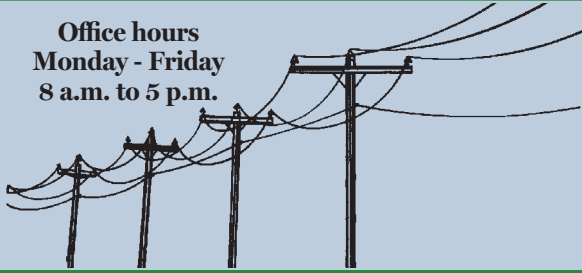


Office hours  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



# Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 100 Malinta, OH 43535  
Office Calls: 419-256-7900  
www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop



## TRUSTEES

Bradley Haupricht Sr.....	President
Lawrence Weirich .....	Vice President
Kenneth Brubaker.....	Secretary/Treasurer
Johney Ritz	Dustin Sonnenberg
John Schuchert	Marvin Green

## EMPLOYEES

Brett Perkins, Manager	Craig Wilson
Doug Hall	Jason Warnimont
Sue Bockelman	Jeremy Warnimont
Chris Okuley	Tom Jones
Sandy Corey	Deb Stuller
Brian Bick	Weston Schwab

## To report a power outage: 888-256-9858

Your call will be answered by the Cooperative Response Center. Give them the name on your account, service address and a telephone number where you can be reached.

They will dispatch a line crew to restore service.

Be sure to check your fuse or breaker system before reporting a power outage.

## Jackpot news!

Frederick Hepfinger of rural Swanton reported spotting his hidden account number in the November issue of *Country Living*. He won half the jackpot and received a check for \$40. Michael Marx of rural Deshler would have won the same amount if he had reported finding his account number.

Your account number is on your bill statement. Disregard the zeros at the left in the number, but consider any zeros to the right when converting your number to words.

The hidden account numbers always are in Tricounty's local pages of the magazine. The jackpot now stands at \$60. So read *Country Living*, find your hidden account number, report it and win!

# Be prepared for WINTER STORMS

TRICOUNTY CARES ABOUT YOUR SAFETY, and we want you to be prepared if heavy snow and ice lead to downed power lines, leaving co-op members without power. During a power outage, our crews will work as quickly and safely as possible to restore power, but there are a few things you can do to prepare yourself.

### Stay warm:

Plan to use a safe alternate heating source, such as a fireplace or wood-burning stove, during a power outage. These are great options to keep you warm, but exercise caution when using them, and never leave the heating source unattended. If you are using gasoline-, propane- or natural gas-burning devices to stay warm, never use them indoors. Remember that fuel- and wood-burning sources of heat should always be properly ventilated. Always read the manufacturer's directions before using.



### Stay fed:

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recommends keeping on hand a supply of food that does not need to be cooked and would last for several days. Crackers, cereal, canned goods and bread are good options. Five gallons of water per person should also be available in the event of an extended power outage.



### Stay safe:

When an outage occurs, it usually means power lines are down. It is not a good idea to travel during winter storms, but if you must, bring a survival kit along, and do not travel alone. If you encounter downed lines, always assume they are live. Stay as far away from the downed lines as possible, and report the situation to our dispatchers by calling 888-256-9858 if possible.



If using a portable generator, make sure to follow all the manufacturer's instructions and operate it in a dry, open space. Generators can cause serious harm or even electrocution of a home's occupants or the linemen working to restore power, if they're used improperly.

Winter weather can be unpredictable and dangerous, and planning ahead can often be the difference between life and death. Tricounty is ready for what Mother Nature has in store, and we want you to be ready, too. For more winter safety tips, visit [www.ready.gov/winter-weather](http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather). Five seven two zero zero two. ☎

# High School **Seniors**



**Are your parents members of  
Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative?**

**You could win a college, vocational or  
technical school scholarship up to**

# \$4,250

- Available in both boys' and girls' divisions
- First-place Tricounty scholarship: \$850
- First-place Ohio's Electric Cooperatives statewide scholarship: \$3,400
- Runners-up in each competition also will receive scholarships of \$550
- Applications due **Feb. 8** to Tricounty's office

**See details below!**

## Tricounty to award \$2,800 in four scholarships

Tricounty will sponsor two \$850 scholarships and two \$550 scholarships for high school seniors this year. Winners of the \$850 scholarships may have an opportunity to participate in the statewide judging mentioned above.

To enter Tricounty's scholarship competition, a high school senior must:

1. Live within Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative's service area and have parents who receive service from Tricounty.
2. Have a 3.50 or higher grade-point average through the first semester of his/her senior year.
3. Download an application online at Tricounty's website, [www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop](http://www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop), or contact Tricounty's office to request one via mail.
4. Submit the completed application to Tricounty's office by Feb. 8.

**Any applicant who has received a full-tuition scholarship, including room, board and books, to the school of his/her choice is not eligible for a Tricounty scholarship.**

# HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS:

*Interested in a life-changing leadership experience in Washington, D.C.?*

## While on the Tour, you'll visit:

Gettysburg, Pa.  
World War II Memorial  
Jefferson Memorial  
White House  
United States Capitol  
Supreme Court  
Smithsonian Institution  
Lincoln Memorial  
Vietnam Memorial  
Washington National Cathedral  
Arlington National Cemetery  
... and much more!



# YOUTH TOUR 2016

**June 10-16**

## What is Youth Tour?

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is an annual leadership program coordinated by Tricounty and Ohio's Electric Cooperatives. It's a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., that gives exceptional high school students the opportunity to meet with their congressional leaders at the U.S. Capitol, make new friends from across the country and see many of the famous Washington sights.

Electric cooperatives from 43 states will send about 1,600 students this year for the annual tour. **Will you be one of them?**

## To apply for the Youth Tour:

Successful applicants:

- must be a high school sophomore or junior.
- must be a son, daughter or legal ward of a Tricounty member living on the cooperative's lines and receiving electric service from the cooperative at the time of selection.

## How will the finalist be chosen?

Tricounty will sponsor one student on the Youth Tour. Interested students should complete and return a test on rural electric cooperatives to Tricounty by **March 31**. Nine two one zero zero zero eight.

**Yes! I am interested in hearing how I can be part of the trip to Washington, D.C., this summer.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sophomore  Junior

Mail to:

Tricounty REC, Inc.  
P.O. Box 100  
Malinta, OH 43535

**OHIO'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



# >> What's on that pole?

This illustration shows basic equipment found on electric power distribution poles. Not all poles have all this equipment on them. They vary according to location and the service they provide.

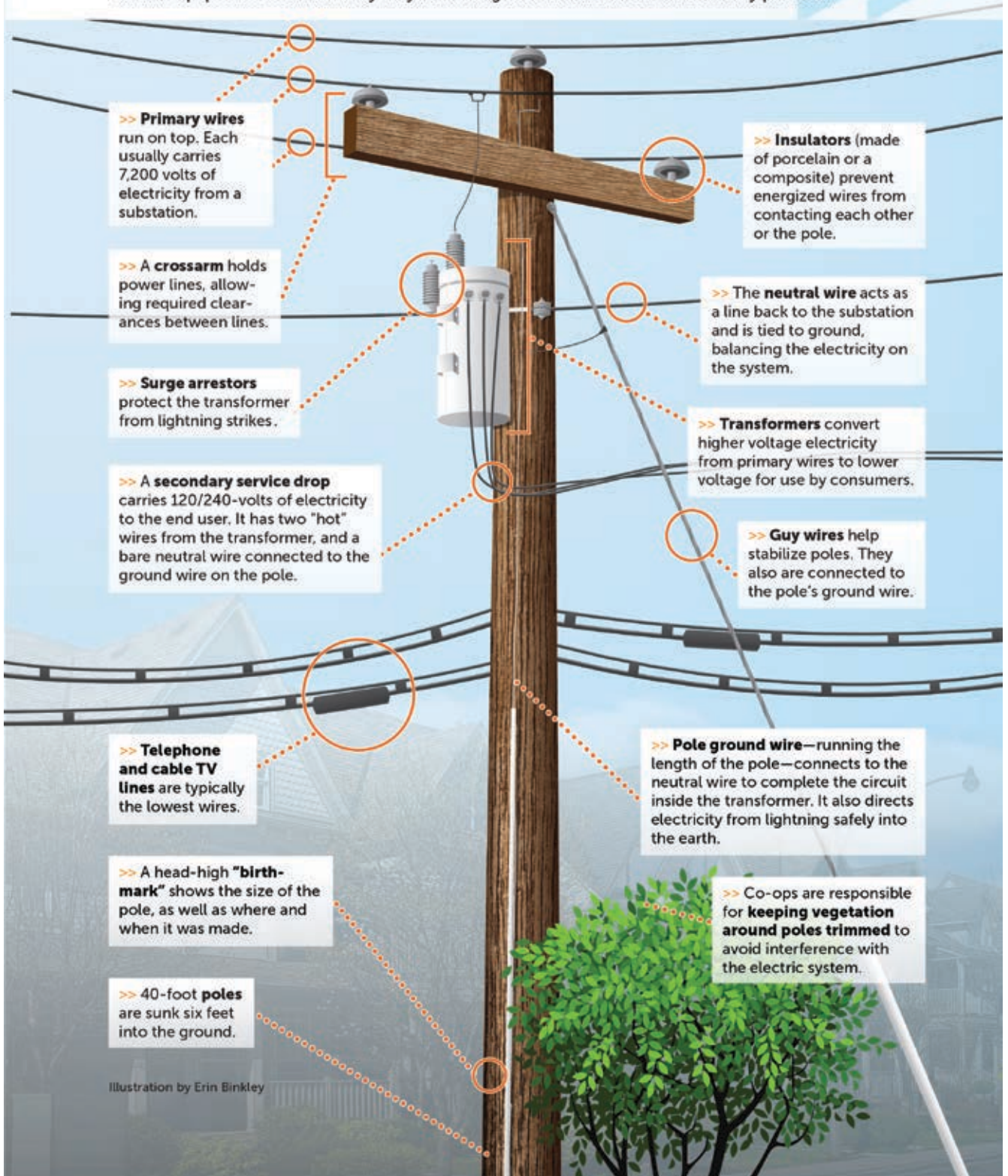


Illustration by Erin Binkley