



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

I am often asked what the difference is between an electric cooperative and any other electric utility. The poles and transformers look the same, and the kilowatts powering homes and businesses are the same.

So, what's the difference?

Simply put, a cooperative is a not-for-profit business voluntarily owned and controlled by the people who use its services. Unlike investor-owned utilities, Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Inc. is operated by and for people in the communities we serve. A great example of this is the cash back received by our members through capital credits. In the past 14 years, \$17.8 million in cash has been retired to HWEC members. Our goal is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power, not to make a profit.

But electric cooperative members share more than electricity. They share the same principles, and they work hard to improve the quality of life for all.

Just as we work to make sure that your membership in Holmes-Wayne Electric provides a real value and difference in your life, we also draw strength from fellow electric cooperatives across Ohio and the country.

deliver high-quality services to co-op members, such as government advocacy, safety and management training, and *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.



Glenn W. Miller
PRESIDENT/CEO

Another reassuring and fundamental way that cooperatives support each other is the mutual aid we offer after natural disasters. Ohio's electric cooperatives assist each other as well as cooperatives out of the state when major storms and outages strike.

Because the national network of transmission and distribution infrastructure owned by electric cooperatives is built to federal standards, line crews from any co-op in America can arrive on the scene ready to provide emergency support, secure in their knowledge of the system's engineering. Each Ohio co-op ensures it has crews available for all local needs before committing resources to mutual aid requests.

When Holmes-Wayne Electric needs help, an entire network of cooperatives is ready to come to our aid. And when we respond to other co-ops' requests for help, our crews receive valuable experience that helps prepare them to respond when power outages happen here.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us at HWEC with any questions. This is your cooperative. And that makes all the difference.

HWEC is one of 25 electric cooperatives in Ohio among about 900 nationwide. Through our membership in the statewide services organization, Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, we work with other co-ops to cost-effectively serve Ohio co-op members.

This partnership allows us to pool our resources and



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Operation projects for 2019

As your member-owned electric cooperative, we have the responsibility of managing the organization to provide our members reliable, safe, and competitively priced electric service. We enhance the quality of life in the community we serve while embracing cooperative principles and values.

Strategic business planning is key to continued success of the cooperative.

2019 has a large number of operations goals. Tree trimming and vegetation control programs will continue. This will include \$1.85 million budgeted for trimming and dead-tree takedowns. Additionally, HWEC will rebuild more than 34.7 miles of lines, a \$2.1 million investment. An additional \$1 million in advancements will be made in nine of our 18 substations.

Annual pole inspections will continue. Poles are tested throughout the HWEC service territory to identify any poles not meeting standard requirements. Those poles identified will be replaced by line personnel within the standard daily schedule. Pole testing in 2019 will be in Golden Corners and Moreland substation territory; 4,400 poles will be inspected.

Also, throughout the entire year, line personnel visually inspect infrastructure to identify and correct maintenance issues to help prevent future outages. With more than 2,200 miles of line exposed to a variety of weather throughout the year, it is critical for your cooperative to administer the above processes to provide the best service to our members.

2019 substation projects

- ▶ Site work at Ripley, Drake Valley, Alpine, Trail, Buckhorn
- ▶ Moreland — 69 kV circuit breaker and relay cabinet
- ▶ Buckhorn — 138 kV circuit breaker and relay upgrade
- ▶ West Millersburg — install new feeder (structure, regulators, switches, URD cable, concrete, etc.)
- ▶ Hefferline — transformers

2019 work plan three-phase projects — 18.9 miles

- ▶ Alpine/Moreland tie line, 3.9 miles
- ▶ Golden Corners north feeder, 2.2 miles
- ▶ Sugarcreek/Buckhorn tie line, 5.5 miles
- ▶ Reedsburg/Hefferline tie line, 3.2 miles
- ▶ Trail, 2.0 miles
- ▶ Golden Corners, 1.6 miles
- ▶ Drake Valley, 0.5 miles

2019 work plan single-phase projects — 15.8 miles

- ▶ West Salem, 2.3 miles
- ▶ Ripley, 3.7 miles
- ▶ West Salem, 2.0 miles
- ▶ Drake Valley, 3.9 miles
- ▶ Trail, 3.9 miles

2019 vegetation management plans

There are many ways Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative provides you with safe, reliable electric service. One of the most common — and crucial — ways is referred to as right-of-way clearing, or vegetation management. HWEC's trimming and Environmental Protection Agency-approved vegetation management is on a four-year rotation. These programs are completed by a third-party contractor and are bid out every year to ensure the best value.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)

Refers to a strip of land underneath or around power lines that HWEC has the responsibility to maintain and clear.

ROW CLEARANCE GUIDELINES

In accordance with our right-of-way easements, which are 15 feet of clearance on either side of primary power lines. Additional trees beyond 15 feet may be removed if they are determined to be a danger to our infrastructure, in order to prevent outages.

RELIABILITY

ROW clearing is critical to ensuring that we provide members with affordable and reliable electricity. ROW maintenance reduces outages.

SAFETY

ROW clearing also keeps your family safe by ensuring that tree branches do not become energized because of close contact with a power line. Contact HWEC if you decide to trim or remove trees near any power service or line. **Never** trim a tree in the ROW zone on your own!

EDUCATION

When around trees close to power lines, be mindful. Make sure children know that climbing trees near lines is extremely dangerous. **Never** go near a downed power line or a tree or any other object touching a downed power line!

2019 tree trimming — substation areas

Buckhorn

Drake Valley

Killbuck

Stillwell



2019 vegetation control — substation areas

Clear Creek

Golden Corners

Mohicanville

North Wayne

West Salem





Medical Awareness Certification form



Does someone living in your home have a medical condition that requires electrical assistance? If so, notify Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative (HWECC) by completing the form below to be added to or remain on our Medical Awareness list.

The HWECC Medical Awareness list is used to notify you of any planned outages for maintenance and repair, as well as uncontrollable outages from weather conditions or car accidents. During these "standard" outages, the member on the list is given first consideration when their specific line is being restored.

HWECC makes every effort to keep power flowing to every member's home at all times. Because of factors beyond our control, it is always our recommendation that you create a backup plan in case of a power outage. This may be as simple as having a small generator available or the ability to relocate if such a situation were to occur.

The Medical Awareness Certification form must be completed on an annual basis.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc. — Medical Awareness Certification

If you or someone in your home is dependent on medical equipment operated by electricity, please provide the following information.

Name _____ Account number _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

_____ Cellphone _____

We request that the attending physician please complete and certify the following information.

Equipment in use _____

Physician's signature _____ Date _____

Return completed form in your next bill or to: Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Inc.
Attn: Medical Awareness List
P.O. Box 112; Millersburg, OH 44654
Fax: 330-674-1869
Email: newmember@hwecoop.com



Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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CONTACT

866-674-1055 (toll-free)

www.hwecoop.com

OFFICE

6060 St. Rte. 83

P.O. Box 112

Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

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