

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**Wednesday,  
July 12, 2023**

**Annual Meeting  
of Members**

**New Location: Athens  
Christian Church**

## Director election to be held

*Petitions available*

Our Board of Directors is made up of nine individuals, each representing a Director District and serving a three-year term. Three director Districts are up for election at each annual meeting of members. At this year's annual meeting on July 12, 2023, members at-large will vote for representation in Districts 3, 7 and 8.

Seeking re-election are incumbents Michael Patrick of New Holland in District 7 and Warren Goetsch of Williamsville in District 8.

There will be an open seat for District 3; current Director Jodine Tate will not seek re-election.

Members who reside in any of these three districts may submit a petition for the director election. Please visit our website at [www.menard.com/board-directors](http://www.menard.com/board-directors) to see a district map and learn a little more about a director's duties.

To run for the position of director in the election, please call our office at 800-872-1203 or email [info@menard.com](mailto:info@menard.com) to briefly discuss the process of election and to obtain a petition. Petitions available March 28, 2023, and must be returned to our office by 4:30 p.m. on May 26, 2023.

OPEN SEAT

**District 3**  
**OPEN SEAT**

- Virginia
- Arenzville
- Beardstown
- Jacksonville



**District 7**  
**Incumbent**  
**Michael Patrick**

- Mason City
- New Holland
- Middletown
- Lincoln



**District 8**  
**Incumbent**  
**Warren Goetsch**

- Williamsville
- Athens
- Sherman
- Elkhart

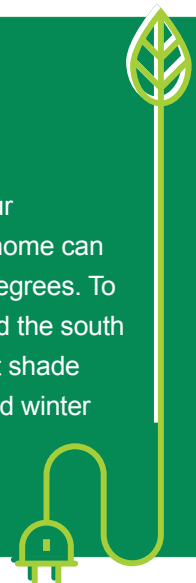


*Cooperative offices  
will be closed on Friday,  
April 7th, in observance  
of Good Friday.*

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



# Vegetation management for safe service

## A Right-of-Way Clearing Q&A with Forester Ross Cloninger

### How often does Menard trim trees?

We contract with line clearance certified utility tree companies who work year-round on our property trimming out our right-of-ways. In determining our maintenance cycle, we take into consideration the time it will take to perform as well as the costs affiliated with each substation area. We seek a balance between providing safe, dependable and cost-effective service to the membership. Because of the large territory that we serve, it takes our vegetation crews roughly eight years to complete a full cycle of trimming.

### How does Menard determine how much of the tree to trim?

Our crews are directed to follow the American National Standards Institute requirements to assure the continued health of each tree, as well as meet Menard's policy and specifications. There are three main components to take into consideration: the species of tree, how fast that tree will grow, and the location of the trunk in proximity to the power line. Faster growing trees will require more clearance than slower growing trees. Our specifications are to clear the area on either side of our single-phase lines at least 15 feet and three-phase lines at least 25 feet from the center of the pole; this is ground-to-sky clearing. When we cannot achieve adequate clearance against regrowth due to incompatibility with our lines, the vegetation is removed.

### Can Menard shape the tree when they trim them to stay clear of power lines?

The directional trimming method or "lateral trimming" removes only the branches that may conflict with the power lines. Rather than cut limbs back to unsightly and unnatural stubs, branches are cut back to the center of the trunk where trees normally shed them. Directional trimmed trees are

less susceptible to disease and insects, and the overall structure of the tree is stronger and more resistant to high winds and ice. Although the shape of the tree has been altered, it is recommended over topping or rounding off trees, which tends to promote quick regrowth of small, weak attached shoots known as "water sprouts."

### Should I prune trees myself?

Never under any circumstances should a member attempt to prune trees near high-voltage power lines. Only qualified line clearance certified tree arborists are allowed to work within the minimum approved distance of 10 feet from high voltage lines.

Service lines that deliver electricity from the main power line to the member's meter are not trimmed out by our contractors and are the property owner's responsibility. Please call us to have your service line temporarily disconnected so this work may be done safely by yourself or a qualified tree service.

### What trees can I plant close to lines?

Menard Electric requires a minimum of 15 feet of clearance from any woody vegetation. If you wish to plant smaller ornamental trees, we recommend staying at least 25 feet away from any overhead line. Larger trees like oaks and maples require lots of space, so make sure these trees are planted 50 feet away. Same parameters apply for our underground facilities as well. It is very common for homeowners to plant grasses or shrubs around our green underground transformers to cover up the unwanted appearance, but this can obstruct a lineman's ability to work safely if there were to be an issue. Please refer to our vegetation management section on our website before planting.

### Why are you applying herbicide?

Herbicides help reduce any evasive woody vegetation that may try and regrow once we have mechanically

trimmed an area. Costs associated with applying herbicide are four times lower than removing vegetation mechanically, which is why it is a crucial and beneficial tool to use. In areas where herbicide may not be desired, such as organic farms or near beehives, we ask that members keep the right-of-way clear.

### What if I have a concern about vegetation management policies or procedures?

For any questions or concerns, or to request wood chips, contact me at 217-632-7746 or [rcloninger@menard.com](mailto:rcloninger@menard.com). Please note that before any work is to be completed in an area, we mail a postcard notice out to members; no response is necessary unless you require more details. Members may also refer to the map published here and on our website for areas to be affected.

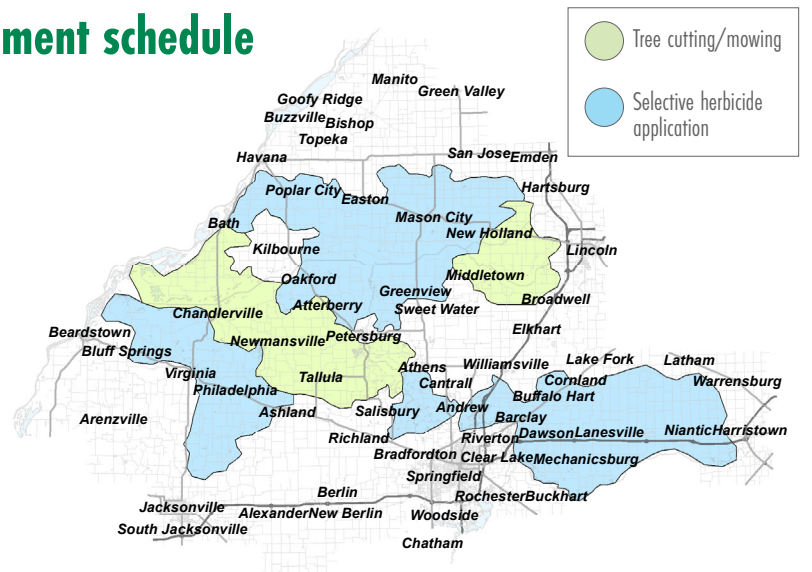
### How can I help reduce the frequency of outages caused by trees?

First, understand that our vegetation management plan is an integral part of our goal to provide you with safe, reliable electric service. Second, by allowing our contractor to use the proper trimming techniques, your trees remain healthy, and the regrowth from the tree will tend to sprout away from the power lines. Finally, if you are planting new trees, remember to plant the right tree in the right place, you can find a tree planting zone graphic on our website.

**We appreciate your support of our vegetation management program to help us continue providing safe, reliable service. Questions? Contact Forester Ross Cloninger at [rcloninger@menard.com](mailto:rcloninger@menard.com) or 800-872-1203. Please also visit [www.menard.com/vegetation-management](http://www.menard.com/vegetation-management) anytime for the current vegetation schedule, tree planting tips and more.**

## 2023 vegetation management schedule

We are partnering with Spoon River Electric Cooperative's forestry department and employ contract crews to cut and mow vegetation on areas shown on the map in green, served by our substations in Petersburg, Middletown and Saidora. Herbicide will be selectively applied to brush as needed in areas that were previously mechanically cleared. In 2023, these areas will include those shown in blue on the map, served by our substations in Poplar City, Mason City, Middletown, Oakford, Virginia, Salisbury, Sherman, Barclay, Mechanicsburg and Lanesville.



## Uncashed capital credit checks

The listing here is for capital credit checks sent to inactive members who had service in 1999 and 2000 that were not cashed last year but were also not returned to us. Those checks must now be reissued. If you know any of these members, please

ask them to email us at [info@menard.com](mailto:info@menard.com). Active members with an uncashed check are not listed here and had that check amount applied to their March 2023 bill.

The entire list of checks that were returned as undeliverable or remain

uncashed but were not returned is on our website at [www.menard.com/capitalcredits](http://www.menard.com/capitalcredits). Next month we will print the remainder of names. Last month's issue contained checks that were returned as undeliverable.

Adams, Charles T, Sherman  
 Adams, Joanna M, Mason City  
 Adams, Linda S, Forest City  
 Adwell, Leonard, Beardstown  
 Abye, Sandra L, Cantrall  
 Agrall, Jeff R, Athens  
 Albers, Robert D, San Jose  
 Alexander, William F, Manito  
 Alfadel, Petersburg  
 Allen, John David, Sherman  
 Allspach, Donald, Mount Pulaski  
 Amica Wireless Phone Serv, Itasca  
 Anderson, Barry, Lincoln  
 Anderson, Loren K, Dawson  
 Anderson, Michael & Jammie, Mount Sterling  
 Anderson, Missy M, Spfld.  
 Anderson, Sara L, Petersburg  
 Anderson, Terri L, Dawson  
 Anliker, Richard L, Pekin  
 Argo, Vern Jr, Petersburg  
 Arthalony, Colin N, Ashland  
 Baka, Robert L, Petersburg  
 Baker, Daniel J, Normal  
 Baker, James L, Springfield  
 Baker, JoAnne, Lincoln  
 Baldwin, Thelma, Fortuna, CA  
 Ballard, Marvin D, Kilbourne  
 Bargar, Jeffrey R, Pekin  
 Barker, Frances L, Mason City  
 Barnes, Shirley A, Kewanee  
 Barrett, Donald J, Jacksonville  
 Barrows, Lawrence, Chapel Hill, NC

Bartletti, Robert J, Dawson  
 Baughman, James E, Havana  
 Baughman, Maria T, Havana  
 Bays, Lloyd A, Manito  
 Becker, Scott J, Manito  
 Beckett, Charles H, Ottawa  
 Beckett, Richard, Topeka  
 Beebe, Robin, Forest City  
 Bell, Franklin G, Virginia  
 Bell, Steve E, Athens  
 Bennett, Jodi L, Topeka  
 Bentley, Lawrence R, Spfld.  
 Berry, David L, Beardstown  
 Betzelberger, Robert, San Jose  
 Bitner, Bonnie J, Havana  
 Bixby, Dale A, Ashland  
 Black, Frances, Spfld  
 Bland, Robert & Tammy, Lincoln  
 Blankenship, William L, Spfld  
 Bohm, Lawrence, Topeka  
 Bolt, William W Jr, Springfield  
 Bowles, J Leslie, Mason City  
 Bradford, Jeremy K, Dawson  
 Bradley, Rodney B, Springfield  
 Brand, Norman, Girard  
 Briggs, Richard W, Athens  
 Brown, Martha B, Springfield  
 Brown, Stephen L, Decatur  
 Bruntjen Bros, Illiopolis  
 Budyn, Michael Alan, Pekin  
 Buracker, Linda, Carlsbad, NM  
 Byus, Morris, Jacksonville  
 Calhoun, Michael R, Pekin  
 Campbell, Judith A, Spfld.

Canady, Felicia Rae, Riverton  
 Capital Community Bank, Spfld  
 Carmody, Michael L, Spfld  
 Carr, C Daniel, Niantic  
 Carr, Robert Jay, Springfield  
 Carr, Rolin C, Chatham  
 Carrington, Inell, Pekin  
 Casper, Steven A, Springfield  
 Castillo, Francisco, Fresno, CA  
 Castle, Mountain Advisors, Spfld  
 Cellular One, Schaumburg  
 Chernis, John P, Sherman  
 Chobanian, Joan A, Springfield  
 Christenberry, Robert R, Pekin  
 Clark, Charles E, Pleasant Plains  
 Clark, Raymond F, Jacksonville  
 Clark, Richard L, Springfield  
 Claypool, Richard C, Illiopolis  
 Cobb, Joseph, Ashland  
 Collins, Tina Marie, Manito  
 Colvin, Michelle N, Manito  
 Colwell, Courtney M, Alexander  
 Coons, Robert M, Springfield  
 Coons, Robert P, Springfield  
 Cornelius, Jean, Pana  
 Cosand, Carl Lee, Williamsville  
 Coufal, Donald B, Arenzville  
 Cowan, Chris, Nicholasville, KY  
 Cowden, Kevin W, Concord  
 Crabtree, Richard & Bonnie, Senatobia, MS  
 Crater, Margaret E, Havana  
 Culp, Susan A, Pekin  
 Cummings, Arley, Spring Hill, FL

Curtis, Patricia M, Chatham  
 Cutting, Charles C, Pekin  
 Dahlkamp, Charlotte, Glenarm  
 Dambacher, James D, Riverton  
 Dana, Dwight, Argenta  
 Daubs, Robt M, Decatur  
 Davis, Ruth Ann, Springfield  
 Dawe, Joshua M, Topeka  
 Dawson, Robert L, Yates City  
 Day, Melissa I, Springfield  
 Day, Michael F, Jacksonville  
 Dean, Lloyd A, Joliet  
 Defenbaugh, Kurt, Crestview, FL  
 Denny, Sara E, Athens  
 Denton, Mary J, Cantrall  
 Denton, Michael S, Mackinaw  
 DeVore, Arnold W & Penny, Beardstown  
 Dicenso, Mary J, Petersburg  
 Dickey, Terry R, Woodson  
 Dixon, Charles E, Bartonville  
 Dixon, Marie, Pekin  
 Dixon, Wanda J, Chapin  
 Doolen, Deane E, Lincoln  
 Dorgan, Mary K, Lincoln  
 Dougherty, Cathy V, Spfld.  
 Dougherty, William F, Spfld.  
 Doyle, Lee, Forsyth  
 Duffy, Donald D, Springfield  
 Duncheon, Chad M, Petersburg  
 Dunn, Ed, Topeka  
 Dunning, Judith T, Springfield  
 Durkin, James A, Springfield  
 Ealey, Sammi Sue, Dawson

Easley, Michael W, Mason City  
 Eberle, Landolin A, Petersburg  
 Edwards, Katrina S, Sherman  
 Elliott, Claribel, Virginia  
 Ellis, Robert E, Venice, FL  
 Ent, Steven & Amy, Chatham  
 Evans, Donald M, Manito  
 Evans, George B, East Peoria  
 Faires, Sean M, Hopedale  
 Farlin, Robert A, Pekin  
 Farmer, Larry E, Lincoln  
 Favero, Kim A & Nancy, Spfld.  
 Ferree, John B, Springfield  
 First Bank Of Oak Park, Oak Park  
 Fitzanko, Debra M, Pekin  
 Fitzsimmons, Camron, Dawson  
 Fleck Partnership, Riverton  
 Fletcher, John E, Bath  
 Fliege, Edwin E Sr, Cary  
 Floyd, Brenda, Fenton, MO  
 Flynn, Anna May, Jacksonville  
 Foster, Anna L, Alexander  
 Fouts, Marjorie M, Mason City  
 Fowler, Jack, Havana  
 Fox View Farm, Springfield  
 Fox, John C, Topeka  
 France, R Scott & Rita, Corpus Christi, TX  
 French, Jeanne M, Petersburg  
 Frick, Scott & Marsha, E. Peoria  
 Frick, Jeffrey E, Springfield  
 Fulkerson, Ann E, Springfield  
 Fuller, Tina Louise, Joliet

(Continued on page 18D)

# Board highlights

For full minutes visit [menard.com](http://menard.com) or contact the office.

January 24, 2023

- Directors present except McMillan & Tate; also Attorney & General Manager Alisha Anker present.
- Approved Consent & Crossing Agreement w/Moraine Sands Wind Power LLC.
- Anker reviewed monthly & YTD financial operation report, balance sheet & financial trends. Operating margins as of 12/31/22 were \$673,055 compared to \$679,603 last year; equity at 41.40%; 12-mo TIER 2.60 & DSC 1.69.
- Reviewed operations report w/46 incidents; longest duration outage 447 min affected 44 members in storm; largest # affected by single outage 974 due to loss of transmission in storm.
- Reviewed member services, safety & irrigation reports & JULIE case claim response.
- Approved changes to Policies as recommended by the Bylaw-Policy Committee.
- Approved Finance Committee recommendations to increase discount factor for G&T capital credits to 100% as of 4/1/23. Approved General Retirement of Capital Credits of \$900,000; approved \$250,000 for estates.
- Next Board Mtg 2/28/23@8:00 a.m.

## Congratulations

**Director Gary Holloway** has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) for completing courses focused on the basic governance knowledge and essential skills required of co-op directors.

### Uncashed capital credit checks - (Continued from page 18C)

Garrett, James A, Normal	Helfers, Michael E, Congerville	Kelly, Michael J, Springfield	Lovelace, Claudia P, Decatur	Miller, Richard M, Chicago
Gaston, John & Joanne, Sherman	Luston, Earl W, Springfield	Kern, Marilyn J, Petersburg	Lucht, Norbert J, Springfield	Miller, Robert A, Springfield
Gatlin, LeLon B, Creve Coeur	Henrikson, Evelyn J, Spfld.	Kesselring, Darren & Jenny, Ashland	Luparell, Joseph & Virginia, Dawson	Montalvo, Phillip A, Spfld.
Gatton, Albert M, Nokomis	Henry, Larry L, Mason City	Kester, Mary A, Pekin	Lynn, Walter, Springfield	Montgomery, Donald C, Athens
Gaulding, Gary A, Springfield	Henry, Michelle R, Havana	Kirchhofer, Lee Alan, Chandler, AZ	Lytle, Larry A, Wataga	Montgomery, John, Mason City
Geiman, Shawn, Pekin	Henson, Amber, Virginia	Knee, Herbie L Sr, Topeka	Mabus, Jacob D, Springfield	Moore, Amy L, Dawson
German, Candice L, Spfld.	Hern, Susan C, Lincoln	Knotts, Melvin C, Springfield	MacGregor, Dr Margaret, Spfld.	Moore, Gilbert C, Decatur
Gierut, David & Teri, Lincoln	Hess, Pamela & William R III, Sherman	Koerner, Kimbal Roy, Athens	Mack, Kevin, Villa Park	Moore, Kris, Green Valley
Gilpin, Jonathan D, Normal	Heumann, Michele A, Cantrall	Kowalewski, Jeffrey J, Jacksonville	Madigan, Kathryn R, Spfld.	Moore, Lorretta M, Cantrall
Givens, James H, Beardstown	Hill, Lawrence L, Lincoln	Kretschmer, Ruth K, Medinah	Maple Crest Well #9, Manito	Moradian, M Michael, Sherman
Gordon, Charles E, Lincoln	Hilst, Marie A, Pekin	Krueger, Bonnie Lou, Spfld.	Marks, Fred E, Petersburg	Moreno, Ruben H, Del Rio, TX
Graves, Janet, Tovey	Hines, Matt & Michelle, Meriden, KS	Kunz, Louis J, Sherman	Marley, John C, Collinsville	Moriconi, Salvatore J, Spfld.
Greene, Earl J Jr., Virginia	Holaday, Gary L, Pekin	Lacey, Richard T, Alexander	Marquardt, Robert W Sr, Peoria	Morris, Christopher, Rushville
Griffitts, Harry H, Riverton	Holford, Roger & Angelika, Lincoln	Land O'Lakes Inc, Beardstown	Marr, Martin E, New Berlin	Morris, Stephen R & Karrie, Conroe, TX
Grim, Steve Jr, Kilbourne	Hollinshead, Henry, Williamsville	Lane, Tamera Lee, Clay City	Martin, David William, Spfld.	Mueller, Willia, New Berlin
Groth, Frances C Jr, Spfld.	Horcharik, John M, Sherman	Langloss, Janice L, Petersburg	Marvin, Michael Richard, New Berlin	Muir, Mary A, Buffalo
Gudat, Richard W, New Port Richey, FL	Horn, Percy D, Mason City	Larson, Raymond P, Spfld.	Mason Co Raceway Inc, Pekin	Myers, Louis S, Springfield
Guess, William, Peoria	Howeter, Tison A, Havana	Lascelles, David Floyd, Vandalia	Masten, Eleanor V, Havana	Nagy, Robert E, Humboldt, IA
Gurski, Gregory L, Tallula	Hucker, Daniel Robert, Rockport, TX	Lawson, Mark, Pekin	Matthys, Kathy L, Sherman	Nahnsen, Thomas F, Spfld.
Hackney, Shawn & Angela, Forest City	Hull, John D, Springfield	Lawton, John H, Volo	McGuire, Keith Francis, Henderson, NV	Natrona Community Club, Urbana
Hagerman, Sophia L, Lincoln	Humphres, Kevin & Karen, Elkhart	Lee, Brian Paul, Litchfield	McGuire, Ronald L, Spfld.	Neding, Johnny R, Pekin
Harmon, Michael D, Spfld.	Hunt, Robert C, Jacksonville	Lee, Daniel V, Lincoln	McKay, Trend W, Springfield	Nelson, Clark C, Lake Zurich
Harms, Jeffrey, Forest City	Huston, Todd & Heather, Dawson	Lee, Nathan Edward, Baroda, MI	McLean, George A, Spfld.	Nelson, Randy A, Murrayville
Harms, Julia H, Forest City	Hymes, James M, Beardstown	Leith, Thomas C, Lincoln	McLean, Gregory Dale, Cantrall	Neuhaus, Donna, Desoto, KS
Harms, Thomas G, Petersburg	Intersport Television, Chicago	Lemar, Jason, Petersburg	McMurl, Charles F, Beardstown	Newell, James & Sheila, Morton
Harp, Richard Robert, San Jose	Irons, Kerry C, Fairview Hts	Lennox, Michael Wayne, Manito	McNamara, Barbara, Sherman	Nextel Partners Inc, Eden Prairie, MN
Harper, Jeffrey Dale, Fisher, IN	J & W Farm LLC, Riverton	LeVeque, Robert D, Sherman	Meischner, Garnet J, Pekin	Noone, Kevin B, Petersburg
Harris, Dean Allen II, Bartonville	Jester, Rebecca A, Pekin	Lewey, Dwain Carl, Spfld.	Menendez, Antony J, Sherman	Nordlund, Darlene D, Highland Vill, TX
Harris, Kathy I, Dawson	Jimenez, Carol A, Dixon	Liebman, Thomas R & Barb, Petersburg	Metcalfe, Kenneth R Jr, Mechanicsburg	O'Brien, Alice E, Petersburg
Harris, Robert D, Palmyra	Johnson, Billy Ray, Cantrall	Lindsay, Jason Teague MD, Bringham, AL	Meyer, Carl F, Lincoln	O'Brien, Rory M, Danville
Harris, Tim B, Pekin	Johnson, Dixie, Astoria	Locke, Charles R, Springfield	Meyer, Douglas Eric, Pekin	Ogle, John William, Petersburg
Harter, Cheryl Ann, Illiopolis	Johnson, Kimberly Ann, Bath	Loffredo, Armand R, Peoria	Meyer, Ferd C Jr, Chandlerville	Olde Towne Chiropractic, Petersburg
Harvey, Juanita M, Decatur	Johnson, Linda R, Havana	Logan, Nellie S, Springfield	Michel, Brenda Lea, Spfld.	O'Mara, Michael D, Estero, FL
Hawk, James A, Dunlap	Jones, Leslie M & Sondra, Windermere, FL	Lomprez, Jack K Jr, Hardeeville, SC	Mickens, Irvin G, Springfield	Osborne, Gary L, Dawson
Hayter, John, Bloomington	Kelch, Wm & Marcia, Sherman	Lovekamp, James, Kingsland, TX	Mickey, Matthew, Rochester	Osborne, Robert B Jr, Athens
Hefley, Jack Ivan, Beardstown			Miller, Mary C, Mount Pulaski	
Heine, Gary R, Springfield			Miller, Melanie K, Springfield	
Heinhorst, Paul R, Rockford				
Heinz, Daniel S, Peoria				

# Highly skilled local employees



It takes a team of highly skilled employees to provide you with the safe, affordable, reliable service you depend on every day.

We are proud of the talented, experienced employees working both in front of and behind the scenes in engineering, technology, human resources, accounting, member service, communications, forestry, storekeeping, mechanics, vegetation management, operations, linework and more.

Those employees live right here in the areas we serve. We appreciate them, and we hope you do too. Give a friendly smile and wave when you see them this month on the road, at your local diner, in the school stands, or in line at the grocery store.

#EmployeeAppreciationDay

#LineworkerAppreciationDay

#ThankALineworker

#LocalEmployees

#ChooseMEC

#LocalOffice

#WeLoveCoops

## PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, fire-fighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe.



WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

April 17-21

