



HWEC lays plans for continued service excellence in 2015



Glenn W. Miller
President/CEO

AS WE CLOSE OUT 2014, on behalf of our nine-member board and 37 employees, I would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to serve you as a member-owner of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative.

As we look ahead to a new year, I'm excited to express our continued commitment to innovation, customer service excellence and dedication to our community.

Please note that we will again be offering our local scholarship program. With \$12,000 in scholarship awards, we are committed to investing in our local youth and their future education.

Also coming in 2015 is a new service that I feel all members will appreciate. SmartHub is our new electronic billing and outage reporting program. It will be available starting Jan. 12. A committed HWEC team has worked diligently over the last several months to implement this program.

This program will be available through our website at www.hwecoop.com. Members can pay their bills, submit meter readings, review consumption history and now report an outage electronically. If you are already using our online bill payment service, your log-in and password will stay the same.

SmartHub is also a mobile application for both Android and Apple devices. We hope you find this service user friendly and convenient.

Also in 2015, we will introduce a new website. Our goal is to provide more services and programs through our website that will be available instantly at your fingertips. This website will also be more usable from your mobile devices.

Finally, we hope you have taken the time to like us on Facebook. We recently introduced a Facebook page to provide another avenue for our members to receive valuable information. Learn more about programs and activities that your local cooperative is participating in and providing to you, the members. We also post great energy efficiency tips that help to reduce your electric consumption.

In closing, your Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative family (at right) would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed 2015!



Board of Trustees

Randy Sprang, Chairman Dave Mann, Vice Chairman Barry Jolliff, Secretary/Treasurer
Jonathan Berger Don Buren Kenneth Conrad Bill Grassbaugh Jackie McKee Ronnie Schlegel

6060 St. Rt. 83; P.O. Box 112
Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

Business hours 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

330-674-1055 (local) • 866-674-1055 (toll-free)
You can call 24 hours a day to report outages, submit meter readings and payments.



www.hwecoop.com
[Facebook.com/holmeswayneelectriccoop](https://www.facebook.com/holmeswayneelectriccoop)

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®



Holmes-Wayne Electric

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Happy holidays!

The HWEC offices will be closed **Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 24-25**, to celebrate Christmas with our families. We will also be closed **Thursday, Jan. 1**, for the New Year's holiday. As always, you can contact us toll free at 866-674-1055 to report outages, make a payment or submit a meter reading during these days.

Stealing electricity and meter tampering are CRIMES

Since August 1978, a revised Ohio law has been in effect covering theft of utility service and tampering with utility equipment. The statute provides that a person does not have to be seen tampering with a meter to be held responsible for such action. Prior to the revision in the law, it was difficult to prosecute a person for meter tampering unless the action was witnessed.

In addition, in prosecution for a user's reconnecting a device that was disconnected by a utility, such activity is now considered prima facie evidence that the user intended to defraud the utility.

The law defines theft of a utility service as a first-degree misdemeanor if the value of the stolen electricity, plus any utility equipment repair, is under \$150. It's a fourth-degree felony if the value is more than \$150 or if the offender was previously convicted of the charge. Tampering convictions carry similar penalties.

Tampering is defined as "to interfere with, damage or bypass a utility meter, conduit or attachment with intent to impede the correct registration of a meter or the proper function of a conduit or attachments." Conviction can bring from six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine to five years in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

Meter tampering costs all of us. It costs the cooperative, and it costs you. And it's downright

dangerous. If you witness someone tampering with their electric meter, contact your cooperative office. Stealing electricity is a crime, and anyone caught violating the law will be prosecuted. Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative is required by law to provide this notice to its members annually.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, by fax at 202-690-7442 or by e-mail at program.intake@usda.gov.

HWEC Gift Cards



The holidays are quickly approaching, and if you're having trouble finding the perfect gift for family and friends, consider the gift of electricity.

A gift certificate for the purchase of electricity to a Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative member might just be an ideal present for your parents, grandparents, children or someone in need. It's not just for holidays or birthdays, though — you can also help someone going through a tough time.

If you're looking for a useful present for someone you know who is a member of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, clip the form below, fill it out and mail it with your check to Holmes-Wayne Electric. You can also call the office and pay over the phone via check, credit card or debit card. Holmes-Wayne Electric will send the gift certificate card to the recipient.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Gift Card Form

You may submit this form with a check to the cooperative office, or contact the office toll free at 866-674-1055 and pay by phone via check, debit card or credit card.

Payee Name: _____

Payee Address: _____

City/ZIP: _____

Payee Phone Number: _____

Gift Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____

Gift Recipient Name: _____

Gift Recipient Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Holmes-Wayne will credit the gift recipient's electric account with the amount listed above. The gift recipient will receive a gift card receipt explaining the credit that has been placed on the account and the payee name.

Please make a payment via phone or submit form with check to:

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 112; Millersburg, OH 44654
866-674-1055 (toll free)

High School **Seniors**

Are your parents members of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative?

**You could win a college, vocational or
technical school scholarship up to \$5,900**

HWEC Local Scholarship

First Place - \$2,500
Second Place - \$2,000
Third Place - \$1,500

OREC Scholarship

First Place - \$3,400
Second Place - \$2,400
Third Place - \$1,900
Fourth Place - \$1,800
Fifth Place - \$1,700
Sixth Place - \$1,600
Seventh Place - \$1,500
Eighth Place - \$1,400
Ninth Place - \$1,300

- Available in both boys' and girls' divisions
- First-place Holmes-Wayne scholarship: \$2,500
- First-place Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives scholarship: \$3,400
- Applications due **Friday, Jan. 30**, to the Holmes-Wayne Electric office
- All applications must be submitted in a typed format

1. Applicant must be the child or legal ward of a Holmes-Wayne Electric permanent residential member receiving service for the duration of the 2014-2015 academic year (August 2014-June 2015).
2. Application must be received or postmarked no later than Friday, Jan. 30, to Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative.
3. Applicants must be graduating seniors who have all basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school entrance. (A "proper vocational or technical school" is defined as a post-secondary institution where credits can be transferred to an accredited four-year college.)
4. Applicants must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.6 or above on a 4.0 scale or an equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale. Winners, in order to receive an award, must be accepted and then enrolled in an accredited college or proper vocational or technical school of the student's choice. Winners who are accepted and then enrolled in an accredited school of nursing, working toward a degree, are also eligible.
5. Applicants who have received "full-ride" scholarships (i.e., scholarships that cover the cost of tuition, room, board and books) to the schools of their choice are not eligible for scholarships from Holmes-Wayne Electric or Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives (OREC). Applicants who win scholarships and subsequently receive a full-ride scholarship following the scholarship competition must contact Holmes-Wayne Electric and OREC immediately to forfeit the scholarships.
6. Qualified applicants will be contacted by Holmes-Wayne Electric for an interview in late February.
7. The two first-place winners will be eligible to earn up to \$3,400 in additional scholarship money from OREC. They will travel to Columbus on April 15 for the statewide scholarship competition.

To get an application, contact:

- High school guidance department
- Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative — P.O. Box 112, Millersburg, Ohio 44654
- Online at www.hwecoop.com