



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Hi-Lites



Considering an Electric Vehicle?

Luke Johnson,
General Manager

In light of increasing prices at the pump, you may be wondering, “Should I get an electric vehicle?”. This article is the first in a series to give you the information that you need to make an informed decision.

Hybrid or Electric?

Conventional vehicles have an internal combustion engine; the most common fuels are gasoline and diesel. Hybrid vehicles have both a gasoline engine and an electric motor and battery; both gas and electricity power the wheels. The electric motor and battery are designed to improve fuel economy, so less gasoline is used to operate the vehicle. The battery is charged solely by operating the vehicle; no plug-in is required or possible.

Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) have larger batteries than hybrids and use both gas and electricity to power the wheels

of the car. These vehicles vary in their electric range, but shift to gasoline-only operation when battery power is depleted. These vehicles must be plugged in to recharge the battery.

Electric Vehicles (EVs) are powered solely by electricity and are recharged by plugging in the vehicle.

Charging

Electric vehicle (EV) owners have multiple options for charging their vehicle at home. There are three common EV charging levels: Level One, Level Two and DC Fast Charge.

Level One is the most basic charging level. If you choose this option, your EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and cheapest charging solution, but it will take much longer to charge your EV. This type of charging will provide 3-5 miles of driving range for every hour of charging.

Level Two is about three to five times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires separate purchases and in-

MISSION STATEMENT

To safely provide our member-owners with reliable electric service, superior customer service, and practical energy solutions, all at reasonable prices.

3906 Broadway
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

618-244-5151
Toll-Free: 800-244-5151
Fax: 618-244-1496
Pay by phone:
855-385-9902

Mt. Vernon
Office Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Salem
Office Hours
Tuesday - Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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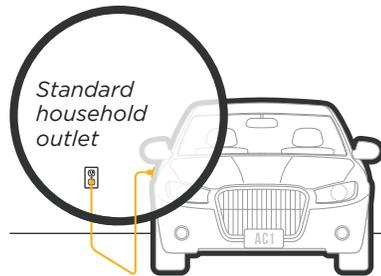
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Electric Vehicle Charging Levels

AC Level One



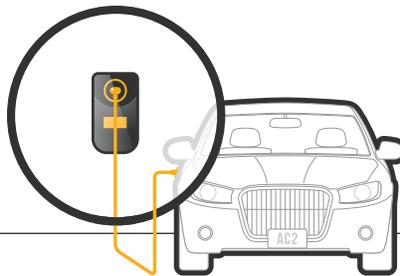
VOLTAGE:
120V 1-Phase AC

AMPS:
12-16 Amps

CHARGING LOADS:
1.4 to 1.9 kW

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
3-5 Miles per Hour

AC Level Two



VOLTAGE:
208V or 240V 1-Phase AC

AMPS:
12-80 Amps (typ. 32 Amps)

CHARGING LOADS:
2.5 to 19.2 kW (typ. 6.6kW)

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
10-20 Miles per Hour
20+ for some EV models

DC Fast Charge



VOLTAGE:
208V or 480V 3-Phase AC

AMPS:
<100 Amps

CHARGING LOADS:
50-350 kW

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
60-80 Miles in 20 Minutes

Sources: Advanced Energy and EPA

stallation. The EV is plugged into a 240-volt outlet, which is used for larger appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You typically see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and multi-family community spaces. This type of charging will provide 10 to 20 miles of range for every hour of charging.

DC Fast Charge stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, like gas stations, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level, with the ability to charge an EV at 80% in under 30 minutes, but not all vehicles are capable of this.

Charging at Home

If you're charging an EV at home, there are a few things to keep in mind. EV charging creates additional energy demand. Depending on the energy demand, it is possible that you may need to upgrade your service to accommodate. This is an extra cost that many don't take into consideration. The time of day you charge your EV can have an impact on

the grid and the service at your home. By letting us know about your EV charging levels, we can help ensure your home is prepared for the additional energy consumption.

Beginning July 1, 2022, Illinois will offer a \$4,000 rebate with the purchase of a new or used electric vehicle. That rebate could possibly be utilized with the proposed \$7,500 federal rebate. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

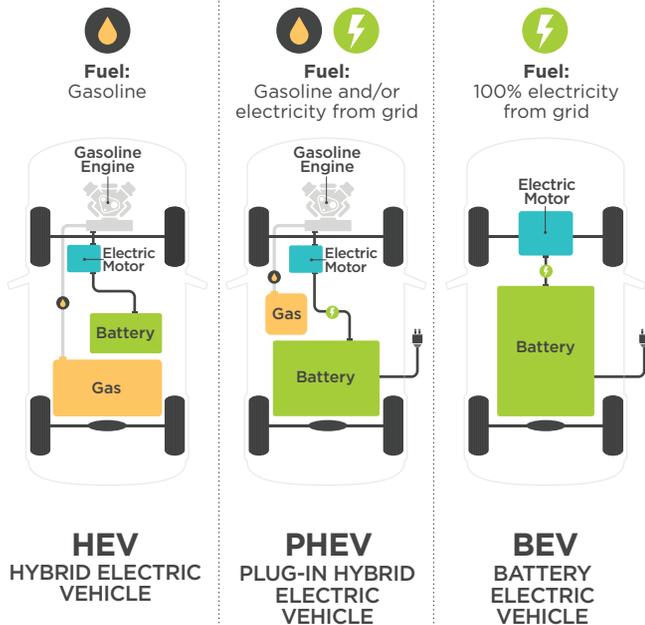
As of January 1, 2020, annual registration fee for electric vehicle or 'EL' plates is \$251 annually, compared to \$151 for a standard vehicle. As of February 2022, the state of Illinois has 38,977 registered electric vehicles. Total registered electric vehicles in the counties we largely serve are:

Registered EV's by County

Jefferson County	29
Marion County	21
Washington County	12

Types of Electric Vehicles

If you're looking to purchase an electric vehicle, use this cheat sheet to help determine the various options. Drivers can choose between three types of electric vehicles (EVs). EVs are classed by the amount of electricity that is used as their energy source.



Source: Electric Power Research Institute



Maintenance

Forget the oil changes! The majority of upkeep maintenance on electric vehicles is windshield wiper fluid and blades. However, keep in mind that the cost of replacing the battery is much more than a gas-powered vehicle. Battery life, size, and cost varies by vehicle so make sure that you are aware of the cost to replace the battery before making the purchase.

As the conversations around electric vehicles progress, we will continue to be your trusted source of information. Your cooperative is in line to incorporate an electric vehicle into our small vehicle fleet. We have also made plans to have an electric vehicle at our annual meeting for the membership to view, pending availability.

U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, fuelconomy.gov, March 2022
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), www.cooperative.com, *Electric Vehicle Charging Levels, Types of Electric Vehicles*
Illinois Secretary of State, ilsos.gov, *Electric Vehicle Counts by County*

Employee Spotlight



Name: Heather Rawls

Position at the Cooperative: Operations Assistant

Years of Service: 4

Before working at Tri-County Electric Cooperative, what was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had? I worked at a seed corn facility, and in the summer got to walk corn fields checking for disease and bugs! I loved being outside in that environment, and meeting the farmers who grew for us.

What is your favorite part about working for Tri-County Electric Cooperative? I love the friendships I have made here, we see each other enough that we're like family!

Favorite travel spot? Tennessee or Wisconsin

If you could interview one person (dead or alive) who would it be? Abraham Lincoln

What aspect of your role do you enjoy the most? Helping dispatch crews to restore members power as quickly and safely as possible!

Where is your hometown? Mt. Carmel – Go Aces!

HAVE YOU TRIED USING AN

air fryer?



Air fryers use convection to circulate hot air and cook the food, instead of oil. Not to mention, an air fryer consumes less energy than your conventional oven and the cleanup is a breeze!

Air Fryer Crispy Lemon Parmesan Chicken

Ingredients

- 1 lb Chicken, skinless
- 1 tbsp Garlic
- 1/2 tbsp Parsley, fresh or dried
- 2 Eggs
- 1/4 cup Lemon juice
- 1 tsp Pepper
- 1 tsp Salt
- 1 cup Breadcrumbs, plain
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grate

Directions

1. Combine the lemon juice, minced garlic, parsley, salt, pepper, eggs and whisk all together.
2. Pour mixture over chicken and allow to marinate in the refrigerator for 30-60 minutes. Keep in mind the longer it sits the more flavorful it will be!
3. In a bowl, combine the breadcrumbs and grated Parmesan cheese.
4. Then dredge the chicken in the mixture, lightly pressing to evenly coat.
5. Place chicken into the Air Fryer and cook at 390°F for about 15-18 minutes, making sure to flip the chicken about halfway through.
6. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and parsley.

Cooperative Calendar

May 20, 2022

American Red Cross Blood Drive - Mt. Vernon

July 9, 2022

Annual Meeting - Mt. Vernon

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

It's Easy! It's Free!

Planning a digging project in your yard or on your property? If you dig without knowing what is located below, you could damage an underground line.

Not only could you become seriously injured, but you will be responsible for the cost of repairs. To avoid hassles and fines, call 811, the Call Before You Dig number, at

least two business days prior to breaking ground. (811 locators do not mark privately owned underground lines or pipes, such as service to outbuildings, sprinkler systems or invisible fences.)

An uneventful digging project is the best kind to have.

 Safe
Electricity.org®