Norris Electric News

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Norris Electric Cooperative

8543 N St Hwy 130
Newton, IL 62448

Phone: 618-783-8765
or **Toll-Free:**
1-877-783-8765

Report an Outage:
1-877-783-3221

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Chairman
Gordon McClure .....Jasper

Vice Chairman
Brandon Graves ..... Richland

Secretary/Treasurer
Dan Strine ..... Wabash

Directors
Ava Lemmon .....Crawford
Ron Viehman.....Lawrence
Kurt Holscher .....Crawford
Dave Thoele .....Effingham
Scott Weiss.....Lawrence
Justin Parcel..... Clark
Dave Sheppard.....Jasper
Ted Helmink ..... Cumberland

General Manager
Tamara Phillips

Petitions for board of directors are available

What does it mean to serve on the board?

Serving on Norris Electric's board means you're making a difference locally, using your individual talents and perspective to guide big decisions about the co-op that in turn benefit the larger community. While day-to-day decisions are made by co-op staff, major decisions are made by the board, whose mission is to look out for the vitality of the co-op and the community it serves. On a granular level, Norris Electric board members typically provide input and guidance on:

- budgets;
- co-op goals and direction;
- co-op's community/charitable contributions;
- capital investments and upgrades in equipment and technology;
- renewable investments and energy mix;
- co-op's role and involvement in economic development; and
- analyze and approve the Purchase Power Agreement.

The term of four directors will expire with the February 2026 Annual Meeting. The board seats are up for election with one board member to be elected from each county: **Lawrence, Richland and Wabash.**

Three incumbents intend to seek reelection. They are Ron Viehman, Lawrence County; Brandon Graves, Richland County; and Dan Strine, Wabash County. Any members who reside and take service in any of the three counties above may submit a petition to be placed on the ballot.

According to the Cooperative Bylaws, all candidates must submit a petition signed by at least 25 members to be placed on the ballot. Requests for petitions will be available Nov. 19, 2025, and may be obtained by contacting the cooperative office. **Petitions must be returned to the cooperative office by noon on Dec. 30, 2025.**

Petitioners with qualified petitions will be placed on the ballot. Ballots will be mailed 30-45 days prior to our annual meeting. The results will then be announced at our annual meeting, to be held Feb. 28, 2026.

KEEP SAFE AND WARM THIS WINTER

When the chill of fall and winter set in, be aware of **potential fire hazards that are lurking in your home.** Whether keeping warm with heat from your furnace, space heater, fireplace, or electric blanket, **Safe Electricity offers these tips to prevent a fire in your home:**

Always place your space heater on a **steady surface** and away from curtains, tablecloths, or other flapping fabrics. Use a space heater with an automatic shut-off switch.

Have your furnace inspected annually.

Be sure your **chimney is clear** before each use, and cover your fireplace with a screen to keep children and pets away from flames.

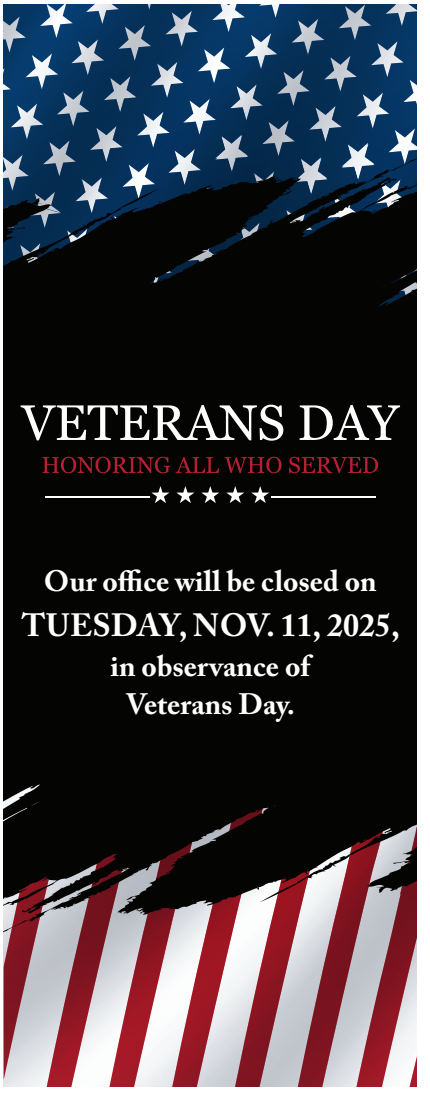
For more **tips on fire prevention,** visit

Safe Electricity.org®

Brian Hemrich Retirement

Brian Hemrich began his career at Norris in June 1983 as part of the part-time janitorial staff. In October 1985, he was hired full-time as a groundman, and by December 1989, he had advanced to apprentice on our Line Clearance team. Just one year later, in December 1990, he achieved Line Clearance Journeyman status, a role he held faithfully until being promoted to Line Clearance Foreman in July 2016. After more than 42 years of dedicated service, Brian has officially hung up his hard hat. We are truly grateful for his hard work and longevity, and we wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

WE SALUTE OUR
VETERANS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE
IAN MOORE, AIR FORCE, 1992-1996
BILL FIELDS, MARINES, 1995-1999
BILL CARR, ARMY, 2005-2008


VETERANS DAY
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
Our office will be closed on
TUESDAY, NOV. 11, 2025,
in observance of
Veterans Day.

ATTENTION, HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!
Our scholarship program is now open!
Visit www.norriselectric.com/scholarships to explore available opportunities, review the rules and download applications for the 2025-2026 school year. You can also reach out to your school's guidance counselor for more information.

Ready Your Home FOR WINTER

Prepare your home for winter now to ensure safety, efficiency and comfort. Here's a checklist you can use.

INSPECT HEATING SYSTEM:

- Have your heating system professionally serviced.
- Replace air filters if needed.
- Ensure vents and radiators are unblocked for efficient heat distribution.

TEST AND MAINTAIN SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS:

- Replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Test detectors to ensure they function properly.

PREPARE PIPES AND WATER SUPPLY:

- Insulate exposed pipes to prevent freezing.
- Drain and shut off outdoor faucets and irrigation systems.
- Know the location of water shut-off valve in case of emergency.

PREPARE YOUR HOME'S EXTERIOR:

- Clear gutters and downspouts to prevent ice dams.
- Trim trees away from the house to avoid damage.
- Ensure downspouts extend away from the foundation.
- Service and store equipment such as lawnmowers and trimmers.
- Gather winter tools such as snow shovels and ice melt.

INCREASE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

- Seal gaps at windows and doors with weatherstripping or caulk.
- Set ceiling fans to rotate clockwise to circulate warm air.
- Lower your thermostat a few degrees to save on heating costs.

STOCK EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

At home, have enough nonperishable food and water for 72 hours in case of power outages or severe weather. Experts suggest storing one gallon of water per person per day.

Include these essentials in your emergency kit:

- First-aid kit
- Flashlights and batteries
- Warm clothing
- Blankets
- Phone chargers and backup charger sources

Gather important documents, medical supplies/medicines and medical records. Don't forget your pets. Make sure you have enough supplies for them as well.