership within organizations. CMEC is committed to creating a culture of safety.

Congratulations!



District Six Board Director Tom Sherman received the Board Leadership Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). The NRECA recognizes individuals who continue their professional development after becoming a Credentialed Cooperative Director. NRECA represents the nation's almost 900 member-owned electric cooperatives, which provide electric service to more than 42 million people in 48 states.

Reminder

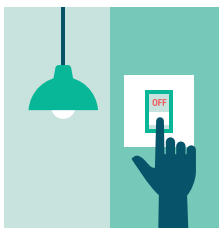
Nominations for District 3 petitions are due to our co-op no later than July 3, 2024. Contact info@cmec.coop for more information.

CHANGE YOUR HABITS

To Save Money on Your Energy Bill

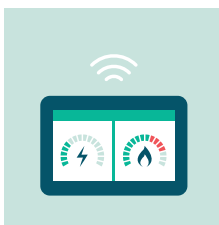


Whether you are looking for free or low-cost ways to save energy or need to make a major purchase that will help pay for itself over time due to energy savings, here are some ways to make a difference.



No-Cost

- Turn off lights when you leave a room.
- Program your programmable thermostat.
- Use sunlight for heat in the winter.
- Fully load dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers.
- Use window coverings to keep out cold or heat.
- Turn off electronics when not in use.



Low-Cost

- Use smart strips that turn off power to unused items.
- Make sure your HVAC system is serviced regularly and filters are changed as often as recommended.
- Purchase an insulating blanket made for hot water heaters.
- Find and fill air leaks in your home.
- Caulk between window/door frames and walls.
- Install a smart thermostat.



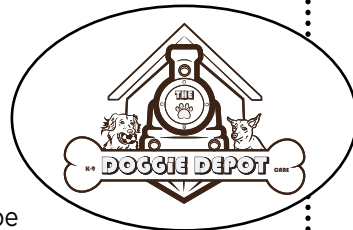
Major Purchases

- Upgrade to a high-efficiency HVAC system.
- Purchase energy-efficient appliances.
- Insulate attics, exterior walls, basements and crawl spaces.
- Purchase a clothes dryer with a moisture sensor.
- Purchase a water-saving dishwasher or washing machine.
- Replace old windows with energy-efficient versions.

Learn more at: [Safe Electricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)

All Aboard

Check out the Doggie Depot, located at 100 Moultrie Ave. in Mattoon. When life takes you away from home, they provide day care in a wonderful space for your companions where they can exercise and expend energy while in a clean, comfortable, and safe setting. They are committed to creating a stimulating space for socializing and developing relationships. The Depot also provides stay care and will soon be adding Doggie Delights, a line of handmade and wholesome dog treats made on site. Call them today at 217-234-1226 or visit thedoggiedepot23.com. Your canine kids will be glad you did.



Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: cmec.coop