

New employee

Daniel Edge, Storekeeper/Leadman

In late August we welcomed a new employee as Storekeeper/Leadman in our warehouse. A native of the Chandlerville area, Daniel Edge earned an Electrical Maintenance Certificate at Lincoln Land Community College before starting Edge Electrical Solutions in 2008.

Why MEC? “I know from visiting with other employees this is a great family-oriented company, and I’m happy to stay in the electric industry,” Daniel says.



LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) could help pay your electric, gas and propane energy bills. Contact your local agency to confirm income eligibility requirements and application timelines.

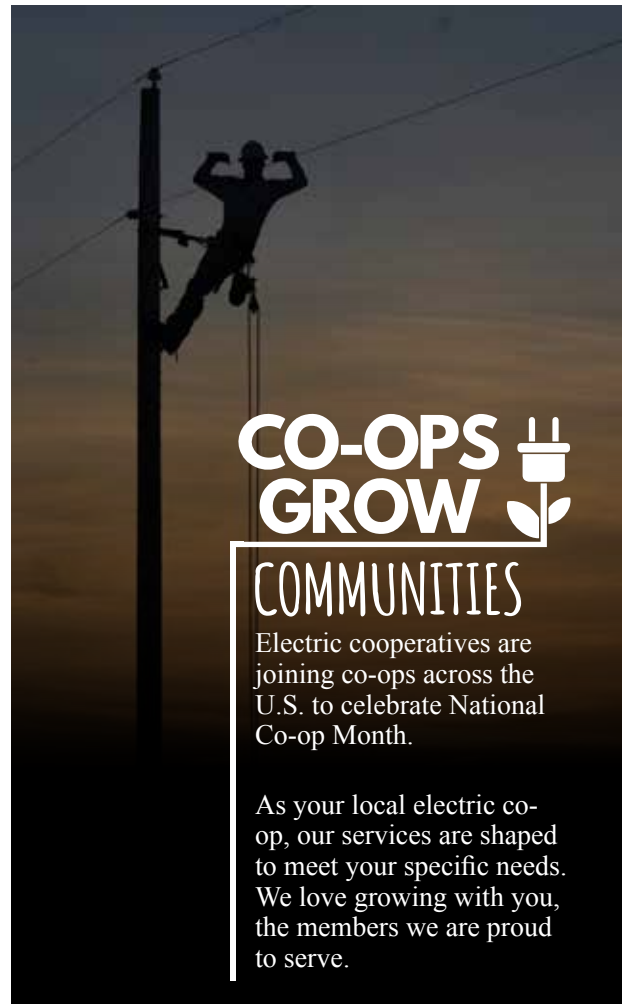
Program timelines

Local agencies may start taking calls to schedule appointments prior to the start dates.

- **Oct. 2** – persons over the age of 60, disabled, and households with children ages 5 and under
- **Nov. 1** – households disconnected/have disconnect notice
- **Dec. 1** – general population

Contact information

- MCS Community Services, Cass/Morgan County, 217-243-9404, morgancounty-il.com
- Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois, Logan/Mason/Menard County, 217-732-2159, capcil.info
- Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation, Macon County 217-428-2193, empowerdecatur.org
- Sangamon County, 217-535-3120, co.sangamon.il.us/communityresources
- Tazewood Community Services, Tazewell County, 309-266-9941, tazewoodcs.org



**CO-OPS
GROW** 

COMMUNITIES

Electric cooperatives are joining co-ops across the U.S. to celebrate National Co-op Month.

As your local electric co-op, our services are shaped to meet your specific needs. We love growing with you, the members we are proud to serve.

Fall to-do list for energy savings

Ensure all vents are unblocked.

Be certain floor vents are unblocked and return vents are clean. Schedule HVAC maintenance and change the filters. Maintaining your system helps it last longer and run more efficiently.



Change ceiling fan direction.

Fans should run clockwise in cool weather to circulate warm air.



Check all door/ window seals.

Weather-stripping and caulk can wear out with time. Install new as needed.



Cover drafty windows.

Curtains and blinds may be enough or look into energy-saving plastic window films.



Pull out the quilts, blankets and sweaters.

Be ready so you won't rush to change the thermostat when feeling a chill.



Check insulation for wear and settling.

Be sure your insulation level is still in good shape.



Schedule fireplace inspection.

For safety and efficiency, make sure the fireplace chimney and damper are in good shape.



Budget Billing fall cycle begins soon

With Budget Billing, we average the last 12 months of usage and determine a budget amount. Members pay that same amount each month for 11 months and on the 12th month settle up with a credit or additional balance due depending on actual electricity used for the year. The fall cycle true-up is November bills. E-mail info@menard.com or call 800-872-1203 with your account number for details.

FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY TIP

Never leave pots and pans unattended while cooking.

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK | OCT. 8-14

GONE PHISHING.
Don't fall for offers that seem too good to be true.

October is Cybersecurity Month

AVOID PET NAMES AS PASSWORDS.
Make it something stronger.

Good catch, 1t1s@4^hek\$de63

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know using your dishwasher is more energy efficient than washing a load of dishes by hand? To maximize efficiency, wash full loads in the dishwasher and don't block the arms or other parts that move while the appliance is in use.

For additional savings, turn on the "air dry" setting instead of using the "heat dry" setting and use a rinse aid to help dishes dry faster without spotting and streaking.

Source: Dept. of Energy

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Board highlights

For full minutes visit menard.com or contact the office.

July 31, 2023

- Present were Warren Goetsch, Jay Frye, Gary Holloway, Gary Martin, Donald McMillan, Michael Patrick & Dennis Ryan; also General Manager Alisha Anker & Attorney Charles Smith. Jodine Tate & Steven Worner absent.
- Approved 7/12/23 Reorganizational Mtg Minutes.
- Discussed 2022 KRTA Review.
- Annual Conflict of Interest Review.
- Anker reviewed June monthly & YTD financial trends. Operating margins \$2,083,068 compared to \$1,271,579 last year; equity at 41.08%; 12-mo TIER 3.10 & DSC 2.11.
- Reviewed Annual Meeting.
- Reviewed Operations report w/219 incidents; during June 29 Dericho longest outage 2,888 min affected 1 member; largest # affected by single outage 1,154 due to loss of transmission service to substation.
- Determined to send letter to legislators regarding proposed new EPA rules.
- Goetsch appointed NRECA Region V Delegate & McMillan Alternate.
- Special Retirement of \$75,000 for Capital Credit Estates.
- Next mtg 8/22/23

Kilo Watt Korner

Vanquishing energy vampires



In the spirit of Halloween, let's take this month to consider vampires. Don't take out the garlic just yet, though — we're not talking about the ones with fangs and wings. We're here to help you vanquish energy vampires. Less sinister than the real thing, an energy vampire is a playful name for idle devices in your home that drain, or "suck," small amounts of energy all the time.

Identifying these vampires involves taking a walk through your home, garage and outdoor buildings looking for devices that use power all the time. You might want to repeat this at night to be certain you've seen them all.

Notice any digital clocks? The microwave and stove surely, but any others? Now look

around for all those tiny red or green power indicator lights. Your television is easy to spot, and the modem and Wi-Fi router too. Will you find a video game console, computer, printer, DVR or smart speaker? Did you know that anything that responds to a remote or voice command uses power to stay in "ready" mode? And don't forget about all those battery chargers that consume energy even when a device is not charging. The one for your phone, of course, but perhaps your cordless drill, other tools and lawn equipment, headphones, game controller, tablet, laptop or vacuum.

How many vampires will you discover? Granted, these are often very small sources of electricity usage, but like pennies in a coin jar, they add up over time. Some estimate that together they could total 10% or more of your home's energy use.

Korner Recommendation: Fight back! Vanquish the vampires you can. Unplug what you don't need, especially all those chargers. Check your television and game console settings for energy efficiency features and consider turning off the instant-on feature for your television. Some vampires might be worth leaving plugged in for convenience; make choices and stay aware of all the devices that are drawing energy even when they are idle.





Sign In

MY ACCOUNT

BILLING & PAYMENTS



Quick Pay is a simple, fast and secure way to make payments online without logging in.

Quick Pay



Online Payments

Save a stamp by using the Internet to view and pay your bill online.
Click here to pay online. →



Account Profile

Everything you need to manage your account right at your fingertips.
Click here to manage my account profile. →

New options on online bill pay site

Have you visited our new online bill pay site yet? Click the Pay Online button on our website at www.menard.com, or the Payments button on the MyMEC App to access.

Quick Pay – You can pay your bill without having to register or log in. Simply visit the site, click Quick Pay, enter the account number and phone number for the service and you'll be able to submit a payment.

Average Billing – If you select average billing, we'll take a rolling 12-month average of your electric bills to determine the amount due each month. The amount could fluctuate monthly but will eliminate large seasonal fluctuations. Your bill and the online portal will show the amount due, the actual billed amount and the true-up amount. The true-up credit or amount due would be applied to get the account to a zero balance if the account were removed from average billing or disconnected. To select this option, click on Average Billing in the Billing & Payments drop-down menu, then click the dots in the Average Billing column to select Sign Up.

Notifications – You may select the following notifications to help you manage your account:

1. Bill Creation
2. 7-Day Due Date Reminder
3. Payment Receipt
4. Cutoff Notification

To select, click on Notifications in the My Account drop-down menu, then select your choices.

