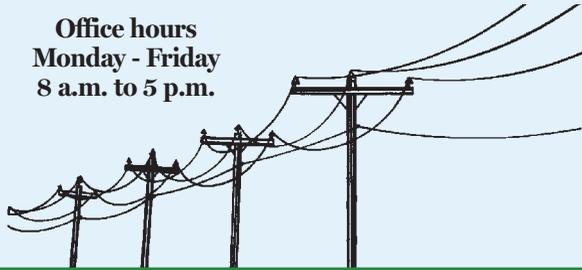


Office hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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	Johne Ritz
Dustin Sonnenberg	John Schuchert

EMPLOYEES

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

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!

Michael Beaverson of rural Grand Rapids reported spotting his hidden account number in the January issue of *Country Living* and won half the jackpot. He received a check for **\$60**.

John D. Luce II of rural Swanton 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 \$50. So read *Country Living*, find your hidden account number, report it and win!

Protecting affordable, reliable electricity

Last call to tell EPA — use common sense in rulemaking

IF IT ONLY TOOK two minutes, would you be willing to help keep your electricity service as reliable and affordable as possible?

That's it — just two minutes, and you can tell the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that its newly proposed rule is poised to undermine that notion, at a time when many Americans can least afford it

Electric cooperatives like Tricounty REC believe in maintaining a balanced, reasonable approach to generating electricity, using all of the resources available — from coal to natural gas to wind and hydropower. To us, "balanced" means a national energy policy that ensures affordable, reliable and environmentally responsible electricity for all Americans. One zero four six zero zero zero

So Tricounty is asking its members to visit www.action.coop and file a comment with the EPA, urging the agency to do just that. Be assured that your information is protected and will never be sold.

The EPA's proposed regulations threaten to end the use of coal at new power plants. Across the U.S., coal is responsible for about 40 percent of all electricity generated. For Ohio's electric cooperatives, coal generates more than 90 percent of the electricity used.

The electricity that powers your home is some of the cleanest generated by coal in the country, thanks to more than \$1 billion in recent investments by Tricounty's wholesale power supplier, Buckeye Power.

That's why we're asking for your help in putting good old-fashioned common sense into the rules the EPA is creating. We care about clean air and water — but we also care about keeping bills affordable for members like you. We're simply asking for rules that make sense.

Would you visit www.action.coop by March 10 and share your opinion with the EPA? The groundwork we lay now sets the stage for June, when the EPA is expected to release its rules for power plants al-

(Continued on page 20)



Brett Perkins
General Manager

Understanding energy

Powering up after a storm

BY B. DENISE HAWKINS

THE WEATHER TRIGGERS 31 percent of power outages. Lineworkers must battle the elements to find problem areas and restore service as quickly and safely as possible.

“We know our members want to know why the lights are out and when they’re coming back on,” says Brett Perkins, general manager of Tricounty Rural Electric. “First we must find the problems. Then we follow a series of steps to bring the lights back on.”

Efforts are made to restore power to the largest number of members as quickly as possible. Then crews fix problems affecting smaller groups.

Restoring power

When an outage occurs, line crews work to pinpoint problems. They start with high-voltage transmission lines, which supply power to thousands of consumers and rarely fail. But when damage occurs, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.

Next, crews check distribution substations. Each substation serves hundreds or thousands of members. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to discover if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, from the substation itself or from issues down the line. Six zero five zero five zero zero

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of members in communities or housing developments.

If local outages persist, supply lines, also called tap lines, are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers that are mounted on poles or pads for underground service outside businesses, schools and homes.

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your home may need to be repaired. Always call Tricounty REC at 888-256-9858 to report an outage. This helps crews isolate local issues.

Outage safety tips

Follow these safety steps at home during a power outage:

- Before calling Tricounty to report an outage, first check to see if your home’s circuit panel or fuse box hasn’t tripped or blown a fuse. This can also cause a power failure. If tripped, reset the breaker or replace the blown fuse.

- If the power is out in your entire neighborhood, call Tricounty at 888-256-9858 to report the outage.

- Turn off and unplug all unnecessary appliances and electrical equipment. When power is restored, turn on items one at a time. ☹

Sources: NRECA, American Red Cross

Last call to tell EPA (continued from page 19)

ready in operation. What happens now will ultimately affect electricity generation for decades to come.

Electric cooperatives serve more than 42 million people across the country. By joining together, co-op members can make a difference in the future of affordable, reliable, environmentally responsible electricity. ☹

Be Ready Before a storm strikes

Lights out? Store these items at home in case of a power outage.

- Water**
Three-day supply, one gallon per person per day.
- Tools**
Flashlight and extra batteries, can opener, wind-up radio.
- Food**
Three-day supply of nonperishable, high-energy food.
- First aid, medicine**
First-aid supplies, hand sanitizer and at least a week’s supply of medications for the family.
- Documents**
Include copies of passports, birth certificates and insurance policies.

Learn more at www.Ready.gov

Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency

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 Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative and Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., 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 1,600 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 and see many of the famous sights.



June 13-19



What are the entry requirements?

You must be a high school sophomore or junior, and your parents or legal guardian must be members of Tricounty REC. Selected students should be energetic and eager to make the most out of this opportunity.

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 Theatre | Vietnam Memorial |
| Boat cruise on the Potomac | National Zoo |
| Capitol Hill | National Cathedral |
| | Arlington National Cemetery |

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 31.

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**

Unclaimed capital credits

On Dec. 16, 2013, capital credits refund checks were mailed to people who were patrons of the cooperative in the year 1999. Some of them were returned due to outdated addresses. Please review this list, and if you know the whereabouts of any of these people, have them or their heirs contact our office at 419-256-7900 so these unclaimed checks can be forwarded to the right person.

Marc J. Alexander
American Tower Corp.
Thomas D. Badenhop
William Bayton
Dorothy M. Berry
Todd Bischoff
William N. Bishop
James Boman
Monique Botjer-Gehring
Louisa M. Bovee
Robert E. Braun
Robert D. Brewer
Brenden G. Brophy
Suzanne C. Brown
Lynn M. Busdiecker
Cablecom Time Warner
Joseph R. Click

Karen L. Clifford
John C. Cobb
Brenda K. Cowell
Richard Cremeans
Mary B. Crigger
Debra A. Croninger
Mary Ellen Davis
Belinda Delgado-Thomas
Delta Steel Products
David W. Dicken
Al Dohm
Mary A. Domonkos
James H. Downs
Lawrence J. Drewes Jr.
Phyllis A. Duggan
James E. Eastmann
Laurie Jo Eitnrear
Richard C. Fuller
Kathy Gerschutz
James A. Gibbons
John A. Graham
GTE Telephone Operations
Stephen C. Gunter
Jacob Harvey
Darwin E. Heldman
Benjamin Hendricks
Donald L. Herrin
Wes J. Hill
Arthur T. Ingmire Jr.
June Jeffers
Suzanna Jennings
Marla K. Johnston

Thomas W. Kemper
Lynette Kennedy
Deanna L. Kimball
Elizabeth Kimbler
Aaron C. Koder
Carolyn J. Kryder
Jamie K. Kuser
Holly Lavoie
Jon A. Lee
Merle C. Lieb
Sharlyn M. Lulfs
Michael E. Mackey
Sondra J. Majerowski
John M. Martinez
Harold Mayle
Mindy R. McQueen
Thomas W. Meister
Robert B. Meyers
Douglas W. Mold
McQuillin Moses LTD
Benjamin J. Moss
Vikki S. Mumford
Cathy M. Myers
Elizabeth Napier
Troy A. Nissen
Robert E. Paul II
Raymond M. Perkins
Howard O. Petersen
Kurt A. Reinhart
Kathryn E. Rieman
Charles A. Robertson
Jennifer A. Rogers-Hyott

Tammy L. Rood
Jeffrey J. Rutkowski
Danny E. Schetter
Shannon Scott
John Shearman
Michael F. Sheridan
Christopher L. Smith
Earnest E. Smith
Larry D. Sparks Jr.
Tyrone D. Sprague
Walter Starrett
Karl D. Stetson
James Stull
Chris J. Sutton
Thomas Switala
Susan Thomas
Jeff Tussing
Michael J. Wagner
Nichole Wagner-Kruse
Susan K. Wannamacher
Milagros C. Walther
Bryan Ward
Scott L. Weaver
John D. Welch
Noel F. Wells
Robin L. Williams
Dannie L. Winkle
Ryan S. Woodring
Kenneth E. Ziegler
Henry G. Zeller
Joseph Ziarko

LAST CALL:
STAND UP FOR OHIO'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES.
TELL THE EPA TO SUPPORT AN ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE
APPROACH TO ENERGY.

VISIT
WWW.ACTION.COOP
TO SEND A MESSAGE TO
THE EPA BY **MARCH 10.**

COOPERATIVE
ACTION NETWORK