Clinton County Connection

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

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We've improved your usage management tools!

Are you looking to view your usage and weather trends by month or even by day? Go to Clinton County Electric's website, www.cceci.com, log into SmartHub, click start now under the View and Manage My Usage box and select a tool.

The Usage Explorer tool provides a detailed look at your past and present usage all in one place. The Average Usage tool shows your typical or average usage for the selected time period. Finally, the Usage Comparison tool lets you compare two bills of usage history side by side.

Please keep in mind, some of the information can only be viewed from the time the Automated Metering System (AMI) was installed. Clinton County Electric started installing AMI back in August 2018 and finished the project in December 2018.

Do not hesitate to call the office Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at 800-526-7282 with any questions.

Shed some light on lightning

According to the National Severe Storms Laboratory, lightning can strike in the same place twice (or pretty darn close), contrary to folk wisdom.

Also, according to the Storms Laboratory and the National Weather Service:

- It is not possible to have thunder without lightning; thunder is a direct result of lightning. However, it IS possible you might see lightning and not hear the thunder because it was too far away. Some people call this phenomenon "heat lightning" because it occurs most often in the summer.
- Lightning can occur within the thunderstorm cloud (intra-cloud lightning) or between the cloud and the ground (cloud-to-ground lightning).
- Lightning can have 100 million to 1 billion volts and contains billions of watts.
- When lightning travels down a tree trunk, its heat turns water to steam. If it gets under the bark into the surface moisture of the wood, the rapidly expanding steam can blast pieces of bark from the tree and the wood along the path is often killed.
- Lightning is hotter than the surface of the sun, and it can reach temperatures around 50,000 degrees F.
- People are struck by lightning in one of five ways: by a direct strike, by a side flash or from a streamer; or via ground current or conduction (metal). Metal does not attract lightning, but provides a path for the lightning to follow.

A thunderstorm is considered severe if it produces hail at least 1 inch in diameter or has wind gusts of at least 58 miles per hour, according to the American Red Cross. Heavy rain from thunderstorms can cause flash flooding and high winds can damage homes and blow down trees and utility poles, causing widespread power outages.

Youth Day in Springfield

The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives sponsored the 2019 Illinois Electric and Telephone Cooperatives Youth Day on April 3 in Springfield, Ill.

Jessie Cirrincione, Riley Fisher, Georgia Litteken and Riley MacCauley, all children of Clinton County Electric Cooperative members, were selected based on their applications to attend Youth Day in Springfield. They joined more than 200 high school students from around the state for the day's activities, which included touring the Capitol Building, Old State Capitol Building and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. While at the Capitol Building, the students were privileged to meet with State Senator Jason Plummer and Representative Charles Meier.

YOUTH DAY
APRIL 3, 2019 • SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

During lunch, State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs addressed students and chaperones and encouraged them to find where their passion lies. Frerichs said, "It doesn't matter what you do if you love what you are doing. Find your own path. There may be times when you start down a path and diverge from it, but listen to your heart. Sometimes you have to immerse yourself in something and possibly fail. Even when we don't win, we learn from the experience."

Collin Moseley, the 2018-19 Illinois Youth Leadership Council representative from Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc., reflected on the past year and the experiences he had on the Youth to Washington Tour and his opportunity to represent Illinois at various meetings. He encouraged everyone going on the 2019 Youth to Washington Tour to apply to represent Illinois as the YLC and not be afraid to connect with others on the trip.

At the end of the day, the students were interviewed for the chance to participate in the Youth to Washington Tour, June 14-21, 2019. The 2019 winners of the Washington, D.C. trip from

Pictured with Senator Jason Plummer and Representative Charles Meier are (left to right): Clinton County Electric Representative Carrie Trame, Riley MacCauley, Riley Fisher, Georgia Litteken, Jessie Cirrincione, and CCEC President Bob Kroeger.

Representatives Charlie Meier met with students representing Clinton County Electric Cooperative during their visit to Springfield on April 3, 2019.

Students representing Clinton County Electric Cooperative visited the Lincoln Museum while in Springfield for Youth Day on April 3, 2019. Pictured left to right are Riley Fisher, Georgia Litteken, the Lincoln Family, Jessie Cirrincione, Riley MacCauley.

Clinton County Electric are Jessie Cirrincione, daughter of Laura and Joe Cirrincione of St. Rose and Riley Fisher, daughter of Sherry and Matt Fisher of St. Rose. Jessie and Riley will be outstanding representatives for Clinton County Electric.

Children of cooperative members who are sophomores or juniors in high school and whose parent (s) or legal guardian(s) are members of the cooperative and whose primary residence is served by Clinton County Electric Cooperative are eligible to apply for the Youth Day in Springfield, giving them a chance to participate in the annual Youth to Washington Tour. For more information, visit our website at www.cceci.com or watch for information in our December and January issues of this newsletter.

OFFICE CLOSURES

4TH OF JULY INDEPENDENCE DAY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The cooperative office will be closed Thursday, July 4, 2019 in observance of Independence Day and Monday, September 2, 2019 in observance of Labor Day.

LABOR DAY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Considering Solar?
Call us first!

As interest in "green" energy and ways to save money on utility bills continue to grow, some cooperative members may be considering the installation of a solar array.

Since these types of systems have the capability of returning electricity back to the electric grid, there are some major safety considerations to sort through before a system is installed.

Before deciding to buy a solar array, examine the economics to determine if such a system will lower your monthly electricity costs. If you do decide to install a solar array, contact our office as early as possible in the process.

A CCEC representative will provide information on our interconnection process and policies, as well as answer any questions you may have. That way, you and your installer will have the information needed as you progress with your system.

For more information on CCEC policies and requirements, please contact the office Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 800-526-7282.

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