



News you can use

Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC
Featured above: Nolin RECC VP System Operations
Vince Heuser, 32 years of service

Reliable traditions

Enjoy the fall colors, and help keep trees away from power lines

Autumn brings annual traditions for a lot of us. One favorite is a drive to enjoy the vibrant fall foliage. Sometimes on these trips you'll spot Nolin Electric crews, or our contractors working by the road, trimming tree branches growing too close to power lines.

I enjoy the beauty trees add to our environment, especially this time of year. But I also enjoy the comfort of knowing power will be available when I need it. Nolin is committed to providing you with reliable power. There are some things we can't stop—high winds, ice storms, hurricanes—but we do what we can to minimize or prevent other outage culprits.

Weather-related events cause a lot of the power outages for electric co-ops—19 percent according to a survey by our national service organization, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. But vegetation—trees, shrubs, brush—growing too close to power lines and distribution equipment leads to 15 percent of power interruptions.

To decrease potential tree-related problems, Nolin maintains an aggressive vegetation management program. Crews look for foliage growing under power lines, overhanging branches, and leaning trees that could pull down a power line if they fall. It's a job that's never done—by the time Nolin crews finish trimming activities along our distribution lines, vegetation has started to grow back at the point that we started.

In working to keep a safe, reliable, and affordable supply of power flowing to your home or business, we need your help. Let us know if you notice trees or branches that might pose a risk to our power lines. Before planting trees in your yard, think about how tall they may grow and how wide their branches may spread.

Thanks for your help as we work together to keep electricity reliable and safe.



Mickey Miller
President & CEO

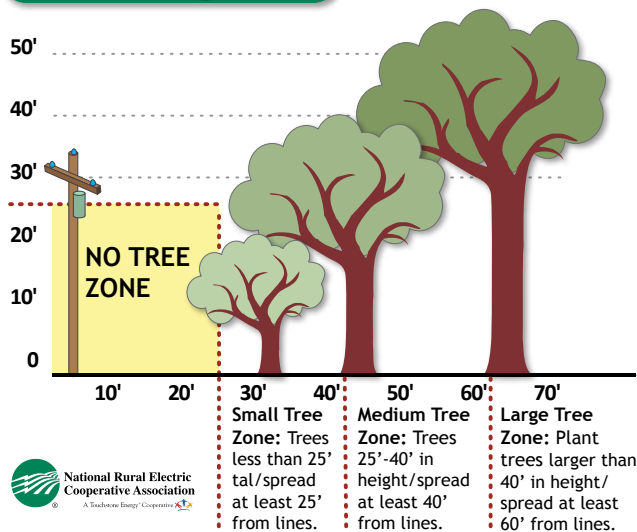
Office Closing...

The Nolin RECC office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 6.

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Tree Planting Guide



The Big Green Box

They're big. They're often green. They generally sit on prefabricated fiberglass pads, often within housing developments. Some folks don't like these "electrical boxes" (a common nickname for pad-mount transformers) and try to hide them with bushes, fences, or flower beds. But stay clear of these big green boxes—even small additions around pad-mount transformers create hazards.

To improve the appearance of new neighborhoods, developers often put in underground power lines. While this eliminates utility poles and overhead wires, it requires installing pad-mounted transformers in some front yards. Unfortunately some homeowners, concerned about curb appeal, attempt to screen pad-mount transformers from view—creating an unsafe situation for all concerned, including Nolin RECC utility workers.

We realize landscaping represents an investment of time and money, and we certainly respect the effort and care members invest in making their properties attractive. However, landscaping around electrical equipment interferes with our ability to deliver reliable power.

The National Electric Safety Code (NESC) requires 12 feet of clear space in front of a pad-mount transformer and 3 feet on the sides and back of the transformer.

Line techs repair units while they are energized so homeowners don't experience an interruption in service. To ensure safety, they use an 8-foot fiberglass hot stick that requires about 12 feet of "elbow room" in front of the access panel. Routine maintenance on the units is performed every two years.

In some cases, consumers may leave plenty of space in front of the transformer, but grow vegetation on the other three sides. This invites other problems. For example, plant roots can interfere with its operation. Overheating is another big concern that can cause service interruptions when air circulation is blocked by plants and other obstacles. Allow at least three to four feet of space on both sides and behind the transformer.

Members should also be aware that plantings along rights-of-way—strips of land owned by a member on which the co-op places poles, wires, and other equipment like pad-mount transformers—could be damaged by co-op vehicles.

Occasionally, we may need to repair a transformer, and eventually transformers must be upgraded and replaced. To perform this work, line trucks must be driven into the right-of-way and the transformer lifted out. Although we try to minimize the impact, plants will be damaged if they're in the way.



If you look closely, you will see a pad-mount transformer peeking out from this pine tree. Tree roots can damage this expensive equipment.



Landscaping around the pad-mount transformer may help the appearance of your lawn, but it presents a safety hazard to Nolin utility workers.

This label is posted on every Nolin RECC pad-mount transformer.

Call before you dig!

Because underground service continues from the transformer to your home, you should never dig anywhere in your yard without first calling 811 to find out where utility lines are buried.

To learn more about how you can safely beautify the area around your transformer, contact Nolin RECC at (270) 765-6153.

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Transformers need to be left alone

- **Never** let anything grow closer than 12 feet from the front of a pad-mount transformer. (The access panel is marked by a handle, lock, and sticker on the front.)
- **Never** enclose a pad-mount transformer with fencing, shrubs, or anything else with less than a 12-foot-wide gate or opening.
- **Never** allow children to play near pad-mount transformers.
- **Never** pour waste oils, chemicals, or other liquids on or near a pad-mount transformer. These liquids can seep into the ground and damage underground cables.

Leonard Hamilton Retires from Nolin

In July, Leonard Hamilton switched gears. His safety boots and line tech gear were set aside and replaced by cowboy boots and horses. He retired from Nolin after serving the co-op members for 32 years as a line technician.

Although retired now, Leonard says sitting at home is the last thing he will do with his free time. He owns a backhoe business and plans to continue working as long as the business is successful. He will also stay busy spending time with his son, Todd, and three grandchildren.

Leonard says he will miss Nolin and the great people he has worked beside for so many years. "Some of my fondest memories will be of the Nolin employees as they pulled together to help me during the passing of my wife, Francis, and daughter, Lisa," says Leonard. Both lost their battle to cancer during Leonard's tenure at Nolin.

Leonard also reflects upon a time when he broke his shoulder some years ago, saying his co-workers were quick to volunteer to help him out with his tobacco crop. "I've been fortunate to have such good guys to work with and I appreciate the job I had with Nolin—I'm really going to miss this place," says Leonard.



Leonard will certainly be missed by those at Nolin and by many co-op members who came to rely on him. Enjoy your retirement Leonard!

Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Electric Rates

The following rates and charges for the consumers of Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative were in effect as of August 1, 2009.

(kwh=kilowatt-hour)

SCHEDULE 1		SCHEDULE 4 – Industrial	
Residential, Farm, Non-Farm, Trailers & Mobile Homes		Demand Charge	
Rates:		Per Kilowatt of Billing Per Month	\$4.76
Customer Charge	\$8.69 per month	Energy Charge	
All kwh Charge	.08912 per kwh	First 3,500 kwh per month	.08575
The minimum monthly charge for single-phase service is \$8.69.		Next 6,500 kwh per month	.07172
		Over 10,000 kwh per month	.06807
SCHEDULE 2		SCHEDULE 5 – Rural Lighting	
Commercial, Small Power, Single-Phase & Three-Phase Service		High-pressure Sodium	
Rates:		100-Watt	75 kwh \$10.16
Customer Charge	\$16.18 per month		
All kwh Charge	.09562 per kwh		
The minimum monthly charge for single-phase service is \$16.18.			
SCHEDULE 3 — Large Power			
Customer Charge	\$27.41 per month		
Demand Charge			
Per Kilowatt of Billing Demand Per Month	\$4.76		
Energy Charge			
First 2,500 kwh per month	.08188		
Next 12,500 kwh per month	.07699		
Over 15,000 kwh per month	.07552		

FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

All rates are applicable to the Fuel Adjustment Clause and may be increased or decreased by an amount per kwh equal to the fuel adjustment amount per kwh as billed by the wholesale power supplier plus an allowance for line losses. The allowance for line losses will not exceed 10% and is based on a 12-month moving average of such losses. This fuel clause is subject to all other applicable provisions as set out in 807 KAR 5:056.

Capitol Students

Nolin sends five high school students to Washington, DC



Boarding the bus headed to DC are (left to right) Michael Huff, Emily Cooper, Lauren Kinser, Alex Skillman, and Destiny Nowlin. Also pictured is Tim Gossett, Meade County RECC, posing as the bus driver.

In March, more than 25 local high school juniors submitted applications for the Nolin RECC Washington Youth Tour trip. Nearly all of those students followed up the application process with a visit to the Nolin office for a personal interview.

The interviews, along with a written essay on “My Life without Electricity,” were contest requirements, and participants were asked to complete all stages of the competition before they were considered for selection. All of the upcoming seniors were hoping to win a free trip to Washington, DC, June 11-17.

When the chartered bus pulled away from Elizabethtown on June 11, five outstanding teens from the Nolin service area were anxious to begin a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The Youth Tour is an excellent way to learn while having fun. The five Nolin delegates joined about 80 other high school juniors

from across the state as they toured historic monuments and museums and learned how our government operates. In addition, the group met with their elected representatives in the U.S. House and Senate to discuss the process of government and mounting concerns that affect our country. The weeklong trip provided students opportunities to learn firsthand what it is like to be involved in politics, community service, and today’s pressing issues.

The Kentucky Rural Electric Washington Youth Tour is conducted by the Louisville-based Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives on behalf of 22 participating Kentucky electric distribution co-ops. The activity is part of a larger, nationwide youth program sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Arlington, Virginia, that brings almost 1,500 high school students to the nation’s capital each year.

Each participant in the Washington Youth Tour competition was asked to write an essay on “My Life without Electricity.” Here are a few lines from each of the Youth Tour students’ essays. All of the students were writing from firsthand experience as they referred to the January 2009 ice storm.



“Life without electricity made me feel like I was in an episode of *Little House on the Prairie*. As much as I love that show, I never dreamed I would have to experience what it’s like to live without electricity.”

—**Lauren Kinser**



“Asia set a candle on her nightstand and looked out at the dark night sky, which seemed lighter than the room. In two days everything would be back to normal, and when it was she would appreciate electricity more than ever.”

—**Destiny Nowlin**



“Imagine your TV—32 inches of high-definition heaven, on which you watch your favorite shows and movies. Now picture your computer, a portal through which you can communicate with friends and family all over the world. Now imagine you had no outlets. What to do? What to do?”

—**Michael Huff**

Interested in applying?

Applicants for the Washington Youth Tour must be juniors in high school and their parents or legal guardians must be a member of the co-op and live on Nolin RECC lines. The process is very simple and includes a brief essay, quiz, and personal interview. Watch for next year’s application in the February 2010 *Nolin News*.



“My generation has become self-absorbed into technology. We put our headphones on and tune the world out instead of talking to each other, we text, we chat on Facebook, or Twitter, we have evolved beyond e-mail! No amount of technology can amount to the satisfaction of working together toward a common goal.”

—**Emily Cooper**



“It really hit home last winter when we were hit by an ice storm that shut down our world as we knew it. The weight of the ice brought down power lines and woke us to the reality of how much we take electricity for granted.”

—**Alex Skillman**



The five Nolin RECC Washington Youth Tour students are featured on the cover of *Kentucky Living*. The 2010 delegates are (left to right) Lauren Kinser, Michael Huff, Emily Cooper, Destiny Nowlin, and Alex Skillman.

A Smart Investment

Nolin RECC

2010 Scholarship

Recipients

Seven local students are attending college this fall with a little help from Nolin RECC. Each year, your cooperative awards a total of \$7,000 in college scholarships to students whose parents or legal guardians are members of Nolin. We also award a \$1,000 scholarship to an adult who is going back to school after spending time away from the classroom.

The selection process for awarding scholarships gets harder every year. There are so many outstanding students in our community who deserve consideration for a scholarship. More and more young people are spending time helping to improve their community. In addition, they are excelling in advanced-level classes and most are participating in extracurricular activities.

The 2010 Nolin RECC scholarship recipients are Sarah Blakeman, Allison Brangers, Caleb Givan, Whitley Lawless, Casey Sullivan, Lannah Wheeler, and Markeshia Woodson.



Sarah Blakeman, a 2010 graduate of Elizabethtown High School who is now enrolled at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College, wants to become a high school librarian. Her focus in college will be English and plans to earn her degree in education. Throughout high school, Sarah was active in marching color guard, winter guard, and concert band while achieving honor roll status. Her parents are Nelson Blakeman of Eastview and Ellen Blakeman of Elizabethtown.



Allison Brangers was inspired by an agriculture program at Western Kentucky University to pursue a degree in agriculture business management. After graduating from John Hardin High School, Allison enrolled at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College to begin her studies. Her dream is to share her knowledge of agriculture with others while promoting tourism. Her parents are Sam and Judy Brangers of Elizabethtown.



Markeshia Woodson is a 2010 graduate of North Hardin High School where she excelled in track and field. She is enrolled at Clark Atlanta University to begin her studies in biology. She intends to further her education at Johns Hopkins University and eventually graduate from medical school. Her goal is to be an obstetrician. Markeshia is the daughter of Marc and Molly Woodson of Radcliff.

11-24-0850-02



Caleb Givan is attending Elizabethtown Community and Technical College this fall. A graduate of Central Hardin High School, Caleb plans to transfer to Eastern Kentucky University to finish his degree in criminal justice. He hopes to one day work in law enforcement and obtain employment as a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigations. Caleb is the son of Kirby and Carla Givan of Eastview.



Whitley Lawless lives in Hodgenville, works part-time at First Citizens Bank as a teller, and is a full-time student at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College. After she graduates in the spring with an associate's degree in art, Whitley plans to transfer to Western Kentucky University to earn her bachelor's degree in special education. Whitley is the recipient of Nolin's continuing education scholarship and is working very hard toward her goal of becoming an elementary school teacher.



Casey Sullivan is a 2010 graduate of North Hardin Christian School. He is enrolled at the University of Louisville where he is pursuing a degree in chemistry with hopes of becoming a physician. Casey wants to practice medicine in third-world countries so that he can bring help to those who need it most. His parents are James and Debora Sullivan of Elizabethtown.

Lannah Wheeler plans to accomplish her dream of working in oncology by obtaining her degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. As a recent graduate of LaRue County High School, Lannah is going to stay close to home for a few years while attending Elizabethtown Community and Technical College. She is anxious to take sign language classes so she can work as an interpreter while providing a much-needed service. Lannah's parents are Lanny and Debbie Wheeler of Sonora.



We've Got Your \$25 Number! \$25

WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity

Nolin News features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are two randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and win a **\$25 CREDIT on your electric bill**. You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$20 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Myra E. Strebe**, of **Vine Grove**.

Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at www.nolinrecc.com. Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."



NOLIN RECC's HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER

Be A Winner!

Celebrate National Co-op Month in October with energy efficiency!

Members can sign up to win one of these two giveaways—your choice:

ENERGY STAR home appliances worth up to \$1,200

Or, home energy efficiency upgrades up to \$1,200

Look for your entry form in next month's electric bill.

Go to www.nolinrecc.com/makeover for details.



HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER — (270) 769-6396

EMERGENCY TOLL-FREE CALLS — 1-800-572-1147

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