



TIPS From T.I.P.

Published By The T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

May 2025

Brooklyn, Iowa

Iowa's Rural Electric Cooperatives Advocate to Protect Defined Service Territory at REC Day on the Hill



Pictured above left to right: Directors Anne Axmear, Ronald Hoffman, Rep. Judd Lawler, CEO/General Manager, Scott Long (front), Sen. Dawn Driscoll, Directors Jerry Henning, James De Smet (back), Randy Upah (front), and Jason Jack, Accountant.

On March 19, more than 120 employees and elected directors from Iowa's locally owned rural electric cooperatives (RECs) asked elected officials to protect defined electric service territory laws in Iowa that support affordable rates, foster a resilient grid and encourage rural economic development. In place for almost 50 years, these service territories provide a high degree of certainty which enable electric co-ops to make long-term investments to best serve our member-owners. Learn more about this issue at www.ProtectRuralIowa.com.

Additionally, electric co-op representatives talked with their legislators about the benefits of allowing Iowa's incumbent electric providers the right of first refusal (ROFR) in constructing and maintaining electric transmission projects, as included in the governor's energy bill (HF 834/SF 585).

The group also discussed concerns with a community solar bill (HF 404) that would undercut defined electric service territory and allow nonutilities to provide retail electric service within rate-regulated utility territory.

During the event, co-op advocates educated

legislators on the benefits of the not-for-profit cooperative business model including local ownership, democratic governance and cost-based rates.

Learn more about the legislative priorities of Iowa's electric cooperatives and Iowa Rural Power grassroots advocacy at www.iaruralpower.org

Nominating Committee Seeks Interested Board Candidates for the 2025 Board Election

The following nominating committee is seeking candidates interested in serving on the board. This year directors will be elected from the following districts:

District 1, District 2 and District 4.

If you are a co-op member and have a member whom you would like to have nominated for director, contact any of the members on your nominating committee listed below.

District 1:

James Hines
3615 Hwy T47
Montour, IA 50173
641-751-0990

Janet Kellogg
3634 C Ave.
Montour, IA 50173
641-492-6174

District 2:

Bruce Heitshusen
2033 T Ave.
South Amana, IA 52334
319-430-8297

Kurt Meyer
3034 260th St.
Williamsburg, IA 52361
319-330-6049

District 4:

Ted Bates
20347 205th Ave.
Sigourney, IA 52591
641-660-8014

Dean Huls
110 E Des Moines St., Apt A
Brooklyn, IA 52211
641-891-0991

Nominees' names must be given to any nominating committee member **BEFORE Thursday, May 29, 2025**. Thanks for your help!

Student Job Shadows Cole Calkins, Staking Technician/Member Service



This spring Greer Egerton, a Senior at BGM High School and daughter of T.I.P. REC Journeyman Lineman, Nate Egerton, signed up to learn more about what a Staking Technician/Member Service career involves by spending time observing Cole Calkins doing his job. This gives the student a chance to ask questions and get a better idea of the job responsibilities if they choose a career in this field.

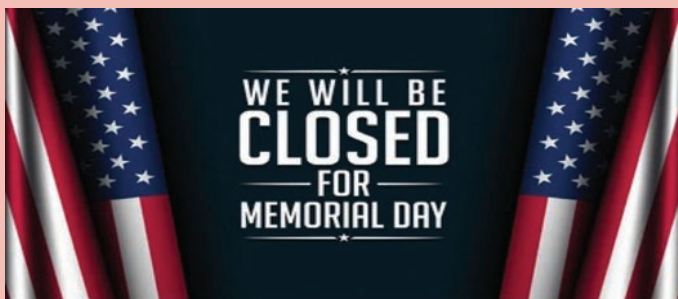
The BGM Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) program makes it all possible by having students observe actual employees working which in turn helps students make decisions on what career path they would like to take after high school.

T.I.P. REC was excited to have the opportunity to help Greer plan her future.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year - and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.



T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative to Pay \$331,483.00 in Property Taxes

The following is the breakdown, by county, of the property taxes to be paid by your REC for 2024-25:

Benton County	\$ 1,096.00
Iowa County	39,966.00
Jefferson County	93.00
Johnson County	338.00
Keokuk County	40,078.00
Mahaska County	738.00
Poweshiek County	43,503.00
Tama County	22,426.00
Wapello County	30.00
Washington County	39.00
TOTAL	\$ 148,307.00

In addition to these property taxes, Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), our power supplier, incurred property taxes which were passed on to your cooperative to pay amounting to \$183,176.00 in the ten counties we serve.

Journeymen Linemen Provide Mutual Aid



Pictured above left to right: Kendall Bunn, Tanner Meeks and Andrew Kloppenburg.

When the call for help at Harrison County REC (located in western Iowa) came in the above three linemen answered and headed out to help them restore power after snow, ice and wind wreaked havoc on their electric system.

"Cooperation among Cooperatives" is one of our Cooperative Principles we live by which means when our neighboring cooperatives need a helping hand, we are there to aid them in anyway we can.

Thanks linemen for helping fellow REC's when it's needed the most!

Report Outages AND Add Outage Comments Via Your SmartHub Account

Caller Comments

Phone Call Comments from caller

Call Date/Time	Caller Comments	User
03/20/2025 12:49:39	No power. Tree on line.	SMARTHUB

Pictured above is an example of what our Operations Department receives when you report your outage using your SmartHub account.

As most member-owners are well aware, to report your electrical outage using your phone you need to call 800-934-7976. You talk to a person and can make comments such as you have no power and there is a line down or branches on your lines.

The same is true when you report your outage using your SmartHub account. As you can see by the picture above, when you report an outage using SmartHub there is space where you can add Caller Comments.

Whether reporting your outage by phone or SmartHub, our Operations Department sees the comments that you make. Your comments often make it easier for us to determine the cause of the outage and where to send our linemen which makes restoration time shorter.

Shine the Light Contest Coming in June



Nominate a local volunteer and they could win \$3,000 for their charity!

Contest entries accepted during June at IowaShineTheLight.com

Contest begins June 1 and ends June 30

T.I.P. REC Sponsoring Drew Alleman-Hunter on Youth Tour Trip



Since we had not received any applications for this year's Youth Tour trip, we reached out to a neighboring rural electric cooperative, Consumers Energy, and they had an extra applicant for us.

T.I.P. REC is excited to announce that we are going to send Drew Alleman-Hunter on the Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C. in June!

Drew and the other Iowa students will join students from across the country in Washington, D.C. to learn about cooperatives, U.S. history and our government. They will also participate in leadership training, visit with elected officials, network with their peers, and tour monuments and museums while there.

Drew is a sophomore at North Polk Jr./Sr. High School where he plays football, baseball, and is in the Marching, Pep, Concert, and Jazz bands. He belongs to the church youth group at the Salem United Church of Christ also serving as Youth Elder and board member. In addition, Drew is the Lead Youth Volunteer for the City of Alleman.

In his spare time, Drew enjoys landscaping/yard work, weight lifting, working with farm animals, computers/gaming and spending time with family and friends.

Investing in the next generation of co-op members is very important to T.I.P. REC along with the economic future of rural America.

We hope Drew has an amazing trip!



New Brooklyn Line Foreman



We would like to congratulate Adam Hawkins for his promotion from Journeyman Lineman to Brooklyn Line Foreman.

“I’m very excited to move into this new position, becoming a foreman has always been a goal of mine. I look forward to being in a supportive role for the crews and also still getting to work side by side with them.” Adam commented.

T.I.P. REC would like to thank Adam for his hard work and dedication to making sure our linemen get their daily work responsibilities completed safely and efficiently.

RECare Program Helps Your Neighbors



T.I.P. REC has a RECare program where members can make a one-time donation or a monthly donation to help other members in their county.

The RECare program funds we collect are sent to local community action agencies to distribute and help pay winter heating bills and to assist in weatherization of homes of low-income consumers.

In 2024, we sent the following member contributions to local community action agencies:

MICA - Poweshiek County	\$128.10
MICA - Tama County	\$270.00
HACAP - Benton County	\$ - 0 -
HACAP - Iowa County	\$766.00
HACAP - Johnson County	\$ - 0 -
HACAP - Washington County	\$ - 0 -
SIEDA - Jefferson County	\$ - 0 -
SIEDA - Keokuk County	\$230.00
SIEDA - Mahaska County	\$ - 0 -
SIEDA - Wapello County	\$ - 0 -
	\$1,394.10

Your donations make a big impact for those in need in your county. Even a dollar a month pledge will help others! Thank you for donating.

You care, we care, RECare.

Heat Meter Readings



The Heat rate season will end May 31, 2025. It is important that members do not turn off the power to those meters because we still need to be able to read them each month. The Heat rate will begin again on October 1, 2025.

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, May 6 from 7:00 am till 1:00 pm for an all-employee safety meeting.

May Work Anniversaries

Jason Jack - 15 years
 Terry Kloppenburg - 42 years
 Becca Stauffer - 6 years
 Sean Stutzman - 17 years

Thank You!



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TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 320 Industrial Drive, Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.