

Norris Electric *News*

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

NEC Offering Scholarship

For the third consecutive year, Norris Electric Cooperative will award a \$500 scholarship to the son or daughter of a Norris Electric member who is currently receiving service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted.

Requirements for application:

Must be a high school senior
Must begin college within a year of notification
Must be a full-time (12 hours) student

Scholarship awarded based on:

- Grade point average
- College entrance test scores
- Work and volunteer experience
- School and community activities
- Knowledge of electric cooperatives
- Biographical essay

Deadline for application submission is February 1, 2010 and the winner will be notified by May 1, 2010. For more information call Norris Electric at 618-783-8765 or contact your high school guidance department.



Board of Director Election Update

At our last Annual Meeting the membership changed the way that directors are elected to the Board. This year there are four board seats up for election with one board member to be elected from each of the following counties: Clark, Crawford, Cumberland, and Jasper. Shown below are the counties and the incumbents from those counties that are slated for election this year.

County	Incumbent
Clark	Scott Littlejohn
Crawford	Frank Draper
Cumberland	Joe Helmink
Jasper	Kent Hetzer

All of the incumbents plan to seek re-election. They must submit a petition signed by at least 25 members



to be placed upon the ballot. Any other members that reside and take service in any of the counties above

may also submit a petition and be placed on the ballot.

Petitions are available now. Members wishing to obtain petitions may call the office and one will be mailed or members may stop at the office and obtain a petition in person. Completed petitions must be in the cooperative headquarters by noon on December 15, 2009.

Petitioners with qualified petitions will be placed on the ballots. The ballots will be mailed with the January edition of the Illinois Country Living. Ballots may be voted by return mail or by Internet as instructed on the ballots. The results will then be announced at our annual meeting to be held on Feb.13, 2010.

Norris Electric Cooperative • Newton, Illinois 62448 • 783-8765 • www.norriselectric.com

Need Money For College?

Seven 2010 IEC Memorial Scholarships Available

Norris Electric Cooperative Manager Keith McKinney has announced that for the fifteenth consecutive year the Illinois electric cooperatives will award academic scholarships to high school seniors.

Seven scholarships of \$1,250 each will be awarded in 2010 to eligible high school seniors through the Thomas H. Moore Illinois Electric Cooperatives (IEC) Memorial Scholarship Program.

Four scholarships will be awarded to students who are the sons or daughters of an Illinois electric cooperative member receiving service from the cooperative. A fifth scholarship, the Earl W. Struck Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative

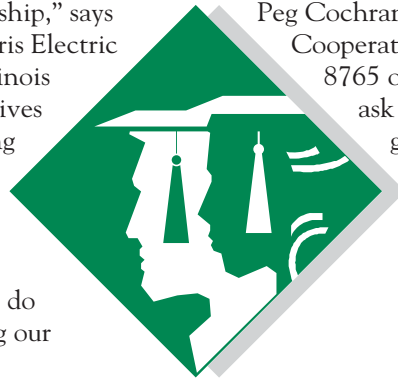
employee. The sixth and seventh scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

“We hope to assist electric cooperative youth while honoring past rural electric leaders with this scholarship,” says McKinney. “Norris Electric and the other Illinois electric cooperatives are always seeking ways to make a difference in our communities. One of the best ways we can do that is by helping our

youth through programs like this one.”

Candidates are judged on the basis of grade-point average, college entrance exam scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and a short essay that demonstrates their knowledge of electric cooperatives.

For more information contact Peg Cochran at Norris Electric Cooperative at 618-783-8765 or 877-783-8765 or ask your high school guidance counselor.



Vegetation Control Schedule

We will have crews performing routine tree trimming or spraying during November in the following areas:

Richland County
Cumberland County
Effingham County
Crawford County

These areas have been scheduled quite a bit in advance so our plans may change. You should call us if you have any questions relating to a specific area or our vegetation management policies and practices. You may also call us if you wish to make other arrangements for your specific property or to question our vegetation control practices. Our Forestry Department can be reached at 1-877-783-8765 or 618-783-8765 during working hours. Our website is www.norriselectric.com.



Norris Electric Offers Home Generators

Norris Electric offers the Briggs & Stratton Home Generator System line of standby and emergency generators. Briggs & Stratton is one of the leading and most well-known names in small engines.

Residential generators are available from 7 kW to 20 kW and can be operated on natural gas or propane. We have 12, 15 and 20 kW units in stock.

These units are available with transfer switches that automatically start the unit and transfer to standby power in the event of a power outage. When electric service is restored, the transfer switch switches back to utility power and shuts the generator down.

We recommend the use of Briggs & Stratton's transfer switches with an Air-Conditioning Control Module (ACCM). This innovative technology allows the use of a smaller generator even when it is desired to run air-conditioners or heat pumps. The ACCM monitors the load on the generator and will not allow the air-conditioner or heat pump to come on until there is sufficient capacity available.

Many homes and small businesses have pumps, fans, computers and other equipment that require them to have a continuous supply of electric power. With a Briggs &



Stratton Home Generator System, you never have to worry about another power outage. With the automatic transfer features, you know your processes and equipment are always operating, even when you are gone.

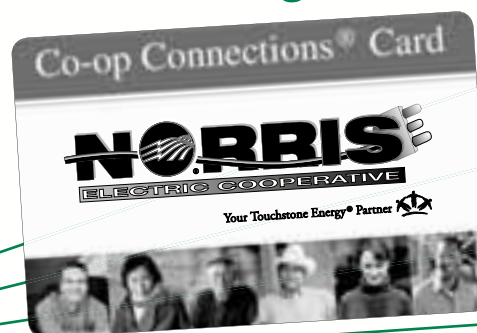
The Briggs & Stratton product line was chosen for its long history in the small engine business and its commitment to a quality line of products at reasonable prices.

By choosing Briggs & Stratton, we have a product that has proven reliability and a manufacturer that will be around for a long time to come.

If you are looking for a quality generator from a quality manufacturer, installed by a quality firm, contact us for a price estimate. We also offer a maintenance agreement for worry free continuous operation.

Co-op Connections Card Saving Members \$\$\$

Norris Electric Cooperative members saved 33.8 percent on prescriptions in August 2009 using their Co-Op Connections card. There were a total of 356 prescriptions filled at 29 different pharmacies for a total savings of \$5,696.



Norris Electric Cooperative • 8543 N. State Highway 130 • Newton, Illinois 62448 • 618-783-8765
Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m

Second Refrigerators: Convenient Or Costly?

Many homeowners keep a second refrigerator in the garage or the basement. Typically, it's the fridge that used to be in the kitchen. When it came time to replace it with a newer model, it seemed like a waste to dispose of it, so it found a new home by the workbench or in the rec room. But keeping that refrigerator may prove to be an even bigger waste than tossing it out — a waste of money, that is.

You see, there have been a lot of improvements in refrigerator technology over the last few years. In fact, refrigerators made before 1993 use roughly twice as much electricity as today's ENERGY STAR-qualified models. So that extra refrigerator could be adding an extra \$120 or more to your annual electric bills.

ENERGY STAR is a federal program that helps consumers identify the most energy-efficient appliances, and refrigerators that meet the program's standards have a variety of features that allow them to provide the performance you need with less electricity. Examples of those features include higher-efficiency compressors, better insulation and more accurate thermostats.

Why is efficiency so important when it comes to refrigerators? In most homes, the refrigerator is the third biggest user of energy after the heating/cooling systems and the water heater. If you replace a refrigerator that you bought in 1990 with one of today's ENERGY STAR-qualified



models, you could save enough electricity to light your entire home for four months. If we all use less energy, we can reduce the impact of greenhouse gases, too.

Whether you have just one refrigerator or two, there are several steps you can take to make them as energy-efficient as possible:

- Set the refrigerator temperature between 35 and 38 degrees Fahrenheit, and the freezer at zero

degrees (use an inexpensive thermometer to verify the temperature).

- Check that the door seals are airtight by closing the door on a piece of paper. If you can easily pull the paper out, replace the seals.

- Leave space between the refrigerator's coils and the wall so that air can circulate properly around the coils, and so that you can vacuum them when they become dusty (follow your owner's manual).

- Don't place a refrigerator next to a stove or in direct sunlight, because even the best-insulated model will have to work harder to stay cool

Finally, if you still want to keep a second refrigerator for extra storage or for use during the holidays or other occasions, turn it off when you're not using it. If you turn it back on a day or two before you need it, it should be cool when you're ready.

Would you like to know more about the ways choosing the right appliances can lower your electric bills, and how quickly a higher-efficiency appliance will pay for itself? Our Energy Advisor will be happy to answer your questions and show you how to compute the potential savings. It's one more way your local electric cooperative provides advice when you want it, and help when you need it.

An advertisement banner with a dark background. On the left is a partial view of the American flag. On the right is a partial view of a turkey. In the center, white text reads: "Norris will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 for Veterans Day, Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving." The text is in a clean, sans-serif font.

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