



GM'S REPORT

CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP

October is National Co-op Month

Fall is a particularly eventful time of year with school, community, and sports activities in full swing. In addition, October is also when all cooperatives, including Firelands Electric, celebrate National Co-op Month — which means we are celebrating you! After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you, our members.

Our core business purpose is to serve as your electricity provider, but the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of the world a better place. Concern for Community is one of seven guiding principles that all co-ops share. Similar to how our wires run through our service territory, Firelands' concern for community flows through all of our decisions. Being a co-op means being a responsible partner and a good neighbor.

Firelands Electric works to help our community thrive through initiatives led by our cooperative's employees and board of trustees, which is made up of neighbors who are elected to serve the very community in which they live. Because we're local, we understand our community's unique needs and strive to help meet them.

We're proud to support local youth programs, offer Operation Round Up grants, and support charitable organizations that benefit our communities. The words "cooperative" and "cooperation" go hand-in-hand. People who work together can achieve a common goal —

mutually benefiting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and member-elected board of trustees are invested in the community in which they live and serve.

As a co-op, we always put our members' priorities first. We know that family, community, energy efficiency, and reliable, affordable electric power are important to you. It's why we put such a strong emphasis on community and on being your trusted energy partner.

Firelands Electric is always examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of service you've come to expect and that you deserve. After all, we're your local co-op. We were built by the members we serve.



Dan McNaul
GENERAL MANAGER



Focused on **YOU**

Electric cooperatives were created to serve their members. Because we're a co-op, we are able to adapt to our community's unique needs. That's the power of co-op membership.

**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL
CO-OP MONTH**



COOPERATIVE CONTESTS

Win a
\$50
bill
credit

NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH CONTEST

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH — and Firelands Electric is celebrating with a special drawing!

All members of Firelands Electric Cooperative are invited to enter for a chance to **win one of ten \$50 bill credits**. Simply return this completed form by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1. Entries can be submitted to: Co-op Month Contest, Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851 or through our website at www.firelandsec.com/contests. Entries are limited to one per member. Winners' names will be published in an upcoming issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.

Member's name

Service address/City/ZIP

Phone

Email

2022 VIRTUAL JUNIOR FAIR

This summer, Firelands Electric held its third annual Virtual Junior Fair event. 4-H and FFA students exhibiting livestock at the Ashland, Huron, Lorain, or Richland county fairs who live in a home served by the cooperative were invited to enter. Each participant was asked to submit a photo of themselves with their livestock project. Entries were posted on our Facebook page and Flickr photo gallery at the conclusion of each fair.

In addition to being featured on the co-op's social media sites, this year one lucky livestock exhibitor from each fair was randomly selected to win a \$25 Amazon gift card. "This program is a fun and creative way for our local 4-H and FFA junior fair livestock exhibitors to get recognition for their hard work and accomplishments," says Communications and Member Relations Specialist Tracy Gibb.



ARIA ASKINS
RICHLAND COUNTY



BRENNA HESS
HURON COUNTY



KEITH SQUIRE
LORAIN COUNTY

Pictured are the gift card winners from the Richland, Huron, and Lorain county fairs. Ashland's winner will appear in a future issue. To view additional photos from Firelands Electric's 2022 Virtual Junior Fair, visit our online gallery at www.flickr.com/photos/firelandsec/albums.

CO-OP NEWS

ROB SWIGER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS



Rob Swiger
ENGINEERING OPERATIONS
COORDINATOR

Rob Swiger marks his 20th anniversary with Firelands Electric this month. In July, he accepted the position of engineering operations coordinator, but he has spent a majority of his co-op career as a lead lineman.

Originally hired as an engineering services representative in 2002, Rob was selected for an apprentice lineman position in March of 2003. After completing the Dennis Merchant lineman training program and 8,000 hours of on-the-job line training, Rob advanced to

journeyman lineman and was promoted to lead lineman in 2007. As a lead lineman, his responsibilities included running a crew, line rebuilds, pole replacements, and other power line maintenance.

In his new role, Rob works with cooperative members who are looking to build a new home or other facility that requires electric service. "One of my favorite aspects of this position is meeting with members and helping them determine their power needs," Rob says. "Plus, I still get to work closely with the line crews."

Rob's other engineering duties include designing service upgrades and expansions, creating staking sheets of Firelands' distribution system, and helping maintain the mapping system and warehouse material inventory.

When reflecting on his years with the co-op, Rob says, "It's been a blessing to be with Firelands for 20 years and I'm looking forward to the next 20. I work with a great bunch of people."

A native of the New London area, Rob and his wife, Dusty, enjoy camping and spending time with family and friends, especially granddaughters Bella and Emma. The couple excitedly await the arrival of their third grandchild in January 2023.

OURSOLAR^{phase 2}

Interested in renewable energy, but looking for a cost-effective alternative to installing solar panels on your home? Firelands' OurSolar program could be the right solution for you!

Residential co-op members who would like to support renewable energy initiatives without the hassle and expense of rooftop solar can purchase electricity produced by OurSolar for a small per-kilowatt-hour (kWh) premium. Ohio's recently expanded community solar program has made 140 additional panels available for Firelands Electric Cooperative members.

For complete details and answers to some of the most commonly asked questions, or if you would like to receive more information and a contract once subscriptions for OurSolar Phase 2 are open, visit www.firelandsec.com/oursolar-community-renewable-program.



CAPITAL CREDITS

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED FUNDS

Official notice is given that the following current or former patrons have cash retirements of capital credits or other payments from Firelands Electric Cooperative that have gone unclaimed for more than four years. According to Article VIII, Section 3, of the Code of Regulations, unless claim is made within 60 days of the second publication of this list, such funds will become an irrevocable gift and assignment by such patron to the cooperative. Inquiries should be directed to Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, Ohio 44851, by phone at 1-800-533-8658, or by email at accounting@firelandsec.com.

This is the first of two notices.

360 COMM CO	ATKINSON, JOHN	BELCHER, YVETTE	BOOS, KYLE W
ACKERMAN, WILLIAM H	ATKINSON, ROBERT T	BELMER, ESSIC, JR	BOOTH, ANDREW J
ADAMS, NOLA	BACKENSTO, TINA	BELOW, L S	BOTTOMLEE, JIM L
ADKINS, CHARLES	BAILEY, DAVID M	BENDER, THOMAS	BOWEN, ERNIE
ADKINS, ORACELEAINE	BAILEY, KEITH V	BENNETT, ALLEN W	BOWER, ROBERT J
ADKINS, TOM	BAILEY & ROEDER	BENNETT, LORI	BOWERS, MARGARETE A
AGNEW, LYLE W	BAILEY & ROEDER	BENNETT, ROBERT L	BOWMAN, MARLIN
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ALBERS, KENNETH M	BAKER, JOYCE	BERGMAN, RICHARD A	BOYER, JOHN P
ALBRIGHT FAMILY TRUST	BAKER, ROBERT J	BERRIER, JENNIFER M	BOZEMAN, JACKIE C
ALCORN, MICHAEL E	BAKER, TREVA	BERRY, KATHRYN	BP OIL INC
ALDRICH, MARY	BALDUFF, PERRY	BERRY, SARITA S	BRALEY, TERESA I
ALEXANDER, ARNOLD	BALOGH, SUSAN M	BESS, JOHN	BRANT, HOWIE
ALEXANDER, LORI	BALTES, JOSEPH	BESS, LESTER L	BRAUN, RAYMOND
ALEXANDER, MICHELE	BARBER, RAYMOND A	BEVERLY, CAROL	BRICELAND, JOSEPH R
ALLEN, RICKIE V	BARNETT, CLARK K	BEVIER, MARY K	BRINSON, STEPHEN E
ALVARADO, RICHARD J	BARNHART, JOHN W	BIBLER, DEBRA R	BROCK, STEPHEN D
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AMRINE, MARK	BARTLETT, TERRY L	BLACK, JEFFERY A	BROWN, JOHN S
AMSTUTZ, RANDY A	BASSLER, HARRY L	BLACKBURN, DON	BROWN, KURT D
ANGRIST, ANNA MARIE	BASTING, GLEN F	BLAISDELL, RUTH A	BROWN, LOUELLA
ANSEL, KENNETH L	BATES, DIANA	BLOODHART, JOANNE R	BROWN, ROBERT T
ARCARA, JOSEPH R	BAXTER, JOHN	BOARD, RONNIE L	BROWNELL, LESTER A
ARMSTRONG, JANE E	BAXTER, LARRY	BOARD, THOMAS A	BRUBAKER, EDWARD
ARMSTRONG UTILITIES INC	BAYLOR, SANDRA	BOBER, JAMES T	BRYANT, ARIZONA
ARNESTER, DOROTHY	BAYS, EDWARD E	BOBS NEWS CENTRE	BRYANT, GARRETT
ARNOLD, CHUCK	BEAL, ELIZABETH G	BOES, FAYE	BRYANT, GLENNA
ARNOLD, GREGORY B	BEATTIE, MATTHEW J	BOLES, RANDALL	BRYANT, RACHEL
ASHER, ELLEN M	BEATTY, GARY	BOLTENHOUSE,	BRYANT, WENDY
ASHWORTH, ANNA	BECK, GORDON W	DENNIS L, SR	BUCCI, GENE A
AT&T COMPANY STORE	BEE, KEITH E	BOND, RUTH	BUCKINGHAM, DONALD E
ATKINS, DANIEL J	BELANGER, GEORGE	BONNEY, MARGARET	BUCKLEY, THOMAS J
ATKINSON, GLENN F	BELCHER, KATHY	BOOKER, RANDY	BUCKNER, HUBERT

BUDD, MARY E
BUFFINGTON, KENNETH C
BUMGARDNER, KENNETH
BUNN, CHARLES P
BURDETTE, ROBERT J
BURGE, JASON
BURKHOLDER, SUSAN M
BURKMIER, JEANINE
BURNELL, LINDA F
BURNS, TIMOTHY A
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BURT, BRIAN A
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BUTRAM, EDDY M
BUZARD, EVELYN N
CADA, LISA A
CALVER, ROBERT L
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CAMPBELL, ALFRED E
CAMPBELL, DONNA M
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CAMPUS, PHILIP M
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CANTLEBERRY, JEFF
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CARVER, LEE J
CASTLE, SUSAN
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CHANCE, SHANNON
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CHARLTON, EDWARD T
CHIO, LANNY J
CHRISTENSON, LEE G

CHRISTOPHER CYRUS
CHRISTOPHER ON THE HILL
CHUCKS BODY SHOP
CHUPP, ARDETH
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CHURCH, JOANNE L
CIOTTO, LINDA L
CISCO, PAUL J
CLANTZ, BETTY
CLARK, D THOMAS
CLARK, KENNETH R
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CLARK, PHIL
CLARK, TIM
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CLEMONS, IRENE
CLINE, GARY
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COFFMAN, CHARLES C
COL GAS TRANSMISSION
COLANGELO, ROBERT M
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COLE, ROGER
COLEGROVE, CHAD
COLEMAN, JOSEPH D
COLLINS, DIANA
COMPANY, LOREN J
CONLEY, DEBRA L
CONN, THERESA A
CONRAIL
CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORP
COOK, HORACE D
COOK, THOMAS E
COOKE, CHARLES
COOL, ROY L
COOPER, MARY L
COOPER BROS INC
COOPER BROTHERS INC
COPUS, DAVID S
COPUS, JACKLYN A
CORDAS, NORMA P
CORRIGALL, BARBARA L
COSGROVE, CHERYL
COURTRIGHT, DANIEL A

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CRANMORE, BRENDA
CREBS, TODD
CRIGGER, MISTY
CROFUTT, DWIGHT
CROOKS, ROBERT
CSINCSAK, LORAINÉ
CULLEY, THOMAS P
CURCIO, JOSEPH L
CYPHERS, MICHAEL E
DAHLGREN, ROBERT R
DAILEY, MARK E
DALTON, BRUCE A
DAMRON, CLAYTON
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DANGELO, SHANNON
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DANIELS, LESLIE
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DARLING, JOY
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DAVIS, R C
DAVIS, ROBERT D
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DAVIS, WILLIAM E
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DEAN, ROBERT E
DEAN, SANDY
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DIEHL, NELLIE R
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DUTCH PANTRY INC #70
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EASTERLIN, C
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EDWARDS, DONALD H
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GAYHEART, ELVERDA
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GTE NORTH INC
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GUERRA, JACK
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HAHLER, ELIZABETH
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HALE, JUDY
HALE, KENNETH
HALL, ANGELA
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HALL, LISA M
HALL, RALPH F
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HALL, THOMAS E
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HAMILTON, STACEY
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HARDING, JOHN R
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HARP, DORREEN A
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HARRIMAN, CHRIS
HARRIS, CHRISTINE A
HARRIS, EVELYN
HARRIS, TAMATHA
HARRY, ROBERT E
HARTLEY, WILLIAM
HARTMAN, REBECCA
HARVEY, J THOMAS
HARVEY, WESLEY S
HASSINGER, TIMOTHY J
HAUBIEL, KENNETH E
HAVER, STEVE
HAWK, BARBARA A
HAWLEY, STEVE C
HAY, SAMUEL B
HEALY, RITA
HECKER, JOHN L
HEIN, LEGERIA L
HEISTER, CLARENCE
HELDENBRAND, TODD A
HELDRETH, EVERETT
HEMBREE, TRACEY D
HENDERSON, CHARLES
HENKE, SUE
HENLEY, SHERI L
HENSON, STEPHANIE
HERGATT, CLARENCE D
HERMANN, SARAH
HERR, JAN H
HERSHISER, RONALD
HESLEP, NANCY E
HETTEL, GERTRUDE R

HICKS, EARL R
HICKS, JACKIE
HICKS, ROD
HIGH, REUBEN
HILL, JOANNE E
HILL, LARRY RAY
HILLYER, N F
HINES, KRISTA R
HOBBS, JONNIE L
HOBSON, MARILYN J
HOERIG, GERALD
HOFFMAN, LEO T
HOLIDAY SERVICE CORP
HOOKER, FARRAH L
HOOSE, DANIEL
HOOSE, GEORGE, JR
HOOTMAN, BETTY L
HOPKINS, DANNA
HOPKINS, HELEN M
HOPKINS, MICHAEL D
HORSLEY, KEVIN C
HOSLER, GARY
HOUGHTLEN, RONALD
HOWELL, RANDY
HOWMAN, ARLENE
HUFFMAN, JEANNE L
HUGHES, JUDY D
HUNT, DANIEL J
HUNT, JOHN R
HUNTER, CHARLES R
HUNTSMAN, PATRICIA
HURON COUNTY SHERIFF
HUSBANDS, ROGER A
HYLTON, DANNY R
HYLTON, JAMES T
ICEMAN, HELEN
IHS
INGRAM, FRED R
INSANA, JOSEPH S
ISAAC, SANDRA
ISNER, TOBY
J C MEYER CO INC
JACKS TOWING
JACKSON, ALLEN W
JACKSON, BEATRICE

JACOBS, THEODORE R
JACOBS, TIMOTHY
JAKE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT
JAMISON, PHYLLIS
JANISCH, JOSEPH
JARVIS, CHERYL M
JASPER, MARK
JAVALL, SANDRA
JENKINS, ELIZABETH J
JENKINS, GILBERT E
JENKINS, TIMOTHY A
JENNINGS & CHURELLA
CONST
JESSE, SHARON
JOHNSON, CAROL J
JOHNSON, JAMES D, JR
JOHNSON, JESSICA
JONES, BRADLEY E
JONES, CLYDE R
JONES, DAVID S
JONES, HARRY
JONES, LESTER
JONES SPACELINK OF OHIO
JONNET, EDWARD
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KAHL, GENE L
KAMMER, MARK T
KATE, KEVIN P
KAUFMAN, LORI B
KAYLOR, EILEEN
KEARNEY, WILLIAM B
KEENER, CINDY L
KEENER, MARGARET
KEGLEY, LORELEI
KEIFER, D A
KEIFFER, RONALD E
KELLY, KATHY A
KELLY'S FLOWERS
KENDALL, KATHLEEN C
KENNEDY, MARILYN T
KERSHNER, G P
KETCHELL, JAMES
KEYSOR, BILL J
KEYSOR, CAROL S
KEYSOR, ELLEN C
KIDD, RACHEL

KIDWELL, DEBBIE
KILBURN, MARY ANN
KILGORE, KENNETH
KING, BRIGITTE
KING, S M
KINGLE, GEORGE
KINNEY, BONNIE J
KINNISON, ROGER E
KIPP, JESSICA
KIRK, STEVEN M
KIRYK, ZENON B
KISHBAUGH, RALPH H
KITHCART, KEITH A
KITTS, MICHELLE M
KLINE, KENNY L
KNIPP, CATHY
KNITTEL, BOB
KOBYLSKI, TINA J
KOCHENDERFER, BETH
KOCHHEISER, DONALD
KOCHIS, BERTHA J
KOEBERT, CATONYA
KRISHA, STEPHANIE A
KROH, DAWN
KRUKI, MARANDIE
KUBASEK, KENNETH V
LADD, DEBRA
LADRACH, ROBERT H
LAFERTY, TANYA
LAFEVER, MARK
LAING, ROBERT M
LAKE ERIE RAIL CAR
LAMBERT, DENNIS L
LAMBERT, HELEN
LAMBERT, JEFFREY
LANCE, ROBERT G
LANE, RICHARD S
LANEY, MICHAEL D
LANG, RONALD L
LARCK, CLAYTON W
LASER, JOHN P
LASKY, STEPHANIE
LATIMER, GARY E
LAUTZENHISER, TOM
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM H

LAWRENTZ, ROBERT A, SR
LAY, LARRY J
LAY, SCOTT E
LAYACONA, MARK
LAYNE, SAMUEL
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LEE A SMITH & SONS
LEGAN, CHRISTOPHER M
LEGG, LENA
LEIBOLD, JEFFREY C
LEININGER, JAMES R
LEITZ, AARON
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LETTERLY, CHARLES
LEWIS, ANITA
LEWIS, BARBARA
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LEWIS, M DEWAYNE
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LILJEGREN, CAROLA
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LONG, DEBORAH L
LONG, JOHN P
LONG, MICHAEL
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LOONEY, JEFFREY S
LOUTHAN, CHERYL A
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LYNCH, TONYA E
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FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

DON'T BE HAUNTED BY THE COST OF WASTED ENERGY

With Halloween just around the corner, the month of October is filled with its fair share of ghosts, goblins, and other mysterious monsters. There's one creature, however, that you definitely do not want haunting your home.

Phantom power, also known as vampire or standby power, not only wastes electricity, but also steals money from your energy budget. This "beast" is made up of appliances or other electronic devices that still use energy when they are turned off or not in use. For example, that cellphone or tablet charger that you leave plugged in at all times continues to draw a small amount of electricity — even when your device is not charging.

At first glance, the number of kilowatt-hours (kWh) that phantom power consumes through any individual device seems

insignificant. However, when you multiply that figure by the roughly 40 electronic vampires in your home, it can add up. In fact, energy.gov estimates that the average U.S. household spends \$100 or more per year on power that is wasted through phantom devices like those listed in the chart below.

So how can you keep phantoms at bay? In many instances, simply unplugging items when they are not in use will do the trick. Using a traditional power strip or advanced "smart" power strip is another option. Both allow you to turn groups of devices on and off with the flip of single switch.

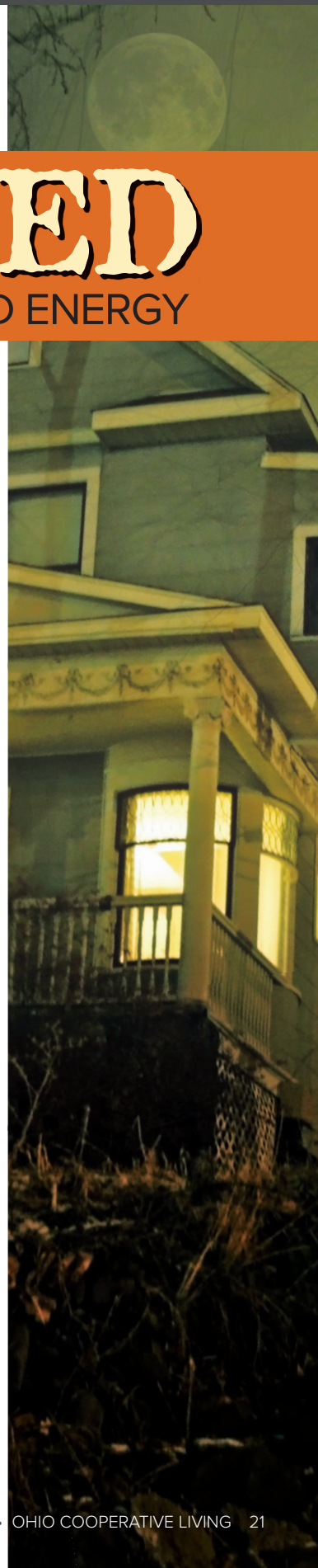
Some versions of smart power strips can be configured to automatically turn off a group of electronic devices when the main device is powered down. Others utilize a timer, while some automatically shut off devices when no activity is sensed. For more information on the various types of power strips, check out the infographic from National Renewable Energy Laboratory at <https://bit.ly/3cSDZCQ>.

One final way to help reduce phantom power consumption is by purchasing ENERGY STAR-certified appliances and electronic devices. Many use less standby power than older or non-certified models.

While some of your home's appliances and electronics require a constant flow of electricity, it's not necessary for others. Don't let wasting electricity and money give you a fright. Follow the tips we've outlined here and keep yourself safe from the effects of phantom power. To read additional tips for saving energy, visit www.firelandsec.com/energy-education.

COMMON USERS OF PHANTOM POWER

- Cellphone, tablet, and computer chargers
- Kitchen appliances such as rice cookers, breadmakers, and instant pots
- Office equipment like paper shredders, printers, and fax machines
- Rechargeable power tools
- Electric garden implements
- Televisions, DVRs, and DVD players
- Cable or satellite boxes
- Computers and modems
- Game consoles





COOPERATIVE UPDATE

BOARD MEETING *highlights*

Firelands Electric Cooperative's board of trustees met July 26 and covered the following items:

- Board President Dan Schloemer reported that the cooperative received 31 membership applications for approval by the board.
- General Manager Dan McNaull reviewed the OEC 2022 Power Requirements Study.
- Director of Operations Don Englet reported on recent activities and projects in the operations department, including the continued cleanup of debris from June's severe storms and employee training.
- McNaull reviewed Phase 2 of OEC's OurSolar project and Firelands' participation in the expansion of this statewide community solar program.
- The board reviewed plans for the upcoming key accounts event at the Akron Rubber Ducks game on Aug. 10, which is being sponsored by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives.
- McNaull discussed the results of the cooperative's recent ACSI member satisfaction survey. Firelands scored an 87, which was three points higher than the statewide mean score.
- Director of Finance and Accounting Tabi Shepherd reviewed the June financials and reported on recent accounting and billing department activities.
- McNaull reminded board members of the upcoming NRECA Regional Meeting scheduled for Sept. 6-8 and the OEC Summer Conference on Aug. 8-9.
- The board reviewed a report for a safety and training meeting held June 29.
- McNaull reviewed the monthly tree-trimming and outage reports.
- Schloemer reported on a meeting at Ohio's Electric Cooperatives that he recently attended.
- Director of Communications and Technology Andrea Gravenhorst reviewed recent activities involving the member services and IT department.

The cooperative's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 25. If you would like to attend the next scheduled meeting, please contact the Firelands Electric office at 1-800-533-8658.

FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

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