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Co-op Board Election - Things to Know

For EnerStar members interested in running for the co-op board of directors, the April 8, 2025, deadline to submit petitions is quickly approaching.

Prior to receiving a petition, candidates should verify with cooperative personnel that they reside within an open Representative District. Below you will find geographical descriptions of the open seats. Petitions require the signatures of 15 EnerStar active members who live in the candidate's Voting District.

The role of director is a significant commitment – of time, energy and education – more than most members realize. The petition packet provides more information about the role of the director and the election process.

Results of the director election will be announced at the Annual Meeting of Members on the morning of Saturday, June 7, 2025. To receive a petition packet or for questions regarding the petition process, contact EnerStar at 800-635-4145.

Representative Board District Descriptions 3 year terms

✓ Voting District A3

District 3 - Currently served by
Granville Colvin, Paris

The Townships of Buck, Paris, Hunter, and
Stratton in Edgar County, Illinois

✓ Voting District B6

District 6 - Currently served by
Jeff Murphy, Marshall

The Townships of Westfield and Douglas
in Clark County, Illinois; all that portion
of the Township of Dolson lying north of
the 2000th Road in Clark County, Illinois;
and all that portion of the Township of
Wabash lying north of Interstate Highway
70 in Clark County, Illinois

2025 elections

✓ Voting District C8

District 8 - Currently served by
Greg Robinson, Marshall

All that portion of the Township of
Wabash lying south of Interstate Highway
70 in Clark County, Illinois

2025 Annual Meeting of Members

April 8, 2025 - Last day to turn in
petition

June 7, 2025 - Annual Meeting of
Members



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

11597 Illinois Highway 1
Paris, IL 61944
800-635-4145
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming changes to elections

EnerStar is a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by its member-owners, who are also the customers receiving electricity services. That's you!

Each year, these member-owners elect fellow co-op members from their voting district to serve on the board of directors. The board is responsible for overseeing the cooperative's operations, establishing policies and guidelines, approving the financial budget, and developing the cooperative's strategic vision. This highlights the cooperative difference: Decisions are made by local residents who care about their communities.

The co-op board consists of nine directors, with one representative from each district as outlined in the co-op bylaws approved by the membership. Typically, three positions are open each year.

The process for active members seeking an open board seat is currently underway. If you are interested in seeking a position on

the co-op board, see page 18A for more detailed information regarding the election process.

The board election results are announced at the cooperative's **Annual Meeting of Members this year, scheduled for Saturday, June 7, 2025**. All active members will receive an official meeting notice in mid-April, which will include meeting details and specific information regarding the director election for their district.

Approved Bylaw Change Regarding Uncontested Elections

While we encourage active participation in the director election process, there are instances when co-op members run unopposed for a board seat. At the 2024 Annual Meeting, cooperative members approved a bylaw change to address this situation.

If more than one candidate is running for a board seat, the regular mail-in ballot process will be used. However, when only one candidate

is running for a board seat, the co-op will suspend the mail portion of the election process. Unopposed candidates will be presented for a verbal vote during the Annual Meeting of Members, and members in that district will be notified when this occurs.

To learn more about the meeting and the director elections, visit www.enerstar.com. If you have any questions, please call our office at 1-800-635-4145, and we would be happy to discuss the process further with you.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Turn your suds into savings. Lower your energy use in the laundry room by washing clothes with cold water whenever possible, as heating water accounts for most of the energy used in a laundry cycle. Wash full loads to make the most of energy savings, and use high-efficiency detergent designed for cold washes. For drying cycles, clean the lint filter before each load to improve airflow and use dryer balls to reduce drying time.



Clearing the path to reliability

Trees are majestic, beautiful and good for the soul. But we also know that our members depend on us to deliver reliable power to their homes and businesses. That's why EnerStar Electric strives to balance maintaining the beautiful surroundings we all cherish with ensuring reliable electricity. You might not realize it, but there are several benefits to regular tree trimming.

Reliability

Keeping power lines clear of overgrown vegetation improves service reliability. After all, we've seen the whims of Mother Nature during severe weather events, with fallen tree limbs taking down power lines and utility poles. While many factors can impact power disruptions, most outages can be attributed to overgrown vegetation. That is why you sometimes see EnerStar crews trimming trees near power lines in the community. Our trimming crews have been trained and certified based on the latest industry standards.

All U.S. electric utilities are required to trim trees that grow too close to power lines. Scheduled trimming throughout the year keeps lines clear from overgrown or dead limbs that are likely to fall, and we can better prepare for severe weather events. Plus, we all know it's more cost-effective to undertake preventative maintenance than to make repairs after the fact.

Safety

Working near power lines can be dangerous, and we care about your safety and that of our lineworkers. Electricity can arc or jump from a power line to a nearby conductor, such as a tree. Any tree or branch that falls across a

expensive to correct. A strategic vegetation management program helps keep costs down for everyone.

How You Can Help

When it comes to vegetation management, there are ways you can help, too. When planting



power line creates a potentially dangerous situation. A proactive approach lessens the chances of fallen trees during severe weather events that make it more complicated and hazardous for lineworkers to restore power.

Additionally, if you spot an overgrown tree or branch dangerously close to overhead lines, please get in touch with us at 1-800-635-4145.

Affordability

As a co-op, EnerStar always strives to keep costs down for our members. If trees and other vegetation are left unchecked, they can become overgrown and

new trees, ensure they're planted safely from overhead power lines. See the accompanying graphic for proper tree planting placement. You can also practice safe planting near pad-mounted transformers. Plant shrubs at least 10 feet from the transformer door and 4 feet from the sides. If your property has underground lines, contact 811 before you begin any project requiring digging.

We have deep roots in our community and love our beautiful surroundings. It takes a balanced approach, and our vegetation management program ensures service reliability.

Lineworkers are wired for service

Morning, noon or night, whether it's sun or rain, cold or hot, America's lineworkers are on the front lines of keeping our country powered through busy days and nights.

Dressed in flame-resistant clothing, safety goggles, rubber gloves and thick, heavy boots, these individuals exemplify dedication to service in its purest form. We are proud of all our lineworkers, especially our dedicated co-op employees, and thank them for their service as we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 14.

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, lineworkers demonstrate a strength that goes beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical issues or working at great heights, they show resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable and our communities connected.

EnerStar crews travel across our five-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing

over 2,500 miles of line on our co-op system. Their skills ensure that our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services are accessible – a lifeline that connects us all.

When the lights go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers become beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty.

EnerStar crews also answer the call beyond their home territory. Our local co-op crews travel to assist fellow co-ops, near or far, when widespread outages occur and additional support is needed. Cooperation among cooperatives is one of our seven guiding principles; no one embodies this core commitment better than lineworkers.

The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible – lineworkers who are dedicated to illuminating life.



WIRED FOR SERVICE

We thank electrical lineworkers for their commitment to powering our local communities.

**LINEWORKER
APPRECIATION DAY**
APRIL 14, 2025