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Every year at one of the in-depth monthly safety meetings, EnerStar Electric Cooperative linemen prepare for an event they hope never happens. The co-op's annual pole top rescue training evaluates each lineman on his ability to rescue an injured or stranded lineman atop a utility pole.

The OSHA-mandated safety training course focuses on two things. First, the linemen are trained to radio for help utilizing the proper mayday procedures and, second, use a safety fall arrest system to safely climb a pole to rescue a 185-pound mannequin. The Safety Department employees from the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives conduct the training and evaluate every step of the process from the ground.

Each step requires both skill and safety awareness and must be completed in as little time as possible. The lineman must climb the pole, secure the mannequin using ropes and pulleys, and safely lower it to the ground. All EnerStar employees participate in first aid and CPR training as well.

"During the exercise, no electricity is running through the lines," said Keith Borchers, EnerStar's Manager of Operations. "Attention to detail is key, and we perform it as if it is the real deal."

Because linemen work around dangerous voltages every day, safety is the top priority at EnerStar. This



EnerStar lineman Jake Keys performs the annual pole top rescue training. Linemen must be able to safely climb a pole to rescue a 185-pound mannequin with the use of ropes and pulleys.

type of training is just one example of EnerStar's ongoing commitment to keeping its employees and the general public safe.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

11597 Illinois Highway 1
Paris, IL 61944
800-635-4145
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

EnerStar, CoBank Donate to Area Volunteer Fire Departments

For the 11th consecutive year, EnerStar Electric Cooperative has been awarded the CoBank Sharing Success matching grant. The grant's purpose is to help cooperatives support causes and organizations important to the communities they serve. To date, \$145,000 in donations have been distributed in the service territory, a fact that the co-op is quite proud of.

This year, the Martinsville Ag Fair Association, the Clark County Fair Association and the Edgar County Fair Association, will share the \$20,000 grant. The funds will be used to upgrade facilities at each of the fair's locations.

"These organizations play a critical role in the rural communities that EnerStar serves, and we are thankful to these individuals who volunteer and make our fairs such a success," said EnerStar's Angela Griffin. She added that as a not-for-profit electric cooperative, EnerStar is guided by seven cooperative principles, which include "Cooperation among Cooperatives" and "Concern for Community," and this donation is well-suited to those principles.

CoBank, a non-profit, cooperatively owned bank, assists rural America with financial services to agribusiness and rural electricity, water, and communication providers in all 50 states. CoBank matches contributions by its cooperative members to the charitable organizations of their choice on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$10,000. The charitable organizations must be established as a non-profit under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code. Other potentially eligible organizations include schools, churches and government organizations, if the donation serves a public purpose and is consistent with the program's purpose and guidelines.



EnerStar board members Jeremy Williams (middle left) and Granville Colvin (middle right) presented a Sharing Success grant to the Martinsville Agriculture Fair Association. Representing the organization are Fair Board Member Norma Calvert (left) and Fair Board President Bob Zellers (right).

EnerStar Board Member Granville Colvin (left) presented a CoBank Sharing Success grant to the Edgar County Fair Association. Representing in Edgar County (left to right) are Fair board members Rick Dodd and Brad Weir, Fair Board President Teri Quinn, and Fair board members Carol Keller and Mary Lou Wright.



EnerStar Board Member Jeff Murphy (middle left) and Board President Danny Gard (right) presented CoBank Sharing Success grant to the Clark County Fair Association. Representing Clark County is Fair Board Member Mike Rhoads (left) and Fair Board President Chris O'Rourke (middle right).

Past Sharing Success Grant Recipients

- 2021** 14 Area Volunteer Fire Organizations
- 2020** Crestwood, Kansas, Chrisman, Shiloh, Oakland, Martinsville and Marshall schools
- 2019** Edgar County Food Pantry, Chrisman Food Pantry, Northern Edgar County Ambulance Service
- 2018** Edgar County Sheriff Dept. and Clark County Sheriff Dept.
- 2017** Clark County Park District and Oakland Food Pantry
- 2016** Twin Lakes All-Ability Playground, Paris
- 2015** Human Resources Center of Edgar and Clark County
- 2014** University of Illinois Extension Service in Edgar and Clark County
- 2013** Marshall Food Distribution Center and Martinsville Food Pantry
- 2012** Paris High School Construction Project



EnerStar Electric Cooperative students join national electric co-op Youth to Washington Tour

What do you get when 34 students from 16 Illinois electric and telephone cooperatives join 1,000 of their peers across the United States? You get the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth to Washington Tour!

Two students from EnerStar Electric Cooperative service territory were selected from a diverse group of applicants to represent their cooperative and enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 17-24, 2022, as part of the annual Youth Tour.

The 2022 Youth Tour delegates from EnerStar Electric are Randall Robinson of Marshall and Kaylin Williams of Brocton.

The students toured Capitol Hill and met with U.S. Senator Dick Durbin. They also visited historical and cultural sites including Arlington National Cemetery, the Supreme Court, President Lincoln's Cottage at First National Cemetery, a variety of memorials and the U.S. Capitol. Among fun activities the students enjoyed were an assembly of more than 1,800 Youth Tour participants from across the nation and a special farewell event at the Newseum, scheduled to close later this year.

"Youth Tour is a great opportunity that changes these students' lives," says EnerStar's Angela Griffin. "This experience helps prepare them for their futures. After touring our nation's capital, meeting congressional representatives, and learning firsthand how our government works, they return home with valuable knowledge and memories that will last a lifetime."

Since 1964, the nation's cooperative electric utilities have sponsored more than 60,000 high school students to visit Washington, D.C., talk one-on-one with their U.S. congressional delegations and learn from energy and grassroots government education sessions. NRECA is the national service organization representing the nation's more than 900 consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives, which provide service to 42 million consumer-members in 47 states.

Applications for the 2023 Youth Tour will be available at enerstar.com in November. For more details, call Griffin at (800) 635-4145.



Representing EnerStar at the 2022 Youth Tour were Randall Robinson of Marshall and Kaylin Williams of Brocton.





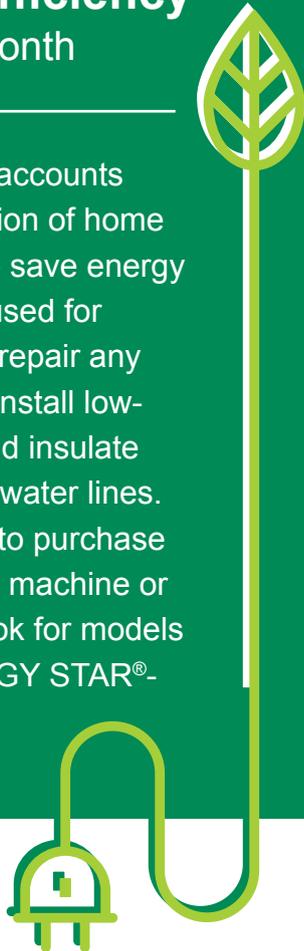
LABOR DAY

**OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5,
FOR LABOR DAY**

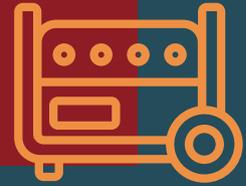
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Water heating accounts for a large portion of home energy bills. To save energy (and money!) used for water heating, repair any leaky faucets, install low-flow fixtures and insulate accessible hot water lines. When it's time to purchase a new washing machine or dishwasher, look for models that are ENERGY STAR®-certified.

Source: Dept. of Energy



What to do before using a PORTABLE GENERATOR



Prepare

Install battery operated carbon monoxide (CO) alarms throughout your home; ensure they are working properly.

Position

Place a portable generator at least 20 feet from windows and doors; do not use one in a garage or carport.



Read

Carefully review and then follow all manufacturer's instructions.

Protect

If it is wet outside, keep it dry by placing it on a tarp. Position it under a portable canopy (not a carport).



Refuel Safely

Turn off your portable generator and let it cool down before refueling.

Inspect and Maintain

Inspect a portable generator before each use and make sure it is properly maintained.



Using a portable generator can be useful during an outage; however, use one correctly to prevent CO poisoning and to stay safe.

**Safe
Electricity.org®**