

PowerLines

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A monthly publication for member/owners of Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative

Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative's 2012 Annual Meeting of Members

A Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative 

*Eastern Illini Journeyman Forester
Junior Price gives a bucket ride to
a youngster at Eastern Illini's 2012
Annual Meeting of Members.*



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Upcoming Events:

July 4: Independence Day
(EIEC offices closed)
July 10-14: Fisher Community Fair
July 16-19: Livingston County Fair
July 18-23: Iroquois County Fair
July 20-28: Champaign County Fair

On Thursday, June 14, over 1,100 member/owners and their families (totaling over 2,000 people) attended Eastern Illini's Annual Meeting to help celebrate the co-op's 75th year of enhancing the quality of life in rural east central Illinois.

The event was geared for family fun and featured several children's activities, including: a bounce house; an inflatable obstacle course; miniature golf; bucket truck demonstrations; the Gene Trimble Band; and Oscar the Talking Robot. The meal was provided by Niemerg's Catering and the Rocking K Chuckwagon provided snacks for those relaxing outside.

Engaging seminars were held, featuring topics such as: how to save money on your utility bills; how to choose proper lighting for your home; why insulation is so important; and how to reap all the benefits of the Co-op Connections Card. There was also a session celebrating Flag Day.

The actual business meeting featured comments by State Senator Michael Frerichs and state representative candidate Josh Harms. State Representative Jason Barickman and a representative from U.S. Senator Dick Durbin's office also attended.

Steve Meenen of Melvin, Bruce Ristow of Cissna Park, and Brad Ludwig of Fithian were re-elected to the Eastern Illini Board of Directors at the meeting.

Board Chairman Marion Chesnut of Rossville, and Eastern Illini's President/CEO Wm. David Champion, Jr., discussed the current state of the cooperative during their executive report. In 2011, we met our budget goals and retired (paid) over \$600,000 in capital credits back to our member/owners. Champion noted that Eastern Illini continues to work hard to provide safe, reliable and affordable electric service to our member/owners.

- See page 2 for more meeting pictures

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2012 Annual Meeting images



This young meeting attendee poses in front of an Eastern Illini bucket truck. Inflatable games and a miniature golf course entertained many youngsters.



Eastern Illini member/owners relax after eating their meal. Niemerg's Catering catered the event, and over 2,000 meals were served during the meeting.



Annual meeting attendees gather outside. Antique tractors, kid's activities and a live band entertained the outside crowd during the meeting.



A young boy operates an antique corn sheller. This tool was just one of many antiques on display to help celebrate the co-op's 75th year of service.

Lower your energy use while on vacation



Give your home's energy use a vacation - while you're on one.

Going on vacation? Some people expect their electric use - and their bill - to drop way down just because they are gone. It's not quite that simple, though.

Even if you plan to be away for just a few days, you can save energy in your home when you travel, if you plan ahead. Here are some tips that can give your utility bill a break when you take a break.

Water heater

Turn down the temperature so it doesn't keep the water as hot while you are away. Or, talk to an energy expert at Eastern Illini about turning off the water heater altogether.

Thermostat

During hot weather, turn up the thermostat on your air conditioning system to about 80 degrees. That way, you'll save energy while ensuring that your home doesn't get too hot. If you're away during the winter, lower the temperature on your furnace.

The house can be as cool as 50 degrees without the risk of your pipes freezing. Every degree you can change your thermostat could save you 2 percent on heating/cooling bills.

Refrigerator

Depending on the food stored in your fridge, you may be

able to turn the thermostat as high as 38 degrees without risking spoilage. Storing water-filled bottles in your refrigerator can prevent temperature fluctuations, which will save energy. Food in the freezer compartment will stay frozen if the temperature remains at minus 5 degrees.

Lights

Turn off all lights in your home. You may want to install timers on one or two lights for security.

Electronics

Unless you're recording something while away, unplug all of your electronic devices—computer, monitor and printer, TV and cable boxes, DVD player, microwave, and digital clocks. Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features, or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—call the efficiency experts at Eastern Illini at 800-824-5102.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Water heating ranks as one of the top three energy-related expenses in your home. Save energy and money by installing a water heater blanket, using low-flow showerheads and faucets, and lowering the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Learn more at EnergySavers.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



The Co-op Connections Card - your ticket to savings

The discount savings card is a free benefit of being a member/owner of Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative.

The Co-op Connections Card is a simple, FREE savings program that gives you discounts at local businesses and well known national companies. Discounts are available at all types of businesses and several online services - many of which you probably already shop.

The Co-op Connections Card also gives you a pharmacy benefit that could save you 30 percent or more on your prescriptions - all with no paperwork or hassles. In fact, Eastern Illini members have saved well over \$100,000 on

prescriptions by using their Co-op Connections Card.

A new benefit will help you save more and live healthier every day! Our highly successful prescription discount offer is now joined by **discounts on dental, vision, hearing, lab work & imaging, and chiropractor visits.** Best of all, you get all these great benefits for FREE.

We will send you an updated Co-op Connections Card soon. The new card will contain information about the medical discounts now available.

Another great benefit of your Co-op Connections Card is the coupons. Simply log on to connections.coop and start downloading. They can be used almost anywhere, and can save you hundreds of dollars on the things you are already purchasing.

To get more information now, please visit connections.coop. At the website, you can find the coupons, plus all of the local deals and national offers available when using your Co-op Connections Card. You can also print off a temporary card to use until your new one arrives later this year.



View, manage, and pay your electric bill online or with your smartphone.

smarthub

SmartHub, a mobile and Web app, delivers accurate, timely account information and allows you to make payments in a secure environment with the touch of a button, right from your mobile device or on your computer.

With SmartHub you can:

- Pay your bill
- Check your kWh use
- Contact our office
- Keep up with EIEC news



www.smarthubapp.com

Coming soon for Eastern Illini member/owners!