



Linn County
Rural Electric
Cooperative

ElectriConnection

A monthly publication for our members



Follow us on Facebook

NOVEMBER 2025



Corridor Energy Cooperative

Corridor Energy Starts December 8

We're officially becoming **Corridor Energy Cooperative** on **December 8**, and are looking forward to sharing this next chapter with you! The rebrand is a reflection of who we are and where we're headed:

- **Reflects Our Members:** With 65% of members in urban areas and more than half in Johnson County, Corridor Energy better represents our growing, diverse community.
- **Promotes Economic Development:** Removing "rural" from our name positions us to attract larger businesses, ultimately lowering costs for all members.
- **Embraces Energy Innovation:** As the energy industry evolves, cooperatives nationwide have rebranded to demonstrate their commitment to innovation and progress. Corridor Energy shows we're ready to embrace new technologies and solutions to power the future.

What's Ahead

We're busy preparing for launch day, and here's what you can expect:

- **Your December bill will feature our new logo**
- **Our brand-new member newsletter - Corridor Connections - will debut in December**
- **A redesigned, modern website will go live on December 8, making it easier than ever to connect with us online**
- **Updated social media channels**

This rebrand is more than a new name—it's a promise to keep powering what matters most to you, today and into the future.

Here's to the next chapter: **Corridor Energy Cooperative—Powering Our Communities, Together.**



Make the Switch and Go Paperless!

Paperless billing is safe, convenient, and free.

Sign-up is easy through SmartHub:

1. Log on to your SmartHub account
2. Go to Settings (left navigation bar)
3. Click Paperless Billing
4. Switch Go Paperless toggle to ON
5. Click Yes on the paperless settings pop-up

When you enroll, the bill credit will be automatically applied to your next statement.

Don't have SmartHub?

Create an account on our website and get these benefits:

24/7 online access: View or print current and past statements - any time/anywhere

Simple reminders: Never miss a payment with monthly emails showing your amount and due date.

Easy and secure payments: Pay any way you choose, securely through our SmartHub app, online, or by phone.



Tips To Increase Your Energy Efficiency This Winter

- **Maintain your system.** Have your heating system cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional. Replace filters according to manufacturer's guidelines.
- **Mind the thermostat.** This is one of the easiest ways to manage your home energy use. We recommend syncing your thermostat with our time-of-day rate schedule.
- **Button up your home.** The Department of Energy estimates that air leaks account for 24% to 40% of the energy used for heating and cooling a home. Caulking and weather stripping around windows and doors is another simple, cost-effective way to increase comfort and save energy. It likely needs to be sealed if you can feel drafts while standing near a window or door.
- **Use window coverings wisely.** Open blinds, drapes, or other window coverings during the day to allow natural sunlight to warm your home. Close them at night to keep the cold, drafty air out.
- **Consider your approach to appliance use.** When combined, appliances and electronics account for a significant chunk of our home energy use. If your appliances have a delay cycle, set them to run during off-peak times. Look for electronic devices that consume energy even when they're not in use, like phone chargers or game consoles. Unplug them or use smart plugs to set schedules.

For more energy efficiency tips, visit www.linncountyrec.com.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TAX CREDITS ENDING SOON

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE CHANCE TO QUALIFY FOR CREDITS UP TO \$3,200

Tax credits and utility rebates are important for making higher-efficiency equipment more affordable. They help you invest in upgrades that reduce energy use and save you money. A utility rebate is a set incentive provided after the installation of qualifying equipment. Tax credits are a dollar-for-dollar reduction in federal income tax, claimed on your tax return.

Federal Tax Credits Still Available (for now)

Homeowners can benefit from federal tax credits for energy efficiency upgrades until December 31, 2025. These credits cover up to 30% of the cost, up to a maximum of \$3,200. Qualifying upgrades include:

- Air-Source Heat Pumps
- Supplemental Mini-Splits
- Heat Pump Water Heaters
- Electric Panel Upgrades
- Insulation & Air-Sealing
- Windows and Doors

Before making a purchase, check for ENERGY STAR® compliance at: www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits.

Linn County REC Rebates Available!

While federal tax credits will expire, Linn County REC offers rebates for energy-efficient equipment such as:

- Ground & Air-Source Heat Pumps
- Mini-Split Heat Pumps
- Energy/Heat Recovery Ventilation (ERV/HRV)
- Heat Pump Water Heaters & Dryers
- Induction Cooktop Stoves

Visit www.linncountyrec.com/rebates for more information or contact our office to speak with a Member Services Energy Advisor.



Directors Re-Elected At Annual Meeting

The 2025 annual meeting was held online on September 26. General Manager and CEO Terry Sullivan provided a financial review of 2024 and discussed the cooperative's growth. He concluded his report by announcing our rebrand to Corridor Energy Cooperative. The meeting was recorded, and you can find it on our YouTube channel.

The election results for the Board of Directors were also announced. Kenny Squires (District 1) and Lisa Rose (District 5) were re-elected and will serve three-year terms. Following the meeting, the directors convened to elect officers for the coming year. The results are:

- **President:** Gary Schropp
- **Vice President:** Lisa Rose
- **Treasurer:** Ron O'Neil
- **Secretary:** Gary Schlotterbeck
- **Assistant Secretary:** Jeanna Sager

Next year's annual meeting is September 24, 2026. If you are interested in representing your district on the nominating committee, or if you reside in districts 2, 3, or 7 and wish to run for a director position, please contact our office at 319-377-1587. Your participation can help shape the future of our cooperative!



Kenny Squires
Re-elected, District 1



Lisa Rose
Re-elected, District 5

WEB BALLOT WINNERS:

JEROME KIWALA	KEITH CARTER
WILLIAM MCCAFFERY	MILLARD CT HOMEOWN
MUHAMMAD ALI	STEPHEN WEIPERT
LUKE ARENS	DENNIS LABARGE
MIKE KLEINOW	BENJAMIN WESTCOT
DUANE CARPENTER	JOSH MCGOWAN
NEAL SHEELEY	CRAIG FRICKE
ROBERT FREYMARK	ABDALLAH ELMAHI
REBECCA WHITAKER	KIM STANLEY
PETER TEAHEN	JOHN MURRAY
JAMES PITCHER	BRENTON MULLIN
ELIZABETH HARL	ELIZABETH GALLAGHER
LOWELL KNIGHT	TODD VERMIE
JUSTIN MALIN	BFM FAW
RICHARD UMBACH	RONALD LAMPAREK

MAIL BALLOT WINNERS:

DANIEL JOHNSON-O'MARA
DAVID BRIDGES
EDOUARD MUHINDI
JOHN PEET
JANE KENT
DONA CARTER
AMY MARCH
ANDY BAUER
PATRICK CANFIELD
BARRY SMITH

Protect Your SmartHub Account with Two-Factor Authentication

Cyber threats are becoming increasingly sophisticated and safeguarding your personal information has never been more important. Passwords alone are no longer enough to keep your accounts secure. That's where Two-Factor Authentication can help.

What is Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)?

2FA is a adds an extra layer of protection to your online accounts. Instead of relying solely on your password, 2FA requires a second step of verification — such as a one-time code sent to your phone or email. This additional step makes it significantly harder for unauthorized individuals to gain access, even if they know your password.

2FA is Now Available on SmartHub!

We're excited to announce that you can now add 2FA to your Linn County REC SmartHub account. When enabled, you'll log in with your password plus a one-time verification code. This simple process greatly reduces the risk of unauthorized access and keeps your account safer.

Once set up, you'll enjoy peace of mind knowing your SmartHub account is much more secure.



How To Set Up 2FA On Your SmartHub Account:

1. Log into your SmartHub account
2. Go to settings, then Two-Factor Authentication
3. Check the box to enable
4. Choose how to receive your one-time codes (text or email)
5. Enter your information for text or email, click continue

After you click continue, you will receive an email or text (depending on what method you chose) with your verification code. If you have questions or need assistance setting up Two-Factor Authentication, our Consumer Services team is here to help. Give us a call at 319-377-1587.

BUDGET BILLING

Avoid seasonal peaks in your energy bills with budget billing



Unpredictable utility bills? Say goodbye to seasonal ups and downs with our budget billing plan and know exactly how much you'll pay every month. Our plan allows residential members to make equal monthly installments based on their estimated annual billings, giving you better control over your budget.

Budget Review: Monthly payments will equal 1/12 of your estimated annual billings based on your usage history. At the end of your budget period, we will re-evaluate your budget by averaging your last 12 months' usage. If your actual usage were higher or lower than estimated, we would apply that amount to your new 12-month average - making it your new budget billing monthly payment. Members are notified of their new monthly payment one month before their re-evaluation.

To sign up for budget billing or learn more, call our office to speak with a Consumer Services Representative. Take control of your utility bills today!



Pick Up Your 2026 Calendars!

Free 2026 calendars are available for pick up at our Marion office from 7:30 am - 4:00 pm while quantities last. Due to postage costs, we are unable to mail them.



No Bake Pumpkin Cream Pie

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| ¾ cup milk | 1 cup canned pumpkin |
| 1 (3.4-oz) pkg instant vanilla pudding mix | 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice |
| ¾ cup chocolate chips | ¾ cup slivered almonds |
| 1 (8-oz) container cool whip topping | |
| 1 (10-inch) store-bought graham cracker crust | |

Whisk together milk and pudding mix in a bowl. Let stand 5 minutes. Stir in pumpkin, pumpkin pie spice, chocolate chips, slivered almonds and cool whip. Spoon mixture into graham cracker crust. Cover and refrigerate for at least 4 hours.

NOTES: Make sure to use pureed pumpkin and NOT pumpkin pie filling. Feel free to use any flavor of pudding mix. Butterscotch pudding would also be delicious. Can use low-fat or fat-free Cool Whip. If you don't like almonds, you can substitute your favorite nut - pecans or walnuts work well. You could also use some toffee bits

Our offices will be closed November 27 & 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. We are grateful for your membership as our team spends this special time with loved ones.

From our family to yours,
Happy Thanksgiving



ElectricCONNECTION, the official publication of Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative, is published monthly for members of Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative, 5695 REC Drive, P.O. Box 69, Marion, Iowa 52302. © Copyright 2025
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

