



Navigating heatwaves, energy conservation and electric vehicles

The recent heatwaves in the Midwest have sparked thoughtful questions from our members regarding the delicate balance between energy conservation and the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs).

Chances are you've probably observed a rise in EVs on the roads of southern Illinois. This shift is not unique to our region; it's sweeping the nation, and we're right in step.

Experts predict a majority of vehicles from major manufacturers to be electric by 2035. However, this transition poses challenges, especially during extreme weather when heavy usage is already putting strain on the grid.

A 2021 Department of Energy study projected a significant 38% increase in electricity demand by 2050 due to rising electrification, driven undoubtedly by EVs. This increase in demand is happening simultaneously with the transformation of America's energy landscape due to the EPA's Clean Power Plan, which requires power plants to reduce carbon emissions and shift towards renewable energy.

To address these challenges, power suppliers across the country are exploring strategies to diversify energy sources. The aim is to gradually incorporate a greater share of renewable sources, like wind and solar, into the energy mix. Leadership from Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) is actively participating in these planning discussions locally.

One of the questions members posed to us recently was how we intend to oversee our newly installed EV chargers during peak demand times when we are urging members



An electric vehicle charges outside the new Walkers Bluff Casino Resort. Egyptian Electric Cooperative installed 11 Level 2 chargers at the facility.

to conserve energy. It's been on our minds, too, and we're glad you asked! We are exploring strategies to manage the chargers during periods of extreme weather and are considering temporarily taking them offline or adjusting the electricity supply to the vehicles. Rest assured, EECA will proudly take the lead on conservation efforts, especially if we are asking members to be mindful of their consumption.

While we encourage our members to embrace the benefits of EVs, we also request their partnership in energy-saving practices during peak demand times. **David Larkin**

Consider scheduling your EV charging during off-peak hours, such as late evening or overnight. This thoughtful approach not only reduces pressure on the grid but also helps you save on energy

costs by decreasing demand. In the summer months, as the sun sets and temperatures cool, electricity demand decreases. By utilizing timers to schedule charging sessions, the load on the grid can be distributed more evenly, benefiting entire neighborhoods, especially those with multiple EV owners.

Electric co-ops and EV owners share a common responsibility in ensuring the stability and sustainability of our power grid. While we anticipate continued growth in EV ownership, we must also anticipate and manage the associated energy demand. If you're an EV owner, we encourage you to talk with us. By communicating your EV ownership, you empower us to make informed decisions and optimize energy distribution for your needs and those of your fellow members.



Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
844-759-3977

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

Board of Directors

Paul Hicks, President
Kevin Liefer, Vice-President
Randall Campbell, Secretary-Treasurer
Rick Asaturian
Kevin Bame
Mary Jo Homan
Ken Jarrett
Steve Prest
Paul Pyatt



Shane Hermetz
General Manager

Choose your payment option!

- At our office lobby, drive-thru, drop-box, or payment kiosk
- Mail to: 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone at 844-759-3977, using credit card or checking account
- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale

CELEBRATE COOPERATIVE MONTH WITH EECA!



EECA Board of Directors




EECA Employees

When you connect with EECA, you talk to people who attend your church, whose kids go to school with your kids, and whose homes lose power when yours does.

We are proud to be a part of the communities we serve and are committed to providing you with the best service possible!



**Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2023 Classroom Empowerment Grant Official Rules

Egyptian Electric Cooperative is now accepting applications for ten Classroom Empowerment Grants, each worth \$500. Open to public and private K-12 schools within our service territory, these grants empower teachers and administrators to enhance educational opportunities for students through innovative classroom projects. Winning applications will be based on projects that best serve the purpose of improving the learning environment and/or increasing educational resources for students.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit the completed Grant Application Form, **and** a double-spaced typewritten request (not to exceed three pages) that includes the following:

1. A description of the project, what the project will accomplish, and why it should be selected for funding.
2. The estimated cost of the project based on researched and provided data.
3. An explanation of why funds are necessary for the completion of the project.
4. If other funding options have been pursued, the status of those requests.
5. When the project will be completed. **Joshua Hicks**
6. The number of students impacted by the project.
7. How the goals of the project will be measured, and what would determine the project to be a success.

8. How the project ties to our Touchstone Energy core values: integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community.

Photos and supporting data are optional, but strongly encouraged. For questions on the program, contact Roni Croxell at 800-606-1505 or rcroxell@eeca.coop.

WHO MAY APPLY

Teachers, administrators, and/or qualified employees of K-12 public or private schools within the Egyptian Electric Cooperative (EECA) service territory footprint can apply.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Qualifying projects are those that improve the learning environment for students and/or increase educational resources for the school.

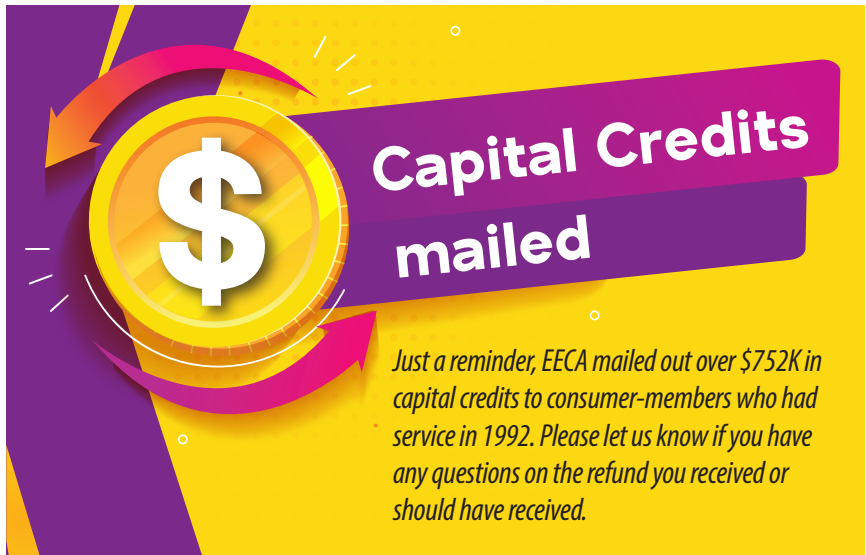
SELECTION PROCESS

An impartial judging panel will score the applications based on which projects best demonstrate improving the learning environment and/or increasing educational resources for the school. Decision of the judging panel is final.

IMPORTANT DATES

All completed applications must be received by the office of EECA, by **Friday, Nov. 3, 2023**. The winners will be notified no later than **Dec. 8, 2023**. Funded projects must be completed by the end of the 2024 spring semester.

The Classroom Empowerment Grant application can be found on page 6 or eeca.coop.



Capital Credits mailed

Just a reminder, EECA mailed out over \$752K in capital credits to consumer-members who had service in 1992. Please let us know if you have any questions on the refund you received or should have received.

Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 10th

10am-3pm

at Egyptian Electric Cooperative

MEMBER PRIZES

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

Spooky energy savings

This spooky season, we're sharing a few energy-saving tricks so you can treat yourself to lower energy bills. Here are four simple ways to summon the spirit of energy efficiency.

Conjure instant savings with a smart thermostat. One of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control, since home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use. Smart thermostats can help you manage heating and cooling costs by learning your daily routine and adjusting the temperature settings accordingly. You can control a smart thermostat from anywhere (through your smartphone), which allows you to prevent unnecessary energy consumption while you're away. Sorcery!

Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating ghostly drafts. The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home. Apply caulk and weatherstripping around drafty windows and doors to make your home more comfortable and lower energy use.



Meter - Abby Berry, NRECA

Illuminate your lair with energy-efficient lighting. LED bulbs use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent light bulbs. Make the switch to reduce energy used for lighting. Remember to use LEDs when it's time to decorate for the upcoming holiday season. LED light strings offer an average of 88% energy savings compared to traditional incandescent light strings.

Stir up savings with countertop cauldrons. Cooler weather summons

our favorite soup recipes. Small countertop appliances like slow cookers use less energy than cooking meals on the stovetop. Grab your book of spells (or recipes) and start stirring up savings in the kitchen. **Lucille Roth**

When we look around our homes, there are many opportunities to save energy. So, this spooky season, investigate your space and unlock a different kind of magic — the kind that brings real energy savings.



Crockpot - NRECA

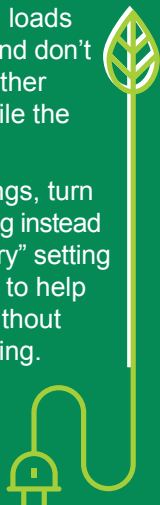
Energy Efficiency

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



LED Smart Bulb - Haus Automation



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966
Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Phone (800) 606-1505 | Fax (888) 554-8181
24/7 Pay-By-Phone (844) 759-3977
info@eeca.coop | eeca.coop

2023 Classroom Empowerment Grant Application

Applicant Name/Position: _____

School Name/Principal: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of Submitted Project: _____

Eligibility is available to schools located in Egyptian Electric Cooperative service areas. Teachers and administrators of K-12 public and private schools may apply annually, even if they have been a previous recipient. Ten (10) \$500 grants will be awarded. Egyptian Electric Cooperative reserves the right to photograph the grant winners and use the photos for publicity purposes. Projects must be completed by the end of the Spring 2024 semester. Incomplete entries will be deemed ineligible and will not be judged. Recipients should provide written proof of completion detailing how the grant funds were used within six months of the project's completion.

Submitting & Deadline: This grant application form and typewritten request can be submitted by mailing: Egyptian Electric Cooperative, Attn: Roni Croxell, 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966, emailing rcroxell@eeca.coop, or faxing to (888) 554-8181. The entire grant must be received to our office no later than **4 p.m. Friday, November 3, 2023**. Grant winners will be notified by email (provided on this form). Grants submitted by email must be in one (1) .pdf document.

For additional questions, please contact Roni Croxell of Egyptian Electric Cooperative by phone, (800) 606-1505, or by email, rcroxell@eeca.coop

Judging Process: Applications will be reviewed and scored by an impartial panel of judges. Winners will be notified no later than **Friday, December 8, 2023**.

If I, _____, receive the grant, I pledge to use the Classroom Empowerment Grant dollars in accordance with its applied purpose. I have read this Grant Application and the Official Rules and I agree to the grant requirements as stated.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Teacher or Administrator)

This Application Form must be attached as a cover to the actual written grant request. Please read the Official Rules, that can also be found on our website, eeca.coop, before completing/submitting