



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Hi-Lites



2021 Plan of Work

Marcia Scott
General Manager

Tri-County Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors recently approved the annual plan of work for 2021. Each year, a number of line projects which should improve the reliability of the electric distribution system are selected and prioritized. Some lines are replaced due to age and condition. Other lines will be replaced with a larger conductor due to load growth.

The following are items included in our 2021 plan of work:

- Pole Replacements - Approximately 500 poles will be replaced in 2021. Poles are inspected on an eight-year rotation cycle and poles that fail inspection are replaced. This year, the poles being replaced are located in southern Marion County.
- Marlow Northeast - Upgrade 1 mile of aged-three phase with larger conductor needed to reduce

voltage drop at peak use times and increase reliability.

- Dix East - Upgrade 1.6 miles of aged single-phase to three-phase conductor needed to reduce voltage drop and balance load.
- SCADA Phase 2 - Begin phase 2 of 2 replacing our SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system. This will allow us to better monitor and maintain our grid and also assist in outage restoration.
- Sectionalizing - Upgrade regulators, capacitors, and OCR (oil circuit reclosers).
- Substation Improvements - Maintenance to help improve reliability will be conducted on various substations. This work should also prolong equipment life and increase efficiency.

The goal of all of the above mentioned system upgrades is to improve service reliability for the membership.

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

President

Greg Vieira - Salem

Vice-President

Donnie Laird - Waltonville

Secretary/Treasurer

Sam Phillips - Salem

Tom Beyers - Odin

Phil Carson - Oakdale

Doug Knolhoff - Hoyleton

Larry Manning - Belle Rive

Rick Russell - Richview

Kathy Withers - Mt. Vernon

MERRY
christmas

The Board of Directors and Employees of Tri-County Electric Cooperative wish you a safe and Merry Christmas!

Lobby Reopening..... COMING SOON



Interior phase one of two will be completed by the end of December. You can expect for the lobby to reopen at our Broadway location in Mt. Vernon very soon. As you can see, it's starting to come together!

Our temporary location has worked out great, and we thank you for your patience during the transition! However, there is “no place like home”. We will be glad to settle back



Above is a picture of the new terrace offering flat space to safely and accessibly store equipment for our linemen!



We now have a copy/print/mail room! Having all functions in one room will improve efficiency.

into our normal workspaces and welcome our members through the lobby door again!

Phase two will involve minor renovations in our Operations, Engineering, and Manager's Departments. This phase will be much shorter than phase one, and should only take four months.



By the time you receive this month's newsletter, the front of the building will most likely be complete! Here is a photo during the reconstruction, which included masonry repairs and a facelift to our existing entrance.



Billing Department Reconfiguration



MAKE SURE YOU'RE READY
WHEN MOTHER NATURE STRIKES

KEEP SAFE DURING WINTER STORMS



Unless it's an emergency, stay home during ice and snow storms, and wait until roads are passable. Heavy snow and ice can bring down power lines, creating hazardous conditions.



Have a storm kit prepared with food, medicine, first aid supplies, battery operated clock radio, and other items you may need if you can't leave your home for several days.



When using a portable generator for power, always place it outside, well away from the garage, doors, windows and air-intake vents.



Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups. Test them to make sure they work.



Never use a stove to heat your home.

Learn more at:
SafeElectricity.org

Deadline for IEC Memorial Scholarship Applications

The deadline to apply for scholarships awarded by Illinois electric cooperatives is December 31, 2020. A total of twelve scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded.

- Six scholarships to high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members receiving service from the cooperative.

- One scholarship to a student who is the son or daughter of an Illinois electric cooperative employee or director.

- Four scholarships are reserved for students enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois com-

munity college who are the sons or daughters of Illinois electric cooperative members, employees or directors.

- The final scholarship will help pay for costs to attend the lineworker's school at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, IL.

Visit www.tricountycoop.com for more information.



*Tri-County Electric Cooperative offices will be closed:
Friday, December 25th - Christmas Day &
Friday, January 1st - New Years Day*



Mascot Pecans make the perfect stocking stuffer!



16 oz. Mammoth Pecan Halves	\$9.50
16 oz. Medium Pecan Pieces	\$9.25
12 oz. Salted Jumbo Cashews	\$7.50
4 oz. Pecan Log	\$3.50
12 oz. Chocolate Covered Pecans	\$7.00
8 oz. Pecan Caramel Clusters	\$6.00

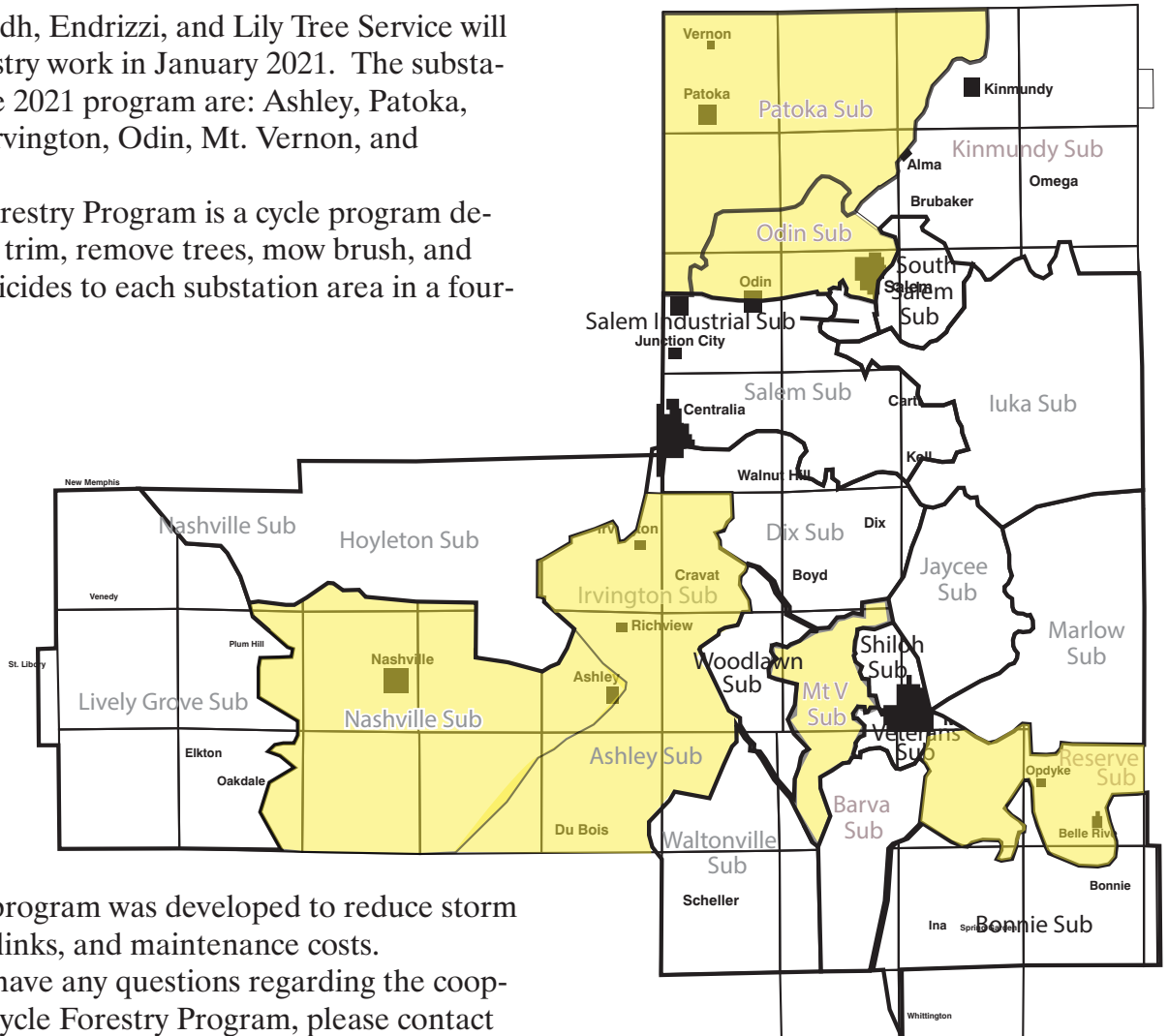
Nuts are available, while supplies last, during regular business hours at both office locations of the cooperative.

The proceeds from the employee Mascot Pecan Fundraiser are donated to community organizations that serve the membership of Tri-County Electric Cooperative.

2021 Forestry Cycle

Asplundh, Endrizzi, and Lily Tree Service will begin forestry work in January 2021. The substations in the 2021 program are: Ashley, Patoka, Reserve, Irvington, Odin, Mt. Vernon, and Nashville.

The Forestry Program is a cycle program developed to trim, remove trees, mow brush, and apply herbicides to each substation area in a four-year cycle.



This program was developed to reduce storm damage, blinks, and maintenance costs.

If you have any questions regarding the cooperative's Cycle Forestry Program, please contact Ben Ceglinski, Tri-County Electric Cooperative's Forestry Supervisor, at 618-244-5151.