

# Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.



**Glenn W. Miller**  
President/CEO

## A gift to serve this community

As we quickly approach this special time of year, the staff and board of Holmes-Wayne Electric would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to serve you as your local rural electric cooperative. We consider it a gift to live and work in such a wonderful community.

This month I want to share some thoughts from one of our class A linemen, Al Schonauer. In January, Al will begin his 31st year of service as an employee at HWEC. He understands and appreciates the community we live in, which is one of the reasons he works at HWEC.

*As a kid I never thought I'd work with power every day, let alone have the opportunity to connect family, friends and neighbors to a resource that boosts our quality of life, yet most of us take for granted.*

*For linemen, our work day can be unique. The majority of our day we hear the buzz of more than 12,500 volts of electricity coursing through the wires we work around, day and night, whenever we're needed. We often find ourselves working on top of one of the 42,000 plus HWEC poles that span the communities we serve. Working on top of a 40-foot pole, we can be found anywhere between West Salem and Tiverton or Loudonville and Dundee. Wherever you find us, we always have our safety gloves and sleeves on — HWEC values safety (as do I), so working safely is critical for our job.*

*I like working outside, though some days are better than others — this summer we worked for days on end in more than 100-degree heat, and winter weather can*

*be brutal, too. But serving this community is an honor.*

*Some folks don't get to see the result of their work every day, but we do. Our neighbors and family expect electricity to be there when they need it; we literally connect our friends to power. It's pretty cool to know our job keeps the lights on at schools, having helped educate my two sons. And simple things we all take for granted — watching the big game on TV, keeping food cold and more — all of that depends on HWEC lines that deliver power to you.*

*Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative provides another kind of power, too. I call it "community power." This year HWEC gave \$12,000 in scholarships to promising college-bound students, helping to power the future of our rural communities and state. Since new businesses create jobs and prosperity, our co-op actively partners with our local chambers of commerce to support economic development in Holmes, Wayne and surrounding counties. HWEC goes beyond delivering electricity — they improve our quality of life.*

*When you stop and think, it makes sense that our co-op cares about raising our quality of life. HWEC doesn't benefit a corporate group of investors — it's owned by the people we serve. Born, raised and still a resident of Holmes County, I'm more than a lineworker — I'm a member and owner of our co-op, too. I vote every June for our trustee election, electing fellow members to guide our locally owned and controlled power provider.*

*Our community matters to me and our co-op matters to me because Holmes-Wayne Electric provides more than electricity: It strengthens our community, improving our quality of life. And that kind of power connects us to a better — and brighter — future.*

— Al Schonauer, HWEC Class A Lineman

## Board of Trustees

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

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

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

**[www.hwecoop.com](http://www.hwecoop.com)**

**24 Hour Toll-free Phone:**

**866-674-1055 or 888-264-2694**

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The power of human connections®

# Holmes-Wayne Electric Announcements



## Holiday Schedule

The HVEC offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25 to celebrate Christmas with our families. We will also be closed Tuesday, January 1 for the New Years holiday. As always, you can contact us toll-free at 866-674-1055 to report outages, make a payment or submit a meter reading.

## Nondiscrimination

### Statement

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-

9410, or call toll free 866-632-9992 (voice) or 800-877-8339 (TDD) or 866-377-8642 (relay voice users). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Stealing electric & 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 less than \$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 "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.



## Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

Did you know a computer can draw as much electricity as a new refrigerator? Turn it off when not in use or switch on its energy-saving mode. Also, cell phone and mp3 player chargers as well as plasma TVs and entertainment centers pull power even when they're off. Unplug these and other appliances to save on your electric bill. Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com

Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

# HWEC

## Gift Cards



With the holidays quickly approaching, we start to put our gift list together. Sometimes finding the perfect gift is almost impossible. Sizes, tastes, even needs differ with every person. But almost everyone has an electric bill. So, what better gift to give someone you care about, than a 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 makes a great birthday or holiday gift or can assist 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, here is all you need to do:

Clip the form below, fill it out and mail with your check to Holmes-Wayne Electric. You can also call the office with this information and pay over the phone via check, credit or debit card. Holmes-Wayne Electric will send the gift certificate to the gift recipient.

### **Holmes-Wayne Electric Gift Card Form**

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

**Payee's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payee's address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payee phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift recipient's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift recipient's 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's name.*

**Please submit form with check to or via phone payment:**

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

# 2013 Holmes-Wayne Electric Scholarship

## High School Seniors

*Are your parents members of an electric cooperative?*

**You could win a college, vocational or technical school scholarship of**

# \$5,500\*

***\*Seven scholarships for both the boys and girls division will be awarded through statewide competition. Amounts listed include local Holmes-Wayne Electric first place award of \$2,500. Holmes-Wayne Electric will distribute three scholarships for both boys' and girls' division. (First \$2,500, second \$2,000 and third \$1,500)***

**Second place:.....\$4,560  
Third place: .....\$4,250  
Fourth place: .....\$4,150  
Fifth place: .....\$4,045  
Sixth place: .....\$3,940  
Seventh place: .....\$3,840**

1. Applicants must be a son, daughter or legal ward of an Ohio rural electric distribution cooperative member living on the lines and receiving service at the time of the statewide competition.
2. All applications must be submitted (typed) on forms obtainable at [hwcoop.com](http://hwcoop.com) or at your local high school guidance office.
3. All applications must be submitted to Holmes-Wayne Electric office or post marked by Friday, Feb. 1.
4. Applicants must have all basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school entrance. They must have a current career grade-point average of "B+" (3.6 on a 4-point scale) or better and must be accepted, then enrolled (when they receive the award), in the accredited college or proper vocational or technical school of their choice.
5. Any applicant who has received a full-tuition scholarship to the school of his/her choice is not eligible for a scholarship.
6. All scholarships must be accepted in the first academic year after proof of enrollment is received.
7. Winners from both the boys and girls division of the local Holmes-Wayne Electric competition will compete at the statewide competition.



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