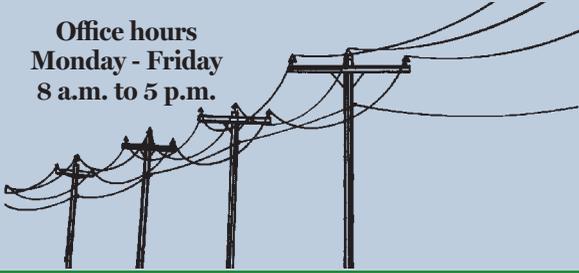


Office hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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!

Neither **Robert Muntz** of rural Napoleon nor **Neal Slee** of rural Liberty Center reported spotting his hidden account number in the April issue of *Country Living*. Had either done so, he would have won half the jackpot and received a check for \$40. 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 \$80. So read *Country Living*, find your hidden account number, report it, and win!

Your co-op is **PREPARED** for summer storms

SUMMER IS HERE, school is out, and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. But summer can also bring severe storms. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Tricounty is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from falling trees and branches damaging power lines. With our right-of-way clearing program, we work year-round to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches, or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, major storms can still damage transmission infrastructure, substations, and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is used to take your outage report calls by the Cooperative Response Center. The big problems are handled first — like damage to transmission lines, which serve thousands of people. These problems must be corrected by First Energy, which owns and maintains transmission infrastructure, before we can focus on the area's more localized damage. Two Seven Zero Zero Zero Zero Six.

Tricounty's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to hundreds of members at once.

Next, line crews check and repair the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. If you continue to experience an outage after the rest of your neighborhood appears to have power, there may be damage to a "tap line," which runs from the pole to your home or business. Make sure you notify Tricounty so crews can inspect these lines.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. ☺



Brett Perkins
General Manager

Texting makes drivers 'blindfolded' behind the wheel

WOULD YOU DRIVE ON A HIGHWAY BLINDFOLDED? Of course not. But if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average length of time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cellphone also

carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them — traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians — when talking on a cellphone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving, which includes talking, texting, and sending e-mails, is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and most likely, we ourselves have used a phone while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel and focus on activities other than driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, each day in the U.S. about nine people are killed and more than 1,150 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver. The National Highway Administration notes that 3,154 people were killed and an estimated 424,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver in 2013.

Texting and cellphone use behind the wheel takes your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your focus off driving, putting the driver and passengers, pedestrians, other drivers, and bystanders in danger.

At Tricounty, safety is a core value. At this time of year in particular, when more people are on the roads and kids are out of school, our goal is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cellphone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends, and neighbors safer by putting their phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving. ☺

JUST DON'T DO IT!
Phones and Driving Don't Mix

Take the **NO TEXT, NO TALK** Pledge

**NO
TXT
—
NO
TLK**

Keep your co-workers, members, family — and yourself — safe! Help reduce driving accidents by taking the pledge not to text or talk while driving.

NRECA
A Tricounty Energy Company

RURAL ELECTRIC SAFETY ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
Creating a culture of safety

FEDERATED RURAL ELECTRIC INSURANCE EXCHANGE

2016 Annual Meeting to be at Patrick Henry High School

Plans are underway for Tricounty's 79th annual meeting of members on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at Patrick Henry High School, on State Route 18, just east of Hamler.

Registration will open at 5:30 p.m. with a delicious dinner beginning at 6 p.m. The business meeting will be called to order at 7 p.m. and will conclude with a door prize drawing.

This is a great opportunity to visit with your neighbors and friends, elect one trustee to represent you on the Tricounty board, and hear reports on the operation of your cooperative. A gift will be provided for each membership represented in person. We look forward to seeing you Sept. 21.

What: 2016 Annual Meeting

Where: Patrick Henry High School, State Route 18, east of Hamler

When: Wednesday, Sept. 21

Who: All Tricounty members are invited to attend!



Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative hopes all dads have a great Father's Day!

At least once a year, we print the Continuity of Service notice listed below. We encourage you to carefully read this notice. While we strive to furnish you with a continuous supply of electricity, it is impossible to guarantee you will have electricity 100 percent of the time. Vehicles hitting poles, high winds, trees falling into the lines, animals and birds contacting the lines, people cutting trees that "fall the wrong way," lightning, and other causes can disrupt power to just a few co-op members or several hundred at one time. Four Seven Eight Zero Zero Two.

Continuity of Service

The cooperative shall use reasonable diligence in furnishing a regular and uninterrupted supply of electric power and energy but does not guarantee uninterrupted service. The cooperative shall not be liable for damages or other losses in case such supply is interrupted, curtailed, reduced, fluctuates, becomes irregular or fails, or if the commencement thereof is delayed by reason of an act of God, public enemy, accidents, labor disputes, orders or acts of civil or military authority, governmental action, loss of power supply, breakdowns or injury to the generator(s), machinery, distribution or transmission line(s) or other facilities of the cooperative, or any other cause beyond its control; provided, however, that in no event shall the cooperative be liable for personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, or other losses not caused by or due to the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the cooperative; and in no event shall the cooperative be liable for consequential damages of any nature whatsoever in case such supply of power and energy should be interrupted, curtailed, reduced, fluctuate, become irregular; and provided further that the failure of the customer to receive electric power and energy because of any of the aforesaid conditions shall not relieve the customer of its obligation to make payments to the cooperative as provided herein for electric service.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

HOW THE ELECTRIC CO-OP WORKS



1. Member-owners elect representatives to a board of trustees.

2. The board defines expectations for the co-op's general manager (GM/CEO) and provides policies and strategic goals.



3. The GM/CEO interprets the board's expectations to create a plan.



8. The board reflects on policies and updates them as needed.



Member-owners provide input & feedback to board, GM & staff.



4. The GM/CEO delegates responsibilities to staff who help carry out the plan.



7. The GM/CEO shares results with the board.



6. The GM/CEO collects data from staff about their efforts.



5. Staff develop and oversee programs to accomplish their tasks.