



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

# SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU

Tips for spotting potential electrical hazards in your home

Electricity plays many roles in our lives, from powering baby monitors, cellphones, and lighting to running HVAC systems and appliances. May is Electrical Safety Month, and here at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Inc., we think it's a great time to look around your home and check for potential safety hazards. Remember, every electrical device has a purpose and a service lifespan. When electricity is involved, failures can present electrical hazards that might be avoided with periodic inspections.

## Ground fault circuit interrupters

Outdoor outlets or those in potentially damp locations such as a kitchen or bathroom often include GFCI features. They are designed to sense abnormal current flows and break the circuit to prevent potential electric shocks. The average GFCI outlet is designed to last about 10 years, but in areas prone to electrical storms or power surges, they can wear out in five years or less. Check them frequently by pressing the red test button. Make sure you hit the black reset button when you are done. Contact a licensed electrician to replace any failing GFCI outlets.

## Loose or damaged outlets or switches

Signs of heat damage or discoloration can offer early warnings of potential shock or electrical fire hazards in unstable electrical outlets or wall switches. Loose connections can allow electrical current arcing. If you see these warning signs, contact an electrician.

## Surge protectors

Power strips with surge protectors can help safeguard expensive electronic equipment from power spikes. Voltage spikes are measured in joules, and surge protectors are rated for the number of joules they can effectively absorb. If your surge protector is rated at

1,000 joules, it should be replaced when it hits or passes that limit. When the limit is reached, protection stops, and you're left with a basic power strip. Some surge protectors include indicator lights that flicker to warn you when they've stopped working as designed, but many do not. If your electrical system takes a major hit, or if you don't remember when you bought your surge protector, replacement is the best option.



Glenn W. Miller  
PRESIDENT/CEO

## Extension cords

With a growing number of electrical devices connecting your family to the electricity you get from HWEC, having enough outlets in just the right spots can be challenging. Remember, extension cords are designed for temporary use. If an extension cord gets noticeably warm, it could be undersized for the intended use. If it shows any signs of frayed, cracked, or heat-damaged insulation, it should be replaced. If the grounding prong is missing, crimped, or loose, it will not provide the protection designed into its performance. Always make sure that extension cords used in outdoor or potentially damp locations are rated for exterior use.

Electricity is an essential necessity for modern living, and Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative is committed to providing safe, reliable, and affordable power to all of our members. We hope you'll keep these electrical safety tips in mind so that you can note any potential hazards before damage occurs.



May is Electrical Safety Month.  
Safety starts with you.

#ElectricalSafetyMonth



## Holmes-Wayne Electric awards \$15,000 in scholarships



Aleah Schrock



Ryan O'Donnell

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative announced the winners of its annual college scholarship competition, held late February at the cooperative's Millersburg office. Aleah Schrock of Hiland High School and Ryan O'Donnell of West Holmes High School are the first-place winners of \$2,500 scholarships in the girls' and boys' divisions of the 2019 Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Scholarship Contest. Schrock and O'Donnell were part of a group of 34 students representing seven area high schools who competed for a total of \$15,000 in scholarships.



Schrock is the daughter of Fred and Madalene Schrock of Baltic. She plans to attend The Ohio State University or Liberty University this fall, majoring in history. O'Donnell is the son of William and Dawne O'Donnell of Millersburg. He will attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University, majoring in nursing. Schrock was selected to represent Holmes-Wayne Electric at a scholarship competition sponsored by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives in Columbus.

### Other winners

#### Second place, \$2,000

Olivia Wakefield is the daughter of Vince and Sara Wakefield of Wooster. A senior at Northwestern High School, she will major in music education at either Xavier University, Bethel College, or Bluffton University. Mark Biltz is the son of Scott and Melissa Biltz of Millersburg. He is a senior at West Holmes High School and will major in accounting and finance at Ashland University.

#### Third place, \$1,500

Carlie Schlatter is the daughter of Carlton and Candi Schlatter of Burbank. She will graduate from Norwayne High School and will attend Ashland University majoring in nursing. Patrick Miller is the son Mark and Elaine Miller of Millersburg. A senior at Hiland High School, he will major in either engineering or biology (pre-med) at The Ohio State University or Mount Vernon Nazarene University.

#### Fourth place, \$1,000

Selena Latouf is the daughter of Butros Latouf and Faten Yazigi-Latouf of Millersburg. A senior at West Holmes High School, she will study business of the creative enterprises or entertainment business and management at either Emerson College, Pace University, Fordham University, or Elon University. Ryan Raber is the son of Craig and Laurel Raber of Wooster. He is a senior at Triway High School and will pursue a degree in aerospace engineering at either The Ohio State University, University of Cincinnati, or Wright State University.

#### Fifth place, \$500

Mariam Styer is the daughter of Jeff and Veronica Styer of Wooster. A senior at Triway High School, she will attend either Berea College, Marietta College, or Taylor University and major in environmental science or agriculture/natural resources. Marcus Moan is the son of Caleb and Erin Moan of Sugarcreek. A senior at Hiland



Olivia Wakefield



Mark Biltz



Carlie Schlatter



Patrick Miller



Selena Latouf



Ryan Raber



Mariam Styer



Marcus Moan

High School, he will major in biology at either The Ohio State University, Lipscomb University, Taylor University, or Liberty University.

Judges for the two-day competition were Dale Sidle, Lucille Hastings and Melinda Eliot. The Holmes-

Wayne Electric Cooperative Scholarship Contest is offered annually to children of co-op members who are graduating high school seniors and reside in a home served by Holmes-Wayne Electric. The cooperative is proud to have distributed over \$220,000 in scholarships within the community since its establishment.



Congratulations to Kerri Wagner, the daughter of Casey and Christy Wagner, who won second place (\$1,500) in the Ohio Line Supervisor Association Scholarship contest. Kerri is a senior at West Holmes High School and will be majoring in biochemistry (pre-med) at either University of Findlay or Marietta College. Her father is the accounting manager at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Inc.





# HOLMES-WAYNE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

## We want to HEAR FROM YOU!



Your thoughts and opinions about Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative help us to serve you better.

The week of May 20, Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Inc. will be working with NRECA Market Research Services to complete a member satisfaction survey.

The surveys will be both by phone and email, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your opinions of the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable, reliable, and clean electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family, and your neighbors.

Thank you!  
All information is confidential.



## POWER WITH A PURPOSE



### 2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Thursday, June 27

West Holmes High School

10901 State Route 39, Millersburg, Ohio

All Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative members are invited to attend the meeting and dinner.

Health and Information Fair – 5 p.m.

Dinner – 5:45 p.m.

Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m.



Holmes-Wayne  
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



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