



# LEWIS COUNTY REC

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[www.lewiscountyrec.coop](http://www.lewiscountyrec.coop)

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

April 2024

## From the desk of Travis Mathes, Manager of Member Services



Each April we take time to salute the individuals that keep the power flowing safely and efficiently to the member/owners of Lewis County REC. The board of directors, management, lineman, and office staff all work diligently each day to accomplish the mission set for Lewis County REC

clear back in 1936 to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to meet the needs of our member/owners. This month we will celebrate both Lineman Appreciation Day and Administrative Professionals Day.

Our linemen often find themselves in dangerous and challenging situations, so our lives may be a little bit brighter and safer every day. These brave men repair damaged lines and maintain critical infrastructure for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time—day or night, weekday or weekend—if the lights go out, so do they. Many times being pulled from family birthday celebrations, holiday dinners, or family outings. Perhaps you have seen them raising their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains, or in freezing,

icy conditions. They work around the clock near high-voltage power lines until electricity is restored to every member in the Lewis County REC service territory.

In addition, we salute our administrative professionals who work hand in hand with the linemen to keep the power on. Most times if there is a major power outage these individuals are also in the office keeping track of outages, answering phones, and dispatching crews. These dedicated individuals, like linemen, answer the call to action whenever needed. They make sure we have the inventory of line material needed to deal with not only the day-to-day operation, but the unexpected storms that may call for the quick repairs of line. They work daily with members to answer questions, do billing, dispatch crews, and make sure that everything runs smoothly behind the scenes.

Our employees are committed and critical to the success of Lewis County REC. Every employee at Lewis County REC goes above and beyond the call of duty to take care of our member/owners and make sure that the lights shine bright in Northeast Missouri! They are where the rubber meets the road and we appreciate them very much! Below is a list of the team that works hard to serve you each day. Here's hoping each of your households has a healthy, safe and Happy Easter!!

## Lewis County REC's 86th Annual Meeting

Lewis County REC's 86th Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 1, 2024, at the Lewis County REC headquarters. A hybrid meeting will be offered this year with a number of ways for our member/owners to participate. Each member/owner will receive a ballot and return envelope in the July edition of the Rural Missouri Magazine. Those member/owners that choose to mail the ballot in will have the opportunity to do so in a prepaid postage envelope prior to July 12th. There will also be an opportunity to vote absentee in-person at the office beginning at 7:30 a.m. on July 24th through 4:00 p.m. daily. Absentee voting will end at noon on August 1st. A drive-thru option will be offered on August 1st from

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm. at the Lewis County REC office. Regardless of the method used to register/vote for the meeting, each membership will receive a \$20 bill credit for doing so. The Board of Directors is making it easier for you to take part in the business of your cooperative and it is their hope that you will do so. If you would like to attend the in-person business meeting it will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the warehouse at the Lewis County REC office on August 1st. The reports that will be given at the in-person portion of the meeting will also be printed in the July edition of the Rural Missouri Magazine. Mark your calendars and make plans to participate in the 86th Annual Meeting of Lewis County REC.

## Employees Celebrating Years of Service

<b>Kevin Cottrell</b>	40 Years of Service
<b>David Cox</b>	36 Years of Service
<b>Theresa Simmons</b>	35 Years of Service
<b>Greg Sutterfield</b>	30 Years of Service
<b>Jack Crist</b>	28 Years of Service
<b>Adam Schaller</b>	26 Years of Service
<b>Staci Mesmer</b>	24 Years of Service
<b>Travis Mathes</b>	24 Years of Service
<b>Terry O'Brien</b>	23 Years of Service
<b>Jason Daniel</b>	21 Years of Service
<b>Jason Hall</b>	18 Years of Service
<b>Rustyn Carter</b>	16 Years of Service
<b>Brandi Austin</b>	14 Years of Service

<b>Kendall Hawkins</b>	14 Years of Service
<b>Ryan Strubinger</b>	14 Years of Service
<b>Joe Lay</b>	13 Years of Service
<b>Shannon Killday</b>	9 Years of Service
<b>Ryan Waterman</b>	6 Years of Service
<b>Ryan Booher</b>	5 Years of Service
<b>John McCutchan</b>	3 Year of Service
<b>Kindy Bergman</b>	3 Year of Service
<b>Scott Gamm</b>	2 Years of Service
<b>Dennis Shoup</b>	2 Years of Service
<b>Derek Howes</b>	1 Year of Service
<b>Colt Jennings</b>	4 Months of Service

## BRIGHT IDEAS

Washing windows and screens is a great way to practice energy efficiency during spring cleaning. Clean windows and screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures. They also allow more fresh air in the home when the windows are open.



## SAFETY FIRST

Trees that grow too close to electric lines can create shock and fire hazards and power outages. To avoid these problems, follow these safe planting tips:

- Consider mature height of trees. Never plant a tree that could grow to 25 feet or more near a power line. A mature height of less than 15 feet is recommended for trees near power lines.
- Do not plant near underground utility services. Tree roots can grow to interfere with underground pipes, cables and wires.
- Keep areas around electric meters, transformers or other electrical equipment free of any vegetation.
- Before digging, call the local underground utility locator service to mark location of underground utilities.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### TIP OF THE MONTH

A well-designed landscape can add beauty to your home and reduce home heating and cooling costs. Plant deciduous trees with high, spreading crowns to the south of your home to block sunlight in the summer and reduce the need for air conditioning. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Plant evergreen trees and shrubs with low crowns to block winter winds. Dense evergreen trees and shrubs planted to the north and northwest are the most common type of windbreak and can help lower energy used for home heating.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



## TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

CALL (TOLL FREE) 1-888-454-4485  
(LOCAL) 215-4000 24 HOURS A DAY

Before calling, check your breakers or fuses and check with your neighbors to see if they have power

When calling please give the following information:

- Your name
- Meter number and/or
- location number (if known)
- Cell Phone or Telephone Number affiliated with the account

CALL DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS  
(7:30-4:00)  
FOR ALL OTHER SERVICES