



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

As we start a new year here at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, we are diving into our 2019 plans and goals. Plans for this year started several months ago when the leadership staff and your board of trustees had a strategic planning meeting, reflecting long-term initiatives. Additionally, each staff member met with their manager/supervisor and discussed future goals and training that will be needed to continue advancement of your electric cooperative. Combine these initiatives with our four-year operations work plan, and we have an exciting year ahead of us. We look forward to the challenge!

At the core of our organization and one of the Seven Cooperative Principles is “Education, Training, and Information.” In order to meet the expectations of our members and the goals designed by our board, leadership, and staff, we must continue to advance our knowledge of industry, job-specific tasks, and service skills for all staff and board members. That education can come from a variety of avenues — formal higher education classes, professional certifications, or conferences and seminars. But we also understand the value of on-the-job training, cross-training, and networking with others in our industry.

For example, our apprentices must complete 8,000 hours of specific on-the-job training, graduate from the Central Ohio Lineworker Training program (COLT) in Mount Gilead, Ohio, and complete the online Northwest Lineman College. Upon completion of all these requirements, an

apprentice graduates to a Class A Lineman certification. However, the training doesn’t stop there. HWEC linemen complete monthly safety and industry courses provided by Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives as well as other in-house and seminar training as needed.

The commitment to education and information is not limited to the cooperative staff and board. We also bring that knowledge to our community by sharing the safety reminders, energy efficiency tips, and industry-specific facts through our Facebook page, school presentations, this publication, our website, and a variety of other avenues to reach those in our community.

We also support our local youth in continuing their education. Every year, HWEC awards \$15,000 in scholarships to local high school seniors. It’s rewarding to see those same students returning home and using their education to develop our community.

By empowering people through education, we are tapping into this community’s most powerful resource — its people!

Happy New Year from the staff and board of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Glenn W. Miller
PRESIDENT/CEO





STORM PREPARATION

We've already had a taste of winter with ice and snow. Throw in some windy days after a wet fall that saturated the ground, and larger trees out of the right-of-way can fall. Those are just a few examples of ways the weather can create outages.

What does your electric cooperative do to prepare for storms and power outages?

- We have annual emergency restoration meetings. We are given different outage scenarios and discuss the processes and procedures we have in place to manage those situations. Planning and preparation makes all the difference!
- We meet before and after major storm events. Gathering information to strategically plan before and to review ways to improve after.
- We manage our rights-of-way. HWEC trims trees and sprays for vegetation on a four-year cycle. This significantly decreases outages.
- We patrol lines and inspect/test equipment to find potential problems and resolve them before an outage.
- We maintain an inventory to have supplies readily available.
- We communicate year-round safety and storm preparation to the community.
- We invest in tie lines. HWEC invested in tie lines between substations to allow backup resources if transmission failure occurs.
- We manage new service. As new residents and businesses receive service, we plan for the additional load so that in extreme heat or cold, our infrastructure will be able to maintain reliable service.

What can you do to prepare for a power outage?

- Keep a three- to five-day supply of drinking water in plastic bottles. Plan on at least 1 gallon of water per person, per day.
- Store a manual can opener with enough nonperishable foods for three to five days. Canned meats, tuna fish, and peanut butter are good foods to store. Don't forget pet foods!
- Have one nonportable phone that will work even if power is interrupted.
- Keep plenty of gas in your car.
- Get extra ice or place snow in plastic bags; it will help maintain cold temperatures in your freezer and refrigerator.
- Coordinate with neighbors for care of the elderly and disabled living alone.
- Maintain a supply of prescriptions, nonprescription drugs, vitamins, and special dietary foods. Check medications that require refrigeration and know if they will be affected by prolonged power interruption. You may want to keep a small cooler handy.
- Playing cards, books, drawing and writing supplies, and board games help pass the time. If you have a video camera and tapes, your family can make a storm documentary.





2019 Scholarship

Win up to \$2,500



FOR RULES AND APPLICATIONS:

Are you a graduating high school senior and resident of HWEC service? Apply to win one of 10 scholarships.

- Visit hwecoop.com
- Call the co-op at 866-674-1055
- Stop by the co-op office in Millersburg
- Pick them up from your guidance counselor
- Deadline to apply: Friday, Feb. 1, 2019

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your hot water tank warm to the touch? Consider insulating it to save 7 to 16 percent annually on water heating costs. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

Source: energy.gov



Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CONTACT

866-674-1055 (toll-free)

www.hwecoop.com

OFFICE

6060 St. Rte. 83

P.O. Box 112

Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Randy Sprang
Chairman

Dave Mann
Vice Chairman

Barry Jolliff
Secretary/Treasurer

Jonathan Berger
Kenneth Conrad
Bill Grassbaugh
Jackie McKee

Ronnie Schlegel
David Tegtmeier
Trustees

Glenn W. Miller
President/CEO

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

Report outages, submit meter readings, and make payments

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