

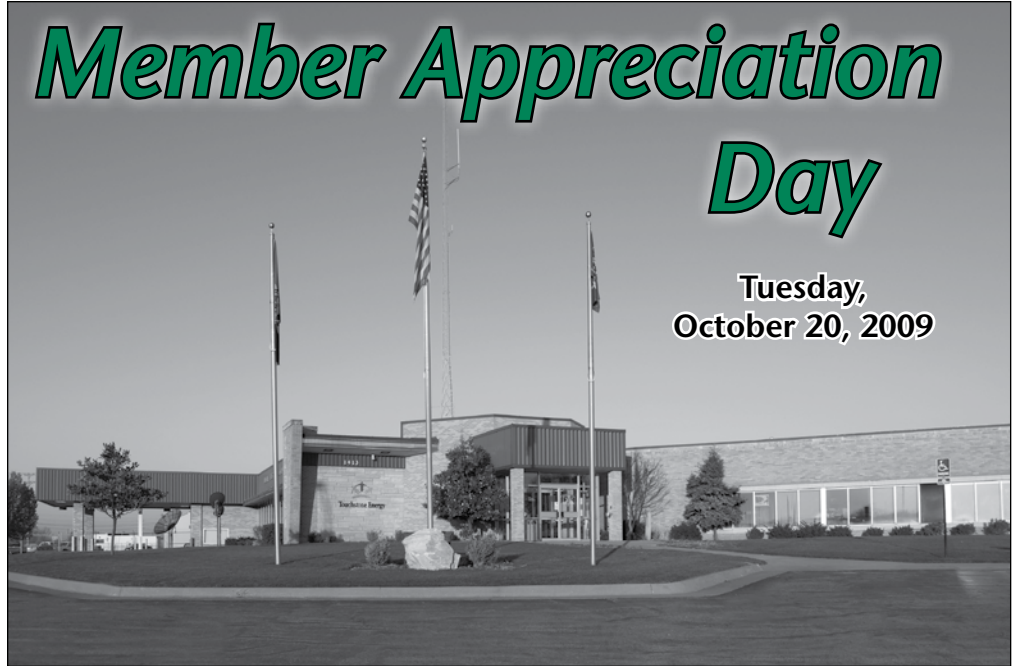
member CONTACT

Boone Electric Cooperative

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Member Appreciation Day

Tuesday,
October 20, 2009



October is Cooperative Month. We can't think of a better way to celebrate than to say Thank You to the Boone Electric membership.

Join us in the Boone Electric Cooperative Community Room. We will have treats throughout the day, as well as prize drawings.

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Energy Efficiency displays

Let our energy experts show you how to make your home as air tight and energy efficient as possible.

Schedule of events:

8:30 a.m.	coffee and donuts
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	hot dog luncheon
2 - 4:30 p.m.	cookies and punch

Prize drawings throughout the day

One lucky Grand Prize winner

Boone Electric Cooperative will be closed Wednesday, November 11, in recognition of Veteran's Day.

Community Support Programs You Can Add to Your Bill

Operation Round-Up
Helps fund the Boone Electric Community Trust, which provides financial assistance to charitable organizations in BEC's service territory.

C.A.S.H.
Provides utility assistance to low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.

H.E.L.P.
Provides utility assistance to low-income families with children. Funds administered by City/County Health Department.



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Boone Electric Cooperative

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Member Information

Recycle, Recycle

Some of the things reused at Boone Electric might surprise you.

Boone Electric Cooperative mechanics will keep warm this winter by the fruits of their own labor. All the used oil removed from the cooperative's 50-vehicle fleet will be burned in an oil-burning furnace that heats the Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF), where Boone Electric's three mechanics work. The furnace, which was installed last December, will pay for itself in less than four years.

The cooperative reuses or recycles as many items as possible in an attempt to keep costs down. There are several examples, both inside and outside the headquarters building.

Outside equipment

When line workers replace a utility pole, they reuse as much of the metal hardware as possible. But sometimes the metal is beyond further service. All non-usable steel, copper and aluminum, even down to the old nuts and bolts, goes into a large dumpster and is later sold as scrap metal. All of the money made from the sale of the metal goes back into the cooperative's general fund.

Transformers that are not reusable to the cooperative are sold back to the manufacturer, where they are overhauled and rebuilt. There are transformers on the Boone Electric system that are more than 30 years old and continue to perform well. Conversely, other transformers overheat or otherwise malfunction after fewer years. Those struck by lightning are also replaced and sold back to the manufacturer.

The oil from those transformers (necessary to keep the transformer from overheating) is cleaned and reused in new transformers.

Utility poles removed from service are recycled on the local market, where they are often used as part of a fence or pole barn.

Local high school students benefit from metal reels that hold underground wire. Welding students gain needed experience by turning the reels into cattle hay rings that are then made available to the public. Donating the reels to the school project saves the cooperative the manpower and expense of breaking them down for recycle.



Used oil from Boone Electric's vehicle fleet pumps directly to these storage tanks. It will be used in an oil-burning furnace to heat the Vehicle Maintenance Facility each winter.

Boone Electric's in-house and contract Right-of-Way crews chip up a large volume of tree limbs. Crews keep a list of members who have requested a load of chips, and deliver the load when they are in the area. Or, members are welcome to come to Boone Electric to load their own chips from the large mulch pile behind the headquarters building.

Inside the office

Boone Electric Cooperative recycles many of the same things other businesses recycle, most notably paper and soda cans.

Scrap paper is collected each day from recycle bins at each employee desk. The paper is run through a shredder, then collected by a local recycling company, baled and returned for use as recycled paper.

Like many businesses, Boone Electric receives a number of shipments in cardboard boxes. Small boxes arriving in the equipment storeroom are reused in the door bins of the bucket trucks to hold small necessities, such as nuts and bolts. Copy paper boxes that aren't reused are broken down and recycled.

The cooperative's water heater program creates the largest volume of cardboard to be recycled. Over the past year, Boone Electric provided 738 water heaters to members; each of those arrived in an over-sized cardboard box. Those boxes are collected in a large bin and picked up by a local recycling firm.

BEC Sees a Decline in Outages

Outage numbers are down significantly over the past few years.

Boone Electric's on-call crews haven't been quite as busy this summer as in past years. From June through August 2009, the cooperative's outage numbers are significantly lower than recent years.

The total number of hours Boone Electric members spent without power from June to August was down 59 percent over 2008 and down 48 percent over the five-year average.

Cooperative members effected by outages over the same three-month period is also significantly less. Members affected dropped 59 percent from 2008 to 2009 and 25 percent since 2004.

The total number of outages also dropped by a large percentage, down 35 percent over 2008 and 22 percent over the previous five years.

"It has been a wonderful year," said Ryan Euliss, BEC's Manager of Engineering and Technical Services. "Multiple factors play a role in the favorable numbers."

- The summer weather was ideal, with no severe storms.
- Boone Electric's aggressive Right-of-Way program is paying dividends. Membership cooperation in the tree-trimming program plays a significant role in the decrease in outages caused by trees and limbs coming in contact with power lines.
- The downturn in the economy has slowed growth on the cooperative system. Linemen have been able to concentrate on maintenance and system improvements, which has increased the reliability for existing members.

"We are certainly pleased with these numbers," Euliss continued, "and we will hope for an even greater reliability in the future."

**I THOUGHT
I WAS TIGHT
WITH MY
MONEY. NOW
I'M AIRTIGHT.**



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Working as a Group to Increase the Use of Renewable Energy

What is the National Renewables Cooperative Organization?



Todd Culley
General Manager/
CEO

An increase in production of renewable energy is a goal of utilities across the country. But it is not an easy thing to accomplish. Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., (AECI) Boone Electric's power supplier, is a member of The National Renewables Cooperative Organization, an organization that helps achieve that goal.

NRCO was established in 2008 by power supply cooperatives located across the U.S. to provide a number of benefits to its cooperative owners. Most importantly, the formation of the group allows power suppliers to incorporate cost-effective and economically viable renewable resources into their power supply mix.

NRCO will help its electric co-

op members participate nationally in diversified alternative energy projects. The "tried-and-true" co-op principle of banding together to achieve a common goal benefiting all members is the basis of NRCO's approach, said Ron Harper, CEO and General Manager of Basin Electric Power Cooperative and President of the NRCO Board of Directors.

"Because of the possibility of a national renewable portfolio standard or carbon tax, and because of the interest of cooperative members in renewable energy, there is no question that power supply cooperatives around the country will continue to expand the amount of renewable energy in their portfolios," said Harper.

"Also, because wind is a home-grown resource, I see the NRCO as contributing to this country's goal of energy security and energy independence."

NRCO has three main purposes: 1) to facilitate the cost-effective, joint development of renewable resources nationwide

for its cooperative owners; 2) to help its owners meet the requirements of Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) and Renewable Energy Standards (RES), whether those standards are mandatory or voluntary; and 3) to assist the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association with its legislative and regulatory renewable energy initiatives.

To qualify for NRCO membership, entities must be generation and transmission cooperatives, unaffiliated distribution cooperatives or partial requirements cooperatives that have the legal right to participate in wholesale electric markets.

At AECI and at Boone Electric we continue to search for ways to increase our use of renewable energy sources and to make those available to the cooperative membership.

And, as we've discussed many times, AECI,

the power supplier for 51 electric cooperatives, purchases all of the power generated by three wind farms operating in northwest Missouri. A fourth wind farm, the state's largest, begins operation in 2010. AECI estimates the new wind farm turbines will generate enough power to supply 27,000 member households.

Boone Electric was the first electric cooperative in the state to offer electricity generated by renewable sources. Renewable Choice is a premium program that allows members to purchase energy generated by renewable sources. Members can purchase blocks of renewable energy for \$2 per block.

Earlier this year the cooperative began offering Clean Air Cards, the purchase of which offset greenhouse gas emissions. The cards are backed by the Chicago Climate Exchange, which ensures money paid for the cards to support projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Boone Electric members can purchase a ½-ton card for \$5 or a 1-ton card for \$10.

The National Renewables Cooperative Organization allows power suppliers to incorporate cost-effective and economically viable renewable resources into their power supply mix.



Touchstone Energy

Boone Electric Cooperative is a member of Touchstone Energy, a national alliance of local, member-owned electric cooperatives providing a high standard of service to customers large and small.

In order to qualify as a Touchstone Energy partner, electric cooperatives must be active members of their community and be dedicated to serving all customers with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to their community.