



GM'S REPORT

# ACRE GETS A MAKEOVER

Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE) gets a new name



Dan McNaul  
GENERAL MANAGER

For 56 years, the Action Committee for Rural Electrification, or ACRE, served as the grassroots political action committee (PAC) funded by contributions from electric cooperative members like you. With nearly 6,000 ACRE members in Ohio and more than 31,000 nationwide, the committee provided a collective voice to educate state and national policymakers on the needs of rural America. Through monthly donations from participating co-op members, employees, and trustees, ACRE supports current and potential government officials who keep the best interests of electric cooperatives in mind.

Research by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), along with the firsthand experiences of its government affairs personnel, prompted a recent rebranding of ACRE. They found that the ACRE name and logo did little to help policymakers make the connection between the committee and electric cooperatives.

As of March 6, ACRE was officially renamed America's Electric Cooperatives PAC. This simple, straightforward name better reflects the relationship between the organization and the nation's cooperatives. This is especially important during elections, when the vast number of new candidates and legislators make it easy for co-ops to get lost in the alphabet soup of political acronyms. Having a new name and new logo that are clearly associated with electric cooperatives will help the PAC be more recognizable to policymakers.

*Continued on page 18*



America's Electric  
Cooperatives | PAC

## AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES PAC FAQs

### Why did the name of NRECA's PAC change?

Though the name "ACRE" was effective when it was first established, today's policymakers did not make the connection between ACRE support and the members and employees of electric co-ops who funded it.

### Why "America's Electric Cooperatives PAC"?

To better understand the disconnect policymakers had between ACRE and electric co-ops, NRECA conducted research with individuals associated with federal politics, policymakers, and PAC donors to assess their attitudes towards the ACRE brand. This research revealed that the PAC's identity should be more strongly connected to electric co-ops and NRECA.

"America's Electric Cooperatives PAC" and its updated visual identity will enable federal candidates to more easily identify where PAC contributions come from. With the new brand's clearer connection to electric co-ops and NRECA, the PAC hopes to strengthen its political and advocacy efforts across the board.

### Will the rebrand affect who is eligible to participate in the PAC?

The rebrand will NOT affect who can participate in the PAC. America's Electric Cooperatives PAC will continue to operate pursuant to federal statute and the regulations of the Federal Election Commission (FEC) as a separate segregated fund, better known as a PAC.

Board trustees, eligible employees, Firelands' members, and the spouses and immediate family of eligible individuals are all permitted to join America's Electric Cooperatives PAC.

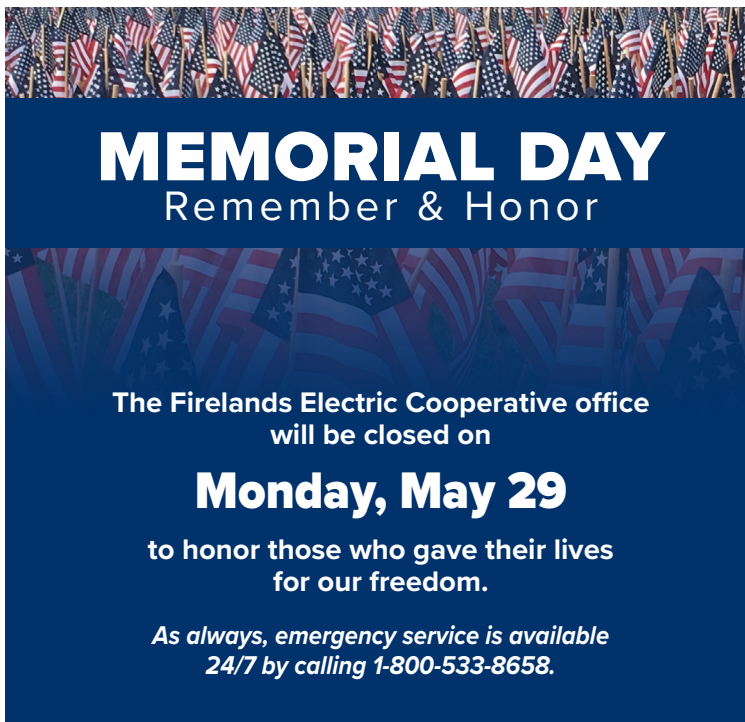


## FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

Continued from page 17

How does this rebranding affect Firelands Electric Cooperative members? It doesn't. Those who previously participated in ACRE have automatically had their memberships switched over to America's Electric Cooperatives PAC. They will also continue to have their monthly contributions added to their electric bills, just like before. The only difference is that the line on the monthly billing statement will be changing from "ACRE/COPA Membership" to "PAC Membership."

Firelands Electric members who did not previously participate in ACRE, but who wish to join America's Electric Cooperatives PAC, may do so by completing and returning the form below. Additional information about the PAC and how it can help you make your voice heard in the political arena is available on the Political Action page at [www.firelandsec.com](http://www.firelandsec.com).



# MEMORIAL DAY

Remember & Honor

The Firelands Electric Cooperative office  
will be closed on

## Monday, May 29

to honor those who gave their lives  
for our freedom.

As always, emergency service is available  
24/7 by calling 1-800-533-8658.



## America's Electric Cooperatives | PAC



I want to help keep the voice of rural electric cooperatives heard in the political process by participating in America's Electric Cooperatives PAC.

### Monthly Bill Addition

- ☐ REGULAR: \$2.08 PER MONTH (\$25/YEAR)
- ☐ AMBASSADOR CLUB: \$4.16 PER MONTH (\$50/YEAR)
- ☐ CENTURY CLUB: \$8.33 PER MONTH (\$100/YEAR)
- ☐ VICE PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$20.83 PER MONTH (\$250/YEAR)\*
- ☐ PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$41.66 PER MONTH (\$500/YEAR)\*
- ☐ OTHER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### One-Time Contribution

- ☐ REGULAR: \$25
- ☐ AMBASSADOR CLUB: \$50
- ☐ CENTURY CLUB: \$100
- ☐ VICE PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$250\*
- ☐ PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$500\*
- ☐ OTHER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Authorized bill additions will continue until terminated by the member)

I affirm that my contribution has been made with non-corporate funds: (Please make checks out to Firelands Electric Cooperative)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ COOPERATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Federal Election Law requires the following information for contributions exceeding \$200:

EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to the NRECA America's Electric Cooperatives PAC are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Contributions to America's Electric Cooperatives PAC are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. NRECA will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS



# CO-OP SELECTS DELEGATES

Firelands Electric is pleased to announce that Jillian Hazen and Hayley Putt will be representing the cooperative on the 2023 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

The daughter of Jason and Jessica Hazen of Jeromesville, Jillian is a sophomore at Hillsdale High School. She is active in FFA, theater, and the swim team. Hayley is the daughter of Jason and Anna Putt of Greenwich and the late Kelly Putt. She is a sophomore at South Central High School and is involved in FFA and choir and works on the family farm.

Sponsored by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, Firelands Electric, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), Youth Tour is an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., that will take place June 17 to 23. Jillian and Hayley will join approximately 40 other students from rural electric cooperatives across the state of Ohio as they tour the sights in and around our nation's capital.

The annual Youth Tour program gives children of cooperative members a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in an in-depth look at Washington, D.C. Participants have the chance to visit sites such as the U.S. Capitol, Gettysburg, the Smithsonian Institution, the Vietnam Memorial, the Kennedy Center, the Supreme Court building, and many others. Through educational and sightseeing activities, students gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as citizens. Delegates are also able to meet and interact with their U.S. representatives and senators during the trip.

While groups are organized by state, Firelands' delegates also will meet students from other electric cooperatives across the country for Youth Day. At this event, they will hear featured speakers who provide insight into the important role that electric co-ops play in their communities. In all, nearly 2,000 students participate in Youth Tour each year.

Students participating in Youth Tour may also be chosen to serve as a representative on the NRECA Youth Leadership Council (YLC). One student from each state is selected for YLC and will return to Washington, D.C., in July for an additional leadership workshop that focuses on the electric cooperative industry.

Firelands' Youth Tour contest is offered to high school sophomores and juniors who reside in homes served by the cooperative. Candidates are evaluated on school and community activities, demonstrated leadership, and a letter of recommendation. Up to two applicants are then chosen to represent the co-op on the annual tour. To learn more about Firelands' youth programs, visit [www.firelandsec.com/community](http://www.firelandsec.com/community).



Jillian Hazen  
HILLSDALE HIGH SCHOOL



Hayley Putt  
SOUTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



## CO-OP CONTESTS

### ELECTRICAL SAFETY CONTEST

# Lunch with a LINEMAN



May is National Electrical Safety Month and Firelands Electric Cooperative is celebrating with an exciting new contest!

It takes a lot of people to keep electricity flowing, including more than a dozen linemen who work for the cooperative. Linemen often face challenging and dangerous situations to ensure that your home, farm, or business receives safe, reliable power. They work near high voltage equipment on a regular basis, and frequently do so while nearly forty feet in the air. To protect themselves, linemen wear special protective equipment.

To help teach our younger co-op members about the importance of this safety equipment, Firelands Electric is sponsoring a contest for children in kindergarten through fifth grade to learn how each piece of linemen's safety equipment is used. Three entries will also be randomly selected to win a private tour of Firelands Electric's utility equipment and lunch with a lineman later this summer!

#### Contest rules:

1. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are eligible to enter.
2. Students must live in a home receiving its power from Firelands Electric Cooperative.
3. Complete the entry on the next page by writing the name of the safety equipment in the blank next to the correct description on the diagram.
4. Choose the equipment name from the list of words provided in the word bank on this page.
5. A parent or guardian must also complete and sign the section at the bottom of the page.

6. Completed entries may be returned by mailing them to: Safety Contest, Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851. Entries may also be dropped off at the co-op office or emailed to [members@firelandsec.com](mailto:members@firelandsec.com).
7. Entries must be received by 4 p.m. on Friday, June 2.
8. Students who correctly identify at least six of the eight pieces of safety equipment will have their names entered into a drawing for a chance to win one of three spots for a special behind-the-scenes look at electric utility equipment and lunch with a Firelands lineman. (Each of the three winners will be permitted to bring one adult chaperone to the event.)
9. Winners will be featured in the local pages of a future issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine, as well as on Firelands Electric Cooperative's website and social media outlets. The correct answers to the contest will also be published in a future issue.

If you have any questions regarding our Lunch with a Lineman contest, please contact the member services department at 1-800-533-8658.

#### WORD BANK

rubber gloves	traffic vest
extendo stick	glove protectors
safety glasses	rubber sleeves
flame-resistant shirt	dielectric overshoes
hard hat	two-way radio

NOTE: Not all words in word bank will be used.

Write the name of the lineman equipment on the line above its description. Select from the words in the provided word bank.

A. \_\_\_\_\_

Keep dirt and debris away from linemen's eyes.

B. \_\_\_\_\_

Protects linemen from head injuries and falling debris.

C. \_\_\_\_\_

Prevents linemen's clothing from catching fire.

D. \_\_\_\_\_

Used to protect arms and shoulders from electrical shock.

E. \_\_\_\_\_

Protect the hands from injury because they do not conduct electricity.

F. \_\_\_\_\_

Cover rubber gloves to prevent tears and holes from occurring.



G. \_\_\_\_\_

Made of fiberglass, it lets workers safely perform some tasks while staying on the ground.

H. \_\_\_\_\_

Go over work boots to provide added protection from electrical shock.

Please complete the information below and mail this page to: Safety Contest, Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

# CAST YOUR BALLOT

Trustee elections open May 1

Members of Firelands Electric Cooperative will choose trustees to represent board districts 1, 3, and 6 this year. Elections will be conducted by mail and online ballot. Co-op Ballot, an independent service provider, will manage the election by printing and mailing ballots, overseeing the online voting portal, and receiving and tallying all votes.

Members will receive candidate biographies and a paper ballot in the mail at the end of April. Candidate information will also be available online at [www.firelandsec.com](http://www.firelandsec.com) and in the June issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.

### How to cast your vote

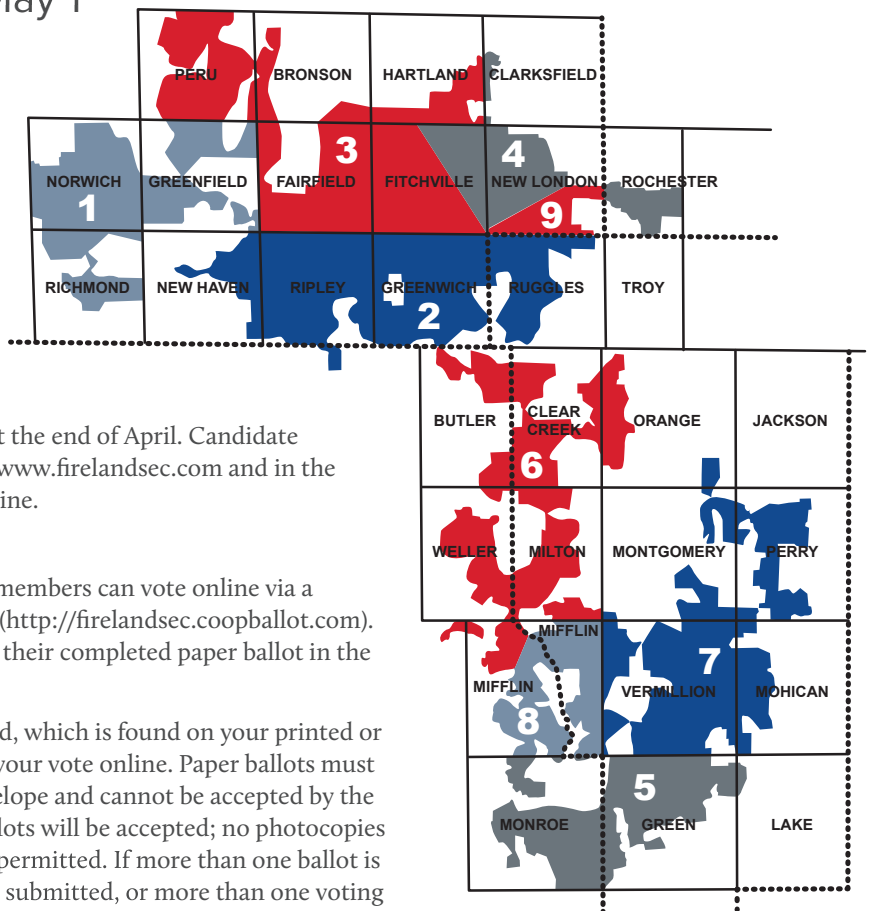
Starting Monday, May 1, Firelands Electric members can vote online via a secure link available on the co-op's website (<http://firelandsec.coopballot.com>). Members may also opt to vote by returning their completed paper ballot in the envelope provided.

You will need the account number on record, which is found on your printed or emailed monthly billing statement, to cast your vote online. Paper ballots must be mailed using the provided, pre-paid envelope and cannot be accepted by the cooperative's office. Only original paper ballots will be accepted; no photocopies are permitted. If more than one ballot is submitted, or more than one voting method is used, the first ballot received by the independent service provider will be considered final.

### Timeline

Co-op voting will open on Monday, May 1, and will close Sunday, June 18, at 11:59 p.m. Any ballots received by the independent service provider after the close of voting will not be counted, so please allow ample time for delivery if sending by mail.

Winners of the election will be announced at Firelands Electric Cooperative's annual meeting on Saturday, June 24. Results will also be posted on the co-op's website and published in *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.





# 85<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

# Save the date

**JUNE 24, 2023**

at the Ashland University  
Convocation Center



Complete details will be included in the June issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living*.



## Plan a Tune-Up

WITH YOUR HVAC TECHNICIAN  
AND CHANGE YOUR FILTERS  
TO PREPARE FOR SUMMER



## LOAD MANAGEMENT

# THE IMPORTANCE OF beating the peak

Reducing the demand for electricity benefits everyone

### What is peak demand?

Peak demand is when electric use is approaching a record high. Increased demand for electricity from individual electric co-ops and utilities, the state of Ohio as a whole, or even the 13-state PJM Interconnection (the electric transmission territory that serves Ohio), can result in a new peak record being set. Peak demand does not indicate a shortage of power, only an increased consumption of electricity.

### Why is peak demand important?

During peak demand, Firelands Electric Cooperative's power supplier, Buckeye Power, Inc., runs its large baseload power plants at full capacity. If the need arises, Buckeye Power can also fire up its supplemental gas-fired peaking plants or purchase power from additional sources. Implementing these measures increases the cost of the electricity being produced. To offset these costs, Buckeye Power will assign Firelands Electric a new demand charge, which directly affects the wholesale power portion of members' electric rates.

### What does this mean for load management participants?

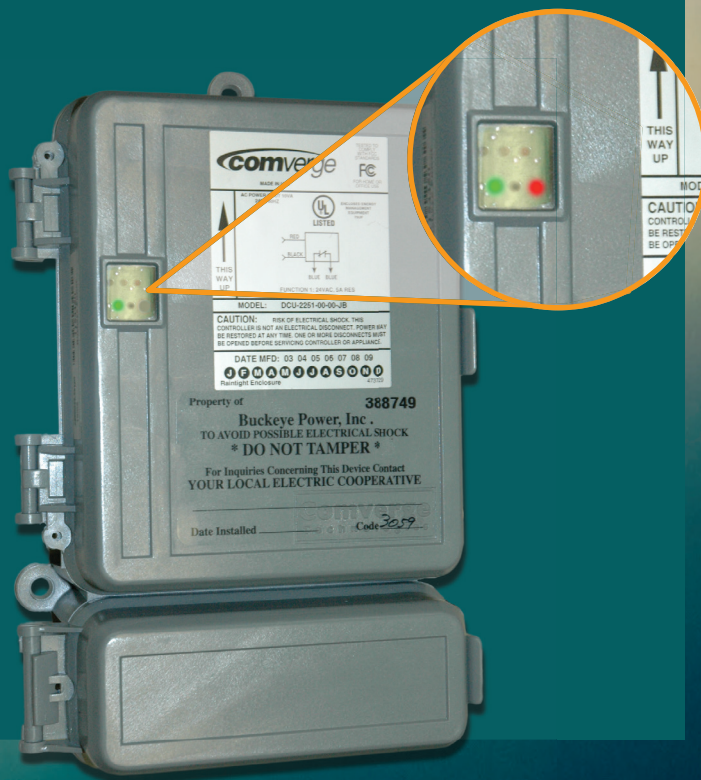
Members who participate in Firelands Electric's voluntary load management program help the cooperative lower the demand for electricity and reduce the risk of setting a new peak — saving money for both the co-op and its members. Rebates and incentives are also available to members who choose to participate in these programs.

During periods of high electricity demand, Buckeye Power may issue a peak alert. These alerts **ONLY** occur when extreme weather conditions and temperatures take place — on the hottest days during the summer and the coldest days in the winter — and typically happen about a dozen times per year. During a peak alert, load management devices installed on electric water heaters and HVAC systems in participating members' homes may be activated, temporarily disconnecting the appliance from the power supply.

Summer load management efforts typically take place on very hot and humid days between 2 and 6 p.m. Winter load management may occur on bitter cold days between 6 and 10 a.m. and/or from 5 to 9 p.m. Depending upon weather conditions and power loads, the time and duration of load management efforts may be adjusted.

For details on how each type of load management device operates, as well as the incentives that program participants receive, check out the next page. If you have questions regarding your load management device, or wish to become enrolled in one Firelands' programs, please visit [www.firelandsec.com/load-management](http://www.firelandsec.com/load-management) or contact the member services department at 1-800-533-8658.

Members may also sign up for peak alert email and/or text notifications by enrolling in SmartHub. Visit [www.firelandsec.com/smarthub-101](http://www.firelandsec.com/smarthub-101) for details on how to register for SmartHub and always know when a peak alert and load management are taking place.



## How does load management work?

### General load management information

- A load management device, like the gray plastic box shown at the bottom of the left-hand page, is typically installed above the water heater, near the HVAC system, at the outside disconnect for the HVAC system, or mounted next to the service panel, or breaker box.
- A green light on the device is normal and indicates that electricity is flowing to the water heater or HVAC system.
- A red or amber light indicates that load management is taking place and that the water heater or HVAC system is not receiving any power.
- The device receives a satellite signal about every 10 minutes, so if the circuit breaker is flipped off and on, or the entire home loses power, you will need to wait up to 15 minutes for the device to reset and the green light indicator to reappear.

### Water heater

- During a peak alert involving load management, the device shuts off power to a member's water heater for the duration of the load management period, which can last several hours. To conserve hot water during this time, avoid laundry, dishwashing, and bathing until the peak alert has ended.

### Heating system

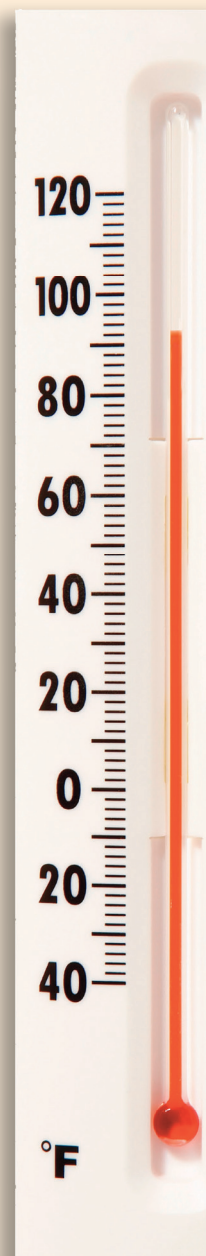
- This includes electric furnaces, heat pumps, geothermal systems, electric baseboard heaters, and Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) units.
- During a peak alert involving load management, the device shuts off power to a member's heating system for the duration of the load management. However, there is a temperature override in place to prevent your home from getting too cold.
- In addition to the gray plastic box, heating systems also have a small white box, known as a Dencor, which serves as a temperature sensor. This sensor will stop load management and return your heating system to

normal operation if the temperature of the home gets below 60 degrees.

- The Dencor has lights inside the box. A green light, or combination of red and green, indicate that the temperature sensor is working properly.
- If the lights are red only (solid or flashing), the Dencor has become "locked up." If this occurs, flip the breaker to the heating system off for a few minutes. Once the breaker is back on, the Dencor should reset in approximately 15 to 20 minutes. If the device still shows red, contact the cooperative.
- Members receive a \$5.00 bill credit each month from November to June (for service in October through May) for having this device installed.
- It's important to note that new load management devices are no longer installed on heating systems. These devices are being phased out and only homes with existing functional ones installed can qualify for this incentive.

### Central air-conditioning

- This style of load management device is installed on central air-conditioning systems, heat pumps, and geothermal units.
- Devices on air-conditioning systems are only controlled 8 to 10 minutes during each 30-minute period. As a result, your system will cycle off and on during summer peak alerts, helping to maintain the comfort level of your home.
- Air-conditioning controls are only connected to the system's low-voltage side of the compressor and will not affect the blower or fan on the air handler.
- Essentially, your air conditioner turns off and on like normal. It's just timed to prevent too many systems from running at the same time.
- Members receive a \$10.00 bill credit each month from July to October (for service in June through September) for having this device installed.



At left: This gray box is a load management device. Firelands Electric members who are voluntarily enrolled in the cooperative's Cool Returns or PeakBusters programs have one of these devices installed near their service panel, HVAC system, central air-conditioner, and/or water heater. The box has a green light displayed during normal operation, indicating that electricity is flowing to your system. If a red or amber light is displayed (as shown in the enlarged circle), a peak alert has been issued. This indicates that load management is taking place and that your system is temporarily not receiving any electric power.



## INDUSTRY NEWS

# PREPARING FOR MORE EVs

## Cooperatives plan now for future changes in electric demand

Last year saw a record increase in electric vehicle (EV) sales, and experts predict that by 2035, some vehicle manufacturers will produce electric models only.

A 2021 study by the Department of Energy showed that increased electrification, or replacement of direct fossil fuel use with electricity, could account for a 38% increase in electricity demand by 2050 — and EVs could play a major role in this increase.

The need for more electricity will have an impact on the nation's grid, requiring electric utilities, including cooperatives, to examine the power supply and grid infrastructure now to make plans for accommodating any future increased need for electricity.

EV charging presents a unique set of new challenges. Fully charging an EV battery requires roughly the same amount of electricity needed to power a home during times of peak energy use. However, EV charging is a concentrated pull of energy over an extended period, which increases the amount of electricity a utility must provide. Additionally, members' transformers and substation transformers need adequate capacity to handle the increased load. EV charging can shorten the lifespan of transformers by straining and overloading their capacity if they are not matched to the connected members' energy needs.

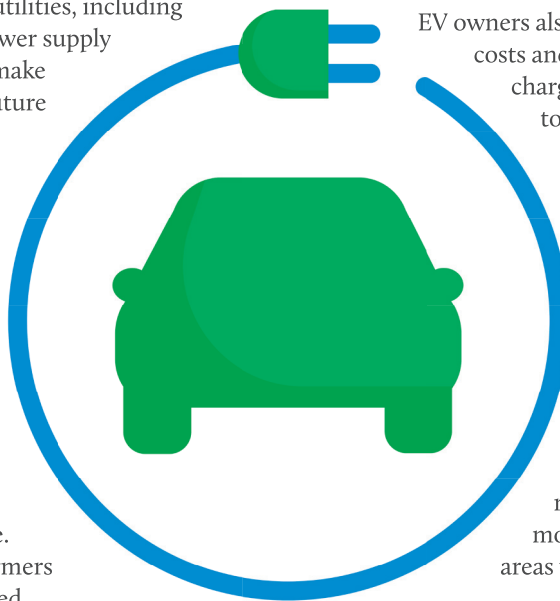
Just like other changes in the electric industry over the last century, co-op members can be confident that Firelands Electric, along with electric cooperatives across the country, are taking a proactive approach to the additional considerations that EV charging could bring. Co-ops are researching ways to manage this new pattern of electricity use, though exact strategies will vary based on localized needs. Analyzing energy load patterns —

identifying where and when high demand is occurring — can provide electric co-ops with data on where to place higher capacity transformers or build higher capacity distribution lines. This analysis can also provide a picture of overall energy use and patterns to help forecast energy consumption for the future. Planning system maintenance and upgrades is also part of long-range forecasting; however, this recently has been complicated by supply-chain issues with transformers, with wait times over two years.

EV owners also have a role in reducing energy costs and system stress associated with charging. EV drivers who plug in to charge as soon as they return home from work add even more electricity demand during this already busy time of day. Charging when electricity use is lower, such as after dark, is a great way to ease demand. Utilizing a timer to schedule charging during the middle of the night has the added benefit of spreading the electricity demand out over a longer period, reducing stress on the grid even more. This is especially beneficial for areas with multiple EV owners.

EVs are only expected to increase in number. Electric co-ops and EV owners both have roles to play in accommodating the rise in demand that come with a higher number of EVs. If you own an EV, let your electric co-op know so they can better plan energy demand for you, your neighbors, and your fellow co-op members.

*This article is the final in a three-part series focused on EVs and what it's like to own one in rural Ohio. If you missed the first two installments, check out the March and April digital issues of Ohio Cooperative Living at [www.firelandsec.com/ohio-cooperative-living-magazine](http://www.firelandsec.com/ohio-cooperative-living-magazine).*



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

# FOUR REASONS TO GET A SMART THERMOSTAT

Have you considered purchasing a smart thermostat but can't decide if it's the right choice for you? To help you decide, let's look at some of the benefits smart thermostats have to offer:

### 1. Decreased energy costs

The average American household spends between \$1,000 and \$2,000 annually on heating and cooling. Equipping your HVAC system with smart technology can help you stay comfortable and save energy and money year-round.

A smart thermostat allows you to program a schedule with set temperatures based on your routine. You can be comfortable while you're at home, but also stop wasting energy and money heating or cooling an empty house when you're away. Smart thermostats can even be programmed to make adjustments so that your living space is the perfect temperature when you arrive home from work or school.

### 2. Easy temperature control

While a regular programmable thermostat can also give you the benefits of setting a schedule, smart versions offer the additional flexibility of modifying your settings from wherever you are, whenever you'd like. You can adjust your set schedule or even change the current temperature in real time through a smartphone-connected app.

And smart thermostats can even do this for you: Using advanced technology, they learn your habits and daily routines and make adjustments accordingly. With the help of geofencing, some smart thermostats can even interact with other devices, such as your smartphone or fitness tracker, to pinpoint how soon you'll be home. Based on this data, the thermostat can automatically adjust to your preferred temperature settings in time for your arrival, without you ever having to lift a finger.

### 3. Enhanced safety features

It's not all about comfort and saving money, however. Smart thermostats can make your home safer, too. Many are equipped with safety settings that can turn your HVAC system on or off, depending on the situation, and alert you immediately.

If your home reaches a temperature at which your pipes could freeze, for example, a smart thermostat can turn on the heat. Some smart thermostats can also sense carbon monoxide leaks or smoke and turn off the heat as a precaution.

### 4. Tracked energy usage

Smart thermostats may adapt their settings based on your habits, but they can also help you adjust those habits to save even more energy. Many provide reports or allow you to access your analytics in an app to observe how your energy usage has changed over time. A smart thermostat can predict how your current habits will likely affect your energy costs over time and even suggest what you can change to help you save more in the future.

Are you ready to upgrade to a smart thermostat? Firelands Electric Cooperative members who purchase and install an ENERGY STAR-certified, Wi-Fi-enabled smart thermostat can receive a bill credit equal to 50% of the unit's purchase price, with a maximum rebate of \$150. To learn more, visit [www.firelandsec.com/smart-thermostat-rebate](http://www.firelandsec.com/smart-thermostat-rebate) or call the cooperative's member services departments at 1-800-533-8658.





## COOPERATIVE UPDATE

# BOARD MEETING *highlights*

*Firelands Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees met Feb. 28 and covered the following items:*

- Board President Dan Schloemer reported that the cooperative received 28 membership applications for approval by the board.
- General Manager Dan McNaull, Director of Operations Don Englet, and Alpha Engineering's Trent Fern reviewed details about the Coulter substation rebuild. Following discussion, the project bid was awarded to Niagara Power Transformer.
- Fern reviewed the status of the line construction project planned for the L1 line in the Perrysville area. Linetec Services, LLC, was selected to complete the work.
- McNaull shared that Frontier Communications has installed broadband fiber in a portion of the cooperative's territory. He also reported that Armstrong has made additional attachments to co-op poles in order to expand its internet services.
- Englet reported on additional activities and projects in the operations department, including an Ohio Cooperative Safety Association meeting that he recently attended.
- McNaull reviewed a report on safety and training events held on Jan. 27 and Feb. 14.
- The board discussed topics from the recent OEC Winter Conference.
- McNaull advised the board of the upcoming NRECA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Schloemer reported on a recent OREC meeting that he attended.
- McNaull reviewed the status of petitions for the upcoming trustee elections.
- Director of Finance and Accounting Tabi Shepherd reviewed the January financials and reported on recent accounting and billing department activities.
- Director of Communications and Technology Andrea Gravenhorst reported on recent activities involving the member services and IT departments, including recent cybersecurity testing.

The cooperative's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23. 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.

#### OUTAGE HOTLINE

1-800-533-8658

#### OFFICE

103 Industrial Drive  
P.O. Box 32  
New London, OH 44851  
1-800-533-8658

#### OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.  
[www.firelandsec.com](http://www.firelandsec.com)



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dan Schloemer  
President, District 1

Bruce Leimbach  
Vice President, District 4

Carl Ayers  
Secretary/Treasurer, District 5

Elaine Oswald  
District 8

Tom Lucha  
District 3

Gene Lamoreaux  
District 2

John Martin  
District 9

Kevin Reidy  
District 6

Rob Turk  
District 7

### GENERAL MANAGER

Dan McNaull

#### HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

Email your ideas to:  
[members@firelandsec.com](mailto:members@firelandsec.com)

**Firelands**  
**Electric**  
**COOPERATIVE**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative