

# Norris Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# News

## 2021 Annual Meeting

# POSTPONED

**A**s a proactive measure related to COVID-19 and the social distancing recommendations made by the CDC, Norris Electric Cooperative has postponed its 2021 Annual Meeting that is normally scheduled in February.

We are exploring several options for the meeting. Once a date and details are determined, we will publish the new information regarding the Annual Meeting in our Illinois Country Living center section and share it on social media.

## Stay tuned...



## Norris Electric sends crews to aid power restoration efforts after Hurricane Laura

**W**hen Hurricane Laura left mass destruction along Louisiana's coastline in late August, our line clearance and linemen did not hesitate to volunteer to aid a fellow cooperative and its members. In the early morning hours of Aug. 29, a six-member crew left with equipment to assist Jeff Davis Electric Cooperative in Jennings, La.

The cooperative's facilities were completely leveled and at that time 100 percent of its members were without power. The storm ripped down roughly 8,000 miles of power lines across Jeff Davis Electric

Cooperative's service territory and broke approximately 1,000 poles. Linemen worked and are still working as this article is being written, setting new poles and hanging conductors so cooperative-served communities can get power once transmission lines are energized.

Norris has currently sent three different crews, switching out every two weeks, to assist in restoration at Jeff Davis Cooperative. Illinois alone has 13 cooperatives sending guys to Louisiana. Helping other cooperatives is what we do. It's the cooperative way.



Photo courtesy of Shelby Electric Cooperative



# A salute to our Norris Electric veterans

As we celebrate our nation's heroes this month leading up to Veterans Day, we want to take a moment to honor members of the Norris Electric family who have served in the armed forces.

We recognize the selfless sacrifice of our military veterans, who proudly served our country and now serve Norris Electric Cooperative.



**Ian Moore**  
United States Air Force  
1992 - 1996



**Ed Hannaman**  
United States Army  
1987 - 1999



**Bill Fields**  
United States Marine Corps  
1995 - 1999

*Thank you for your service.*



## Attention High School Seniors

Norris Electric Cooperative will award three \$1,000 scholarships to the sons or daughter of Norris Electric members who are currently receiving service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted.

### Requirements for application:

1. Must be a high school senior
2. Must begin college within a year of notification
3. Must be a full time (12 hours) student

### Scholarship awarded based on:

1. Grade point average
2. College entrance test scores
3. Work & volunteer experience
4. School & community activities
5. Knowledge of electric cooperatives
6. Biographical essay

*Deadline for application submission is Feb. 1, 2021*

For more information contact your high school guidance department or visit the cooperative website at [norriselectric.com](http://norriselectric.com) to download an application.

# Energy assistance available for LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

For many Illinois households, energy costs place a severe and continuing stress on the family's budget. In some cases, families will be forced to make painful decisions about which bills to pay and which necessities to cut.

Then federally funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible low-income households pay for winter energy services. Fortunately, Norris Electric Cooperative works with LIHEAP, which benefits about 300,000 Illinois households each year.

## LIHEAP details

LIHEAP heat and electric assistance is a one-time benefit payment per heating season that is intended to help pay a portion of a household's heat and electric costs. The benefit amount depends on household size, income and energy costs.

In most cases, the benefit is applied as a credit directly to the household's Norris Electric account. You do not need to duplicate your efforts by applying for assistance with both your local agency and Norris Electric.

You are eligible for heating assistance if your household's combined income is at or below the levels shown on this chart:

## 2020 Federal Poverty Guidelines for 200% of Poverty for 2021 Program Year

Family Size	30 Day Income	Annual Income
1	\$2,127	\$25,520
2	\$2,873	\$34,480
3	\$3,620	\$43,440
4	\$4,367	\$52,400
5	\$5,113	\$61,360
6	\$5,860	\$70,320
7	\$6,607	\$79,280
8	\$7,353	\$88,240

*Additional \$736 per person monthly income above 8 people, or \$8,840 annual. (Note 30-day income rounded up.)*

## Where to apply

To apply for assistance, you'll need to complete a Home Energy Plus application and provide information on each household member and their income as well as records of our heating costs.

For more information and application details, please call your local office:

**Crawford County:** 618-544-8780, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 100 Washington, Robinson, IL 62454

**Richland County:** 618-395-2714, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 306 E Main St., Olney, IL 62450

**Cumberland County:** 217-923-3599, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 115 S Kentucky, Greenup, IL 62428

**Jasper County:** 217-783-3987, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 904 W Jourdan, Newton, IL 62448

**Clark County:** 217-712-2090, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 2 W Cumberland, PO Box 124, Martinsville, IL 62442

**Lawrence County:** 618-943-2938, Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc., 1211 State, Lawrenceville, IL 62855

**Effingham County:** 217-347-7514, C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation, 1805 South Banker Street, PO Box 928, Effingham, IL 62401-0928

**Wabash County:** 618-292-4151 (Mt. Carmel) or 618-384-5541 (Enfield), Wabash Area Development, Inc., 110 Latham Street, PO Box 70, Enfield, IL 62835-0070

## Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP)

When you apply for energy assistance, the local agency also will see if you qualify for the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP). Weatherization services that can be funded through IHWAP include:

- Air sealing
- Attic and wall insulation
- HVAC repair or replacement
- Water heater repair or replacement
- Electric base load reduction (lighting and refrigerator replacement)
- Ventilation and moisture control measures (and other health and safety measures)
- Maximum \$15,000 per eligible client's home for energy-related weatherization and repair work
- Maximum \$3,500 for health and safety related measures

Eligibility depends on household income. Weatherization services differ with each home, depending on how it was built and is condition. For more information, contact your local LIHEAP office.

# Budget Billing

Members wanting to eliminate the fluctuations of their monthly electric bills are encouraged to sign up for Norris Electric's Budget Billing program!

Accounts with at least 12 months of consumption history and with account balances paid in full are eligible.

- Monthly budget bills are reevaluated in November and May.
- If a change results from the recalculation, a message will be printed on your May and November bill indicating this new amount. If you do not see a message on your bill, your budget amount has remained the same.
- There is no "catch up" month. When reevaluating the account, any under-collected amounts and overpaid amounts are "rolled over" into the next 12 months.
- Monthly budget bills must be paid before the next month's bill is calculated. If payment is not received, the account will be removed from the budget plan.
- If an account is removed from budget billing for any reason, any balance on the account is due immediately.
- Budget Billing is automatically renewed, unless terminated by either the member or the cooperative.

Think you might be interested in Norris Electric's Budget Billing program? If so, contact a member service representative at 1-877-783-8765 or via email at [billing@norriselectric.com](mailto:billing@norriselectric.com).



## Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship Program

The Illinois Electric Cooperative (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program awards twelve \$2,000 scholarships annually to deserving students in the "electric cooperative family" entering college to assist them with their educational costs.

### About the scholarships

- 6 scholarships are awarded to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2020).
- 4 scholarships are reserved for high school seniors enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2020).
- 1 scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to a high school senior who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric co-op employee or director (deadline to apply Dec. 31, 2020).
- 1 scholarship, the LaVern and Nola McEntire Lineworker's Scholarship, is awarded to a student to attend the lineworker's school conducted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL (deadline to apply April 30, 2021).

**For more information, visit [aiec.coop/iec-scholarship](http://aiec.coop/iec-scholarship)**

*Susan Platz, employee of Norris Electric, was given this recipe from Donna Smallwood years ago. Donna worked at Norris Electric for 51 years. Susan's family requests this pie for birthdays, holidays and celebrations. You will not be disappointed.*

## Brown Bag Apple Pie

3 or 4 apples, about 2 1/2 pounds  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 tablespoons flour  
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
2 tablespoons lemon juice

### Topping:

1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup flour  
1 stick butter

Preheat oven to 400 F. Make 9-inch pastry shell. Peel apples. Combine sugar, flour and nutmeg in a cup and sprinkle over apples. Toss to coat well. Spoon into pastry shell and drizzle with lemon juice. For the topping, combine sugar and flour in bowl. Cut in butter and sprinkle over apples. Slide pie into brown bag, fold open end twice, fasten with paper clips, and place on cookie sheet. Bake for 1 hour. Split bag open, remove pie and cool. Serve with ice cream and enjoy.

