

# PowerLines

August 2017

## Cooperative Benefits: Time Marches On

August. The dog days of summer. Crops start to mature. Football practice. School begins.

For two of our long-time employees who recently retired, they may be asking “How did my time at Eastern Illini go by so quickly?” I would like to recognize Alan Schweighart and Bob Dickey for their loyal, dedicated, and hard work on your behalf over many years. Their efforts moved the cooperative forward!

Alan retired as your Vice President of Operations and Engineering after nearly 39 years of service. Bob retired as your Vice President of Marketing and Economic Development after more than 22 years of service.

Congratulations to Alan and his wife Sandy, and Bob and his wife Gloria on their great careers. We wish them good health and the best in retirement.

The time is also here to both allocate and pay out another round of capital credits to members. These capital credits represent members' contribution to equity in EIEC. This equity provides funding to help operate, maintain, and upgrade cooperative facilities, while helping to reduce borrowing costs. Member economic participation is one of the Seven Cooperative Principles that contribute to our unique business model.

The amount of your equity contribution for the prior year is shown annually on the August bill statement. Take a moment and look for your 2016 calendar year allocation on your bill.



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the cooperative not-for-profit business model, current allocated margins (such as 2016 above) are returned to the members at a future time period, typically within 25 – 30 years, based on your board of directors' assessment of the financial condition of the cooperative.

This coming November, we will pay back approximately \$1.6 million in previously allocated capital credit payments to members who received electricity in 1986 through the first half of 1988. We are progressing toward achieving a 25-year payback cycle by 2020.

Eastern Illini, and its predecessor co-ops, have paid back nearly \$16 million to members since our formation 80 years ago. If you have questions about the capital credit process or anything in general, please give us a call at 800-824-5102.

Thank you for allowing us to be your local and trusted energy provider.

Please stay safe!

*Bob Hunzinger*

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## Capital Credit Allocation on Bills

Check your electric bill included in this mailing for your 2016 capital credit allocation.

Allocations are made each year for all member/owners based on our overall financial condition and the amount spent on electricity relative to our margins.

Allocations cannot be applied to your electric bill, or used as payment for any other services.

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Cooperative 

# Energy Efficiency: Easy and Tasty No-bake Recipes

This summer, keep your kitchen cool with easy, no-bake recipes!

Cooking in the summer can be unbearable, and the last thing you want to do on the hottest, most humid days is turn on the oven to make dinner. Your air conditioner works extra hard during summer months to keep your home cool, so why not give it a break with easy, efficient, no-bake recipes. The recipes below are meant to help you make a delicious meal for your family, without breaking a sweat!

## Tzatziki

This refreshing dip can be eaten with pita chips or veggies. You can also add it to some grilled chicken or veggies as a sauce, or even add it to a salad to make a creamy dressing! Here's the recipe:

2 cups (plus one tablespoon) 2 percent Greek yogurt  
1 cup cucumber grated



1 1/2 tablespoons lemon juice  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 cloves minced garlic  
3 tablespoons dill leaves (plus extra for garnish)  
Salt and pepper to taste

Add all the ingredients to a bowl, then stir gently to mix.



## Lemon Truffles

These quick and easy lemon truffles from Premeditated Leftovers is sure to satisfy any sweet tooth! Here's the recipe:

For Lemon Cake Mix:

2 3/4 cups cake flour  
1 3/4 cups fine white sugar  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
Zest of two lemons

2 1/2 cups lemon cake mix  
8 tablespoons melted butter  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
Zest of one large lemon

Combine the cake mix ingredients into a large bowl, stir gently to combine. Add the melted butter, lemon juice and lemon zest. Use your hands to combine until the flour is moist and flaky. Roll dough into two inch balls, roll in sugar and serve!

Remember, no-bake recipes are a great way to keep your kitchen cool during the summer and show off your culinary skills.

# Keep Food Safe

## Before, During and After a Power Outage

Unfortunately, power outages do occur from time to time. It's important to know how to keep your food safe during an outage. Use these tips from USDA to help minimize food loss and reduce your risk of illness.

### Before power outage



Keep refrigerator at **40° or below**. Freeze items like fresh meat and poultry that you won't use immediately. Keep freezer set to **0° or below**. Group frozen foods to help items stay colder longer.



If you anticipate an extended power outage, buy dry or block ice to keep the fridge and/or freezer cold.

### During power outage

**Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed!**

If the doors stay closed during the length of the outage:



A full freezer will hold its temperature for **48 hours**.



A refrigerator will keep food safe for **four hours**.

### After power outage



Check the temperature inside your refrigerator and/or freezer.



If the temperatures are safe, the food should be safe to eat.

### Foods that should be thrown out after an extended power outage:

Meat, poultry or seafood products

Milk, yogurt and other dairy products

Cooked or sliced produce

Eggs and egg products

Soft and shredded cheese

Opened baby formula

Dough and cooked pasta



Source: USDA

# Community Involvement: Youth to Washington Tour

**The Youth to Washington tour highlights Eastern Illini's involvement in youth programs and community involvement.**

Claire Bossong of Watseka, Miranda Fairbanks of Sadorus, Bridget McMullin of Loda, Jacob Reitz of Gilman and Renae Spannagel of Villa Grove represented Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative in Washington, D.C., during the annual "Youth to Washington" Tour, June 9-16. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois since the late 1950s, is an introduction to our democratic form of government and cooperatives for rural youth.

The students met with Congressman Adam Kinzinger, Congressman John Shimkus, Congressman Rodney Davis, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, and were among 69 rural Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip.

The Illinois students joined more than 1,730 young leaders from across the country, a record high for the "Youth to Washington" Tour.

In addition to the Capitol, they also visited Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, several Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial,

memorials to Presidents Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington, the National Archives, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, the Newseum, and several other historical sites.

Sophomores and juniors in high schools that are within the service area of Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative are eligible to participate in the annual program.

The Youth to Washington program is just one aspect of Eastern Illini's commitment to our communities and area youth. We invest in youth education and engagement programs throughout our local communities.



Some of our other community involvement activities include performing electrical safety presentations at area schools, working with local 4-H clubs to promote electricity learning, and sponsoring several other youth and community programs.

For more information about any of our youth programs (which are all offered at no charge), or to schedule events at your school, please contact us at 800-824-5102 or [info@eiec.coop](mailto:info@eiec.coop).

*Our Youth Tour contingent toured the National Cathedral (left), and met with Congressman Rodney Davis at the United States Capitol (right).*





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