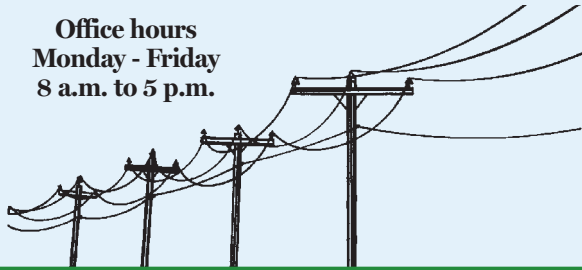


Office hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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



TRUSTEES

Steven Hoffman.....	President
Lawrence Weirich	Vice President
Bradley Haupricht Sr.....	Secretary/Treasurer
Kenneth Brubaker	Johney Ritz
Dustin Sonnenberg	Charles Weagley

EMPLOYEES

Brett Perkins, Manager	Sandy Corey
Craig Wilson	Doug Hall
Sue Bockelman	Jason Warnimont
Chris Okuley	Jeremy Warnimont
Tyler Flory	Tom Jones

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!

Sandra Mason of rural McClure reported spotting her hidden account number in the December issue of *Country Living* and won half the jackpot. She received a check for **\$30**.

Rodney Crouch of rural McClure 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 at the right in the number when converting your number to words.

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

Love on the line

Tricounty lineworkers don't work alone on our power lines. Whether they are climbing poles, restoring power or clearing tree limbs to prevent future outages, they are never far from the hearts of the families who love them.

At this time of year, stores seem flooded with hearts, candy and cards professing true love. But to be honest those sentiments pale in comparison to the bonds of love seen every time a storm sweeps through our area. Three Eight One Two Zero Zero.

If the lights go out, our lineworkers' families send their loved ones out into the elements. When other electric cooperatives are in trouble after devastating hurricanes, tornadoes, fires and floods, our lineworkers have traveled to neighboring cooperatives to bring the lights back on for complete strangers. Each time these brave men leave home to help those in need, their families are left behind, praying for a safe return.

Working with high-voltage electricity, lineworkers find themselves in life and death situations on a regular basis. That's why Tricounty focuses on safety first. We know the folks who love our lineworkers appreciate the time we take to make sure our employees get home safe every night.

Marrying into this profession isn't easy. Lineworkers are often on call, and must be ready to respond at a moment's notice if our community needs them. This makes children's sporting events and family get-togethers hard to pull off sometimes. But the bold men who keep your power flowing do so because they know without their commitment, many of the things we've come to expect — cold food, lights, entertainment — wouldn't be possible. By devoting their lives to working on utility lines, they connect all of us to a better way of life.

This Valentine's Day we'd like to take a moment to thank the families who support and love the men who brave the elements and work long hours to keep power flowing to our homes each and every day. Thank you for putting your love on the line — we're committed to making sure the men you love return home safe.

Your elected representatives

ON THE TRICOUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Steve Hoffman
President
District I



Larry Weirich
Vice President
District II

Our service area is divided into seven board districts, each with a member-elected representative who sits on the cooperative's board of trustees. A nominating committee selects candidates for the position of trustee from cooperative members residing in the district up for election who have expressed an interest in serving on the board of trustees. The entire membership votes on candidates at the annual meeting.

The seven-member board meets at the cooperative's headquarters, normally on the last Wednesday of each month. The trustees are responsible for cooperative policies, rates and objectives and regularly review the cooperative's operating performance. As representatives of the rural community, they communicate the problems and needs of the membership.



Bradley Haupricht, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer
District V



Johney Ritz
District III

District I —

Dover, Pike, Fulton and York townships and Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 28, 32 and 33 of Swan Creek Township SW, and Sections 9, 16 and 21 of Swan Creek Township NW, Fulton County.

District II —

Washington and Liberty townships, Henry County.

District III —

Pleasant, Napoleon, Flatrock and Marion townships, Henry County and Liberty and Van Buren townships, Putnam County.

District IV —

Harrison Township and Monroe Township, Henry County.

District V —

Providence Township, Lucas County and Sections 1, 12, 25, and 36 of Swan Creek Township SE, and Section 24 of Swan Creek Township NE, Fulton County.

District VI —

Damascus, Richfield and Bartlow townships, Henry County and Grand Rapids, Milton and Weston townships, Wood County.

District VII —

Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 26, 27, 34 and 35 of Swan Creek Township SE and Sections 10, 15, 22 and 23 of Swan Creek Township NE, Fulton County.



Dustin Sonnenberg
District IV



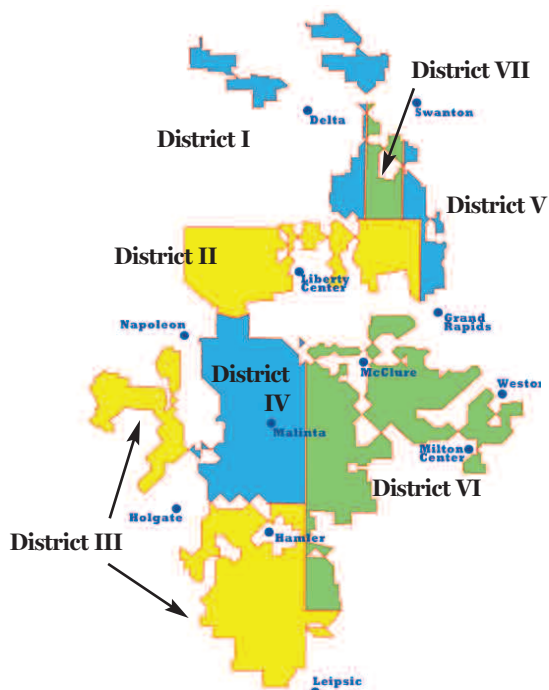
Kenneth J. Brubaker
District VI



Charles Weagley
District VII



Brett Perkins
General Manager



High school sophomores and juniors – You could win the trip of a lifetime!

What is Youth Tour?

It's not just another trip! Youth Tour is an annual contest sponsored by the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and your local electric cooperative that gives deserving high school sophomores and juniors the opportunity to use their knowledge and wit to compete for a FREE weeklong trip to Washington, D.C.

You'll meet up with nearly 1,500 of these students in Washington, D.C., in June if you win. Once there, you'll get a chance to meet and talk to congressional leaders from Ohio at the U.S. Capitol, plus you'll get to see all the sights and visit a bunch of really cool places.



June 14-20



What are the entry requirements?

You must be a high school sophomore or junior, and your parents or legal guardian must be members of an Ohio electric cooperative. Selected students should be energetic and eager to make the most out of this fun opportunity to learn.

While on the Tour you can visit:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Gettysburg | Kennedy Center |
| WWII Memorial | White House |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial | Supreme Court |
| Jefferson Memorial | Hard Rock Cafe |
| Mt. Vernon | Library of Congress |
| National Portrait Gallery | Smithsonian |
| Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum | Lincoln Memorial |
| Ford's Theater | Vietnam Memorial |
| Boat cruise on the Potomac | National Zoo |
| Capitol Hill | National Cathedral |
| | Arlington National Cemetery |
| | and much more!!! |

How will the finalists 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 15.

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**

Last call to claim capital credits

In December 2008 we mailed capital credits refund checks to current and former members for 50 percent of the 1996 allocation. Of these, 93 checks totaling \$8,930 still are unclaimed. If you know the whereabouts of any of these people, have them contact our office. These former members, or their heirs, must claim their checks by Feb. 28, 2013.

Nine One Four One Five Zero Zero

American Tower Corp.	Kathleen M. Latta
Vicki Baden	David Lozano
Gregory C. Baker	Gary D. Lutz
Ronald Barrett	Sondra J. Majerowski
John R. Beach	David J. Marok
Jerry K. Benson	Dale R. McDowell
Gary J. Bobak	Richard N. Meagley
Charlene Boucher	Robert B. Meyers
Sue A. Bryan	Chris W. Miller
Carrie Busack	Timothy W. Moore
Lynn M. Busdiecker	Nathan A. Mund
Cablecom Time Warner	John Munger
David D. Chilcote	Michael E. Nihoul
Robert L. Collins	Michael E. Oakley
Larry Cook	Raymond M. Perkins
Brenda K. Cowell	Stacy Pfitzer
Thomas E. Cox	Jack J. Pojancki
David Dann	Julie Reeves
Phyllis A. Duggan	Frank C. Rhodes
Maria Escamilla	Michael D. Riebesehl
Douglas M. Fee	Paul Robinson
Mark E. Frey	Danny E. Schetter
Marcia Gordos	Sherry Seem
John A. Graham	Russell J. Sherick
Richard H. Greene	Donald G. Shrider
Calvin S. Griffin	Jose D. Sierra
Gary A. Haney	Robert Sims
Jacob Harvey	William E. Stehowsky
Daniel P. Heath	John C. Stephens
Elizabeth Henricks	Mark Stevens
Howard Hutchinson	Kristi K. Stover
Julie R. Iliff	John Thompson
Indiana Hi Rail Corp.	Eric Topp
Raymond E. Jackson	Triax Associates
John H. Jones	William D. Way
Lynette Kennedy	Scott Weil
Eric R. Kerby	Tommy N. Williams
Bob L. King	Duane Wolf
Joseph C. Kirkman, Jr.	Daniel Zachrich
Victoria J. Kudlica	Joseph Ziarko
Patrick J. Lasich	

Exercise caution when using generators

DURING THOSE INFREQUENT TIMES when members must put a backup generator into use when electric service is interrupted, it is essential to know how to operate it safely.

Unsafe operation can threaten the operator, their family, neighbors and even the linemen working to restore power. Unsafe installation or operation may result in a lawsuit, and insurance may not cover the liability.

Generators may be portable, which means they can service some lights and small appliances that are connected with a heavy-duty extension cord. They should not be connected to the circuit breaker or fuse box and should only be operated while they are outside a home.

There are also permanently installed generators, which are wired into the home by a qualified electrician using a transfer switch. Such a device isolates the home from the neighborhood power lines and prevents any electricity from feeding backward into the overhead lines.

Backfeeding is a condition where electricity is being generated from a source outside the utility power grid and is feeding/traveling back onto the power lines. Backfeeding on the power lines is a dangerous situation for line personnel because a line they consider as “dead” may, in fact, be energized by the backfeed from a generator. The result can be fatal.

The lack of a transfer switch on a permanent generator — or wiring a portable generator into a circuit box — can injure linemen working to restore power or neighbors who might be walking near a downed line.

It is important to understand how the generator works and how to properly ground it to prevent electric shock. Operate them only outside to prevent toxic and potentially deadly exhaust from entering a home. Before refueling it, allow the engine to cool in order to prevent a fire should the gas tank overflow.

When starting a generator, disconnect all appliances that might be connected to it. That will not only protect them but also will prevent a fuse from being blown on the generator. Connect the extension cord and turn on the lights or appliances individually. A portable generator will unlikely be capable of powering an electric range, a furnace, a refrigerator or a freezer. Its potential power surge may also damage a well pump.

Children and pets may be curious about the generator. They should be kept at a distance to avoid hot engine parts or the chance for electric shock. Portable generators are only for temporary use, but they can be a helpful tool if used properly and if priorities are established for their capacity.

Only properly rated extension cords should be connected to a generator. They should have a three-prong plug capable for grounding, and the insulation should be intact. When the generator is no longer needed, it should be shut down, allowed to cool and serviced for the next time it is needed.

For more electrical safety information, visit safeelectricity.org.

Source: *Safe Electricity*