



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



# ABOVE AND BEYOND

*Electric co-op membership offers value far beyond affordable, reliable electricity*

A new year has arrived, but here at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc, things aren't changing in 2018. Our motto remains the same: as we work hard to deliver safe, affordable, and reliable electricity to over 13,500 members every day. But we don't stop there. Because we're a cooperative, we strive to do much more — to find ways of providing real value to you and the communities we serve.



Glenn W. Miller  
President/CEO

So what exactly does real value mean? Well, in some ways it's basic, like connecting with a real, local person when you call our office, rather than just a recording.

It could be finding a copy of *Ohio Cooperative Living* in your mailbox every month, which keeps you informed about co-op business and news in Ohio. Or, it's getting the lights back on quickly after a storm. We can't prevent every outage, but we have a dedicated, local staff who responds to outages day and night, holidays and weekends. They live here and care about our community. We also prepare for devastating storms through mutual-aid agreements that bring line crews in from other co-ops to help us restore power. In fact, we just did this same thing for a co-op in Georgia last September and New Hampshire in November when we sent linemen to help restore power after Hurricane Irma and Tropical storm Phillippe.

You also see value in how we provide timely assistance in new service needs. We meet with you or your contractor and work diligently to find the best avenue to provide service in a timely fashion and prepare for future potential needs.

Value is even seen in the ways we help you reduce your electric bill. Through energy efficiency tips and our home energy audits, we communicate with members in many ways to stress the importance of energy efficiency.

Here's the bottom line: Our organization's mission is to provide member service excellence at all practices of the organization and by each staff member. Offering our members real value — and working to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve — is important to us. It's one of the many ways we set ourselves apart from other utilities.



# 2018 GRADS ARE YOUR PARENTS members of Holmes-Wayne Electric?

If so, you could win more than  
**\$6,100** in scholarships.

- \* Applicants must have a 3.6 GPA or higher.
- \* 10 scholarships will be distributed by Holmes-Wayne totaling \$15,000.
- \* HWEC winner will receive \$2,500 scholarship and compete for a \$3,600 statewide scholarship through Ohio's Electric Cooperatives.
- \* Ohio's Electric Cooperatives will distribute a total of 24 scholarships.



TO OBTAIN RULES AND APPLICATIONS FOR THE  
**CHILDREN OF MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP:**

- Visit [www.hwecoop.com](http://www.hwecoop.com)
- Call the co-op at 866-674-1055
- Stop by the Millersburg co-op office
- Pick one up from your guidance counselor
- Deadline to apply: Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018



Holmes-Wayne  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



# WINTER STORM SAFETY

*Snow and ice storms can lead to downed power lines and outages. Remember the following tips to stay safe and warm should you find yourself in the dark after severe winter weather:*

\* Never touch a fallen power line, and assume all wires are electrically charged. Call Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative to report it immediately. Avoid contact with overhead lines during cleanup and other activities.

\* In the event of an outage, an alternate heating source — such as a fireplace, propane space heater, or wood stove — may be used, but treat any of those with caution, and make sure spaces are properly ventilated to avoid deadly carbon monoxide buildup.

\* Make sure carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors are working properly. Testing each once a month by pressing the TEST button is the safest bet.

\* Do not use a gas-powered oven for heating because it might go out or burn inefficiently, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning.

\* Do not use a gas or charcoal grill inside the home, and do not use charcoal briquettes in the fireplace.

\* If you use a portable generator to power a heating source, be sure the generator is located outside your house in an open area that's sheltered from precipitation and moisture. Never use a generator in an attached garage — it's still too close and could lead to carbon monoxide poisoning. Follow manufacturer's directions for operation of the unit.

\* Take special care not to overload a generator. Use appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords have a grounded, three-pronged plug and are in good condition.

\* Never connect generators to power lines. The reverse flow of electricity can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

Ideally, your family will stay warm until the power comes back on. But keep an eye on family members for signs of hypothermia, which include shivering, drowsiness, and mental and physical slowness. The elderly and young children are particularly vulnerable to hypothermia. Call 911 immediately if you notice these symptoms. Try to have at least one mobile phone in the house that does not depend on electricity.

*Sources: Consumer Product Safety Commission; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Ag Safety Database; Electrical Safety Foundation International*





# HOLMES-WAYNE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

## The Value of Electricity A dollar's worth can get you:

**36**



(intense) hours of gaming

**48**



hours of watching TV

**72**



freshly-ironed shirts

**72**



hours of laptop Internet access

**100**



hot pots of coffee

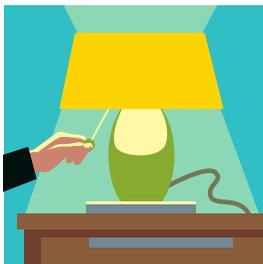
**375**



pieces of toast (nicely browned)

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy;  
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

## BUDGET-FRIENDLY EFFICIENCY TIPS



### Lighting:

LED bulbs save 60 percent or more energy than incandescent bulbs and can now be purchased at box retailers for \$5 or less.



### Heating and Cooling:

Replace air filters every one to three months and seal/insulate ductwork to maximize the efficiency of your home's heating and cooling system.



### Appliances & Electronics:

Keep appliances and electronics free from lint and dust, and use a power strip to turn off electronics when not in use, avoiding "energy vampires."



The office will be closed on  
**Monday, Jan. 1.**  
Enjoy your first day of 2018!

For emergency service, please call  
**866-674-1055.**



Holmes-Wayne  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

### CONTACT

866-674-1055 (toll-free)  
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### SMARTHUB

Report an outage, submit a meter reading, and pay your bill all through our mobile SmartHub application. Available for both Android and Apple devices. 

### CALL US 24/7

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