



Clearing For Reliability



Finney Substation



Grassy Substation



Evansville and Bremen Substations

There are many ways Egyptian Electric Cooperative provides you with safe and reliable electric service. One of the most common, and crucial ways, is referred to as right-of-way clearing (or vegetation management). A right-of-way (ROW) refers to a strip of land underneath or around power lines that your electric cooperative has the right and responsibility to maintain and clear. Trees must grow at a distance far enough from conductors where they will not cause harm to individuals or disruption to electrical service. Specifications can vary, but a general guideline of maintaining a safe distribution ROW is a minimum of 15 feet of clearance on either side of the primary conductors. Also, maintaining a cleared right-of-way helps with pole inspections and better visibility of rotten or broken poles that could have otherwise gone undetected.

ROW clearing is also critical to ensuring that we provide members with affordable electricity. Egyptian Electric Cooperative maintains nearly 2,700 miles of line that serve nearly 15,000 members. Staying ahead of the game keeps us from having to come out after a storm to restore power due to fallen trees and poles (where preventable). Oil Field Electric, or OFEC as you may see on their trucks, is currently contracted with Egyptian Electric to fulfill all of our day-to-day tree trimming needs. When a tree encroaches on the safe distance, our vegetation management teams will trim back branches and brush using chainsaws, bucket trucks, tree climbers, brush chippers and mowers. ROW clearing also

keeps your family safe by ensuring that tree branches do not become energized due to close contact with a downed power line. Power lines can energize tree branches which is incredibly dangerous – even deadly. Be mindful when around trees close to power lines, and make sure your children know that climbing trees near power lines is extremely dangerous. Also, please consider, that if you have a tree with a limb near the line(s) that looks hazardous, or you are considering trimming a tree that is in danger of falling on the lines, we ask that you contact us before doing any work. If there is any chance a limb or tree could strike a power line in the removal process, we would prefer our crews to remove the limb or tree in question.

The scheduled right-of-way work for 2017 will be lines serviced off four of our substations: Bremen, Evansville, Finney, and Grassy. The areas to which it will concern are the Sparta, west of Steeleville, Chester, south of Evansville, Vergennes, Ava, De Soto, north of Murphysboro, and south of Carterville and Marion areas. If your lines will be affected, you should receive a post card in the mail prior to tree work being done in your area. Travis Deterding, our Forestry Supervisor, will be happy to answer any questions you may have, or meet you on site if necessary.



1005 W. Broadway • PO Box 38
Steeleville, IL 62288

10169 Old Highway 13
Murphysboro, IL 62966

800-606-1505
Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

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Meet Our Warehousemen

Brian Alexander of Murphysboro and Kevin Barlow of Steeleville are both the Warehousemen for our Egyptian Electric offices. Kevin has worked for Egyptian Electric for 20 years this month, and Brian Alexander joined us in 2012. These two guys maintain the building and grounds, help transport materials, assist with traffic control, fill materials for work orders, monitor and stock inventory, and everything in between! They can be the first ones to arrive and the last ones to leave, and each offering their different talents. We truly appreciate the responsibility, dedication, and hard work that goes into this job day after day.



Alexander



Barlow

New Building Progress



February 2, 2017

Progress continues to be made with steel going up and concrete being laid. The roof on the main building continues to go on, and the walls are being assembled.

Scot Alms to Retire



We would like to congratulate Scot Alms on his retirement! Scot started working for Egyptian Electric September 18, 1979, following in his father's footsteps, as an Apprentice Lineman in the Steeleville office. He completed his apprenticeship at the local union hall, Local 702 in West Frankfort, Ill., and three years following, became a Journeyman Lineman. During this time, he had the fortunate experience of working on his foreman, Jim Beattie's, crew alongside his father, Orville Alms, a fellow journeyman lineman. Scot became the Line Foreman for a short time, until bidding the open Serviceman position, on Truck 29, replacing his father when he retired in 1992. In 2003, he hung up his hooks to become the Murphysboro Operations

Manager, supervising the linemen, warehouse and staking engineers out of the district office.

In 2014, he resumed the role in his hometown as the Steeleville Operations Manager, where he would finish out his career. Most of the membership probably knew Scot from his time as a lineman, where he spent 24 years with the co-op. Anyone could see line work was near and dear to his heart throughout his time here. We will sure miss his knowledge, his sincere and pleasant nature, and simply having him in the office every day. We wish him the best, and thank him, and his family, for their dedication to Egyptian Electric Cooperative over the past 37 years!



Time to Change the Clocks

Daylight Saving Time begins every year on the second Sunday in March. Clocks are set forward by one hour.

When you change your clocks, check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Batteries in smoke detectors should be replaced yearly.

National Safety Council

Last Chance to Apply for Youth Tour



The deadline for the Youth to Washington Tour is fast approaching! Egyptian Electric Cooperative (EECA) will select local teenagers as winners for the 2017 Youth Day in Springfield and two for Youth to Washington. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors attending public or private high schools within the EECA service territorial footprint, or otherwise a member of the cooperative, can apply. At least eight students will be chosen and sponsored to attend Youth Day in Springfield on March 29, to tour the Capitol and other historic sites. The top two students will be selected to represent Egyptian Electric Cooperative and our state, by attending the Youth to Washington trip June 9-16, 2017. The two winners will travel by bus, from Mt. Vernon to Washington D.C. this summer, to join with over 1,500 high school students from around the country, on one of the most recognized youth programs. Approximately 60 Illinois students will unite and travel with chaperones to Washington D.C.

Applications have been made available to area high school guidance counselors, can found on our website, www.eeca.coop/content/youth-washington, and in our offices. The application form includes completing

short summaries of the student's school activities, civic activities and other accomplishments, plus short answers pertaining to southern Illinois and rural electric cooperatives. Students will be judged on their written application and demonstrated understanding of the rural electric program. A blind independent panel of judges will select the winners for Youth Day, with the top two selected as the Youth to Washington delegates. All applicants must be willing and able to attend Illinois Youth Day to be considered for Youth Tour. All expenses will be paid by Egyptian Electric Cooperative, and transportation will be provided. If you have any questions on the application or the program, please contact Brooke Guthman at 618-684-2143 or bguthman@eeca.coop. All applications must be received by March 6.

Dates to Remember

Application Deadline – March 6

Illinois Youth Day – March 29

Youth to Washington – June 9-16



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