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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 7, 2026, 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 6, 2026. 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 A1 District 1 - Currently served by Jeff Zimmerman, Oakland

The Townships of Newman, Bowdre, and Sargent in Douglas County, Illinois; the Townships of East Oakland and Ashmore in Coles County, Illinois; the Township of Embarrass in Edgar County, Illinois; and all that portion of the Township of Shiloh lying south of the 1800th Road in Edgar County, Illinois

✓ Voting District B5 District 5 - Currently served by Thad Martin, Paris

The Township of Elbridge in Edgar County, Illinois; all that portion of the Township of Symmes lying north of the 400th Road and west of Illinois Highway 1 in Edgar County, Illinois; and all that portion of the Township of Symmes

2026 elections

lying north of the 300th Road and east of Illinois Highway 1 in Edgar County, Illinois

✓ Voting District C9 District 9 - Currently served by Dan Gard, West Union

The Townships of Anderson, Darwin, Melrose, and York in Clark County, Illinois; and all that portion of the Township of Marshall lying south of Interstate Highway 70 in Clark County, Illinois

2026 Annual Meeting of Members

April 7, 2026 – Last day to turn in petition

June 6, 2026 – 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 4:00 p.m.

Reminder: Election Update

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 6, 2026.** 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.

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.



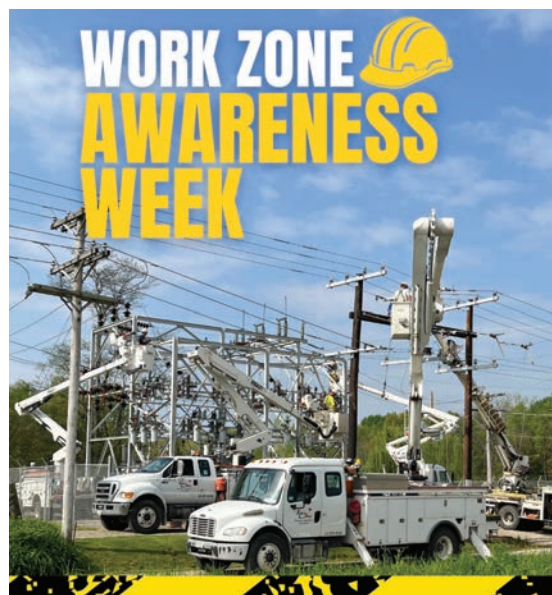
Work Zone Awareness Week: Safety starts with all of us

At EnerStar, the safety of our employees and the communities we serve is always our top priority. During Work Zone Awareness Week, we're reminding everyone that a few simple actions behind the wheel can make a big difference in protecting roadside utility and construction crews.

When you see a work zone, please remember:

- **Stay alert:** Watch for signs, flashing lights and workers near the roadway.
- **Follow the signs:** Obey posted speed limits and lane changes designed to keep everyone safe.
- **Be patient:** Work zones may cause brief delays – slowing down and planning ahead helps prevent accidents.

Every worker deserves to return home safely at the end of the day. By staying alert and driving carefully through work zones, you help protect the crews working to keep our communities powered and connected.



Lineworkers are ready when it matters most

Each April, electric cooperatives across the country observe Lineworker Appreciation Month to honor the dedicated crews who are essential to keeping communities powered and safe every day.

When storms cause outages, EnerStar crews respond. They are always prepared – leaving dinners, working through the night and entering tough conditions to restore power safely and quickly. Their readiness comes from training, experience and a strong commitment to serving others.

What makes lineworkers especially remarkable is that they are not just restoring power to a system – they are restoring power to their own communities. They live here, raise their families here, and understand that electricity is essential to everyday life for homes, farms, schools and businesses.

Electric cooperatives like EnerStar were built on the principle of neighbors helping neighbors, and our lineworkers live that mission every day. They are often the first to arrive and last to leave, working

long hours behind the scenes. Sometimes, their commitment extends beyond our service territory through mutual aid, when EnerStar crews assist neighboring cooperatives – even across state lines – to restore power. This cooperation strengthens the co-op network.

We understand outages are frustrating. We are grateful for members' patience and support.

Linework is demanding, physical and sometimes dangerous. Our crews approach each job with safety, teamwork and pride in serving the communities they call home.

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 13, but our gratitude extends far beyond a single day; our cooperative relies on their service and dedication every day. Thank you!



WIRED FOR SERVICE.

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

LINWORKER APPRECIATION DAY
APRIL 13, 2026



POWERING YOUR FUTURE

\$3,000 SCHOLARSHIP

LaVern and Nola McEntire Memorial Lineworker's Scholarship application deadline: April 30, 2026



IEC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Spring into energy savings

Spring is a season of renewal – and a great time to refresh your energy habits, too! As temperatures begin to warm and daily routines shift, a few small changes around your home can add up to meaningful energy savings.

EnerStar is committed to helping our members use energy wisely while keeping homes comfortable year-round.

Spring is the perfect time to schedule maintenance for your heating and cooling system. Spring and fall checkups conducted by a professional can help ensure your system is running efficiently, safely and reliably before the peak seasons begin. A well-maintained unit uses less energy, lasts longer and helps prevent costly breakdowns when you need it most.

If you're looking for a simple place to start saving, look no further than ceiling fans. Fans don't actually cool or heat the air, but they help you feel more comfortable by moving it. During warmer months, make sure your ceiling fan blades are set to rotate counterclockwise. This creates a downward breeze that makes you feel cooler, allowing you to raise your thermostat a few degrees without sacrificing comfort. In cooler months, reverse the direction of fan blades clockwise to help push warm air down from the ceiling, improving efficiency when your heating system is running.

Speaking of thermostats, adjusting the temperature just a few degrees can make a noticeable difference on your energy bill. As spring arrives, try setting your thermostat slightly higher when cooling or slightly lower when heating. Even a two- or three-degree adjustment can reduce energy use while still keeping your home comfortable – especially when combined with ceiling fans or open windows on mild, pleasant days.

Hot water use is another area where simple habits matter. Taking shorter showers can help reduce the amount of energy used to heat water, which makes up a significant portion of most energy bills. Cutting just a few minutes off each shower not only saves energy but also conserves water.

Finally, the time of day you use energy can also play a part in savings. When you run major appliances during off-peak hours (when energy demand is lower), you can take advantage of non-peak rates and help reduce pressure on the electric grid -- that's a win-win!

EnerStar is here to help every season, and every step of the way.



Our office will be closed April 3 for Good Friday.



GOOD FRIDAY
- BLESSINGS -