



**Corridor Energy  
Cooperative**

# Corridor Connections

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR OUR MEMBERS



## System Improvements: Investing in Reliability and Growth

Reliable electricity takes ongoing investment in our local electric grid through system repairs, maintenance, infrastructure upgrades, and the integration of new technologies that help us operate smarter and more efficiently.

Each year, our line crews complete important upgrades across our service territory to strengthen system reliability and prepare for future electric demand. Corridor Energy maintains both short- and long-term work plans to address anticipated development, replace aging infrastructure, and ensure our system continues to meet members' needs.

In 2026, Corridor Energy will invest approximately \$17 million in system improvements.

### Line Projects

Overhead line projects are planned in Shueyville, Oxford, Solon, and Tiffin. These upgrades involve replacing older lines that have deteriorated over time and increasing energy capacity to support future growth.

New and replacement underground line projects are scheduled for Marion, Shueyville, Center Point, and Ely. These projects are coordinated with current and upcoming city, county, and Iowa DOT projects.

### Substations

To support continued load growth and enhance energy capacity, Corridor Energy will also construct a new substation in northeast Cedar Rapids.

We recently completed construction of the West Tiffin substation (pictured above), which was energized on February 5th, 2026.

The project, designed to expand electrical distribution capacity, began in the spring of 2025 in response to growth in the area. The new substation will provide service to Oxford and the west side of Tiffin.

West Tiffin has a 10/14 MVA capacity and can serve approximately 500 homes. With the addition of West Tiffin, Corridor Energy now operates 40 distribution substations.

### Minimal Service Disruption

Most construction work can be completed without interrupting electric service. However, when a temporary outage is necessary, we make every effort to notify affected members in advance.

Powering our community means preparing for the future. By investing in our system today, Corridor Energy is building a stronger, more resilient system to serve our members for years to come.



## Help Choose Our Next Leaders, Volunteer for the Nominating Committee

Corridor Energy is looking for seven member-volunteers (one from each voting district) to serve on our Nominating Committee. Districts 2, 3, and 7 are up for election this year. This is a simple, meaningful way to get involved and make sure your community is represented.

### WHAT DOES THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE DO?

Committee members help identify and recommend qualified candidates to run for the Board of Directors.

If a member expresses interest in running for the Board, the cooperative will also share their name with the appropriate Nominating Committee members.

### A SMALL TIME COMMITMENT WITH A BIG IMPACT

The Nominating Committee meets one time in June for a dinner meeting at our headquarters in Marion.

- **One meeting (about two hours)**
- **Dinner provided**
- **A chance to help shape the cooperative's future**

Members who have not previously served are preferred.

### YOUR VOTE. YOUR LEADERSHIP.

Corridor Energy is a member-owned cooperative, and the Board of Directors guides the co-op's future. Board members are elected each September and are responsible for setting policies and representing members' best interests.

If you want to be more involved in co-op decisions and help represent your district, this is a great place to start. Information about director qualifications and responsibilities is available at [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop).

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee or in running for the Board, please contact Breanna at [bjacobs@corridorenergy.coop](mailto:bjacobs@corridorenergy.coop) or contact our office at 319-377-1587.

## Billing Options Designed For You

Corridor Energy Cooperative offers many convenient ways to receive and pay your bill. Visit [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop) for enrollment information or to create a SmartHub account.

### Paperless Billing

Simplify your life with paperless billing. When you enroll, you'll receive your monthly bill statement and newsletter electronically – ready to view anytime, anywhere.

Paperless billing is safe, secure, and gives you the flexibility to manage your account online 24/7. Plus, you can print copies whenever you need them. Make the switch today and enjoy convenient, clutter-free account management.

### Budget Billing

Enjoy steady, predictable electric bills all year long with Budget Billing. This program spreads your energy costs into equal monthly payments, making it easier to plan and manage your household budget.

Your payment is based on your past usage and is calculated as 1/12 of your estimated annual electric costs, so even during high-use months, your bill stays consistent.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS:



#### AUTOPAY

Set up automatic payments from your bank or credit card account. Sign up at [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop).



#### SMARTHUB

Pay anytime through our SmartHub app. Free online account access on your phone, tablet, or desktop.



#### ONE TIME PAYMENT

Make a payment using your bank or credit card. Call 1-844-966-2052.



#### KIOSK (self service payment)

- 5695 REC Drive, Marion
- 835 W 240th Street NE, North Liberty



#### MoneyGram

Pay in cash using pin #15106  
Find locations at: [www.moneygram/locations](http://www.moneygram/locations)



# Spring Into Energy Savings

Spring is here! As temperatures begin to warm and daily routines shift, a few small changes around your home can add up to meaningful energy savings.

**TACKLE SPRING CLEANING:** Clean under and behind your refrigerator to keep it operating efficiently. Dust light bulbs to get more light for your money. If you have a sliding glass door, wash the track. Dirt can damage the door seal and create gaps where cool air can escape.

**CHECK YOUR COOLING SYSTEM:** Hire a qualified professional to inspect and clean your air conditioning system to keep it running efficiently. Check your system's air filter and replace if needed. A well-maintained unit uses less energy, lasts longer, and helps prevent costly breakdowns.

**USE CEILING FANS:** They circulate air, making rooms feel cooler, so you can raise the temperature by up to 4°F without compromising comfort. **During warmer months, set your ceiling fan blades to rotate counterclockwise.** Turn off in empty rooms to avoid wasting energy.



**SEAL AIR LEAKS:** Gaps and cracks in doors and windows send conditioned air, and your energy dollars, outside. Weatherstrip exterior doors and seal windows with caulk.

**PLANT SOME SHADE:** Plant a shade tree along the south- or west-facing side of your home. Trees help shield your home from the sun in summer, keeping you cool and reducing your energy bill. Remember to call 811 before you dig and consider the mature height of trees; select a location away from power lines.

## Increase Your Energy Savings With A Heat Pump Water Heater

What's four times more efficient and can save you thousands of dollars?

An ENERGY STAR®-certified heat pump water heater. With lifetime energy savings of over \$5,600, it's a smart investment compared to an electric resistance water heater.

### How Does It Work?

Instead of generating heat directly, heat pump water heaters use electricity to move heat from one place to another.

The system pulls heat from the surrounding air and transfers it to the water stored in the tank. Because it moves heat rather than creating it, a heat pump water heater can be two to three times more energy-efficient than a traditional electric resistance unit. In simple terms, it works like a refrigerator – but in reverse.

Enjoy more savings by taking advantage of our rebates on heat pump water heaters:

- ENERGY STAR Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater = \$600/unit
- ENERGY STAR Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater (replacing natural gas or propane) = \$700/unit

Online rebate forms with terms and conditions are available at [www.corridorenergy.coop](http://www.corridorenergy.coop).

STANDARD ELECTRIC WATER HEATER	HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heats Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heats Water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built To Last	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built To Last
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Uses Up To 50% Less Energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses Up To 50% Less Energy

**JUST BECAUSE THEY LOOK THE SAME DOESN'T MEAN THEY WORK THE SAME.** That's because *heat pump* water heaters work much more efficiently than their standard electric counterparts. And that means you can save up to 50% on your monthly electric water heating costs for years to come.



## Annual Meter Testing Begins

Corridor Energy Cooperative will begin annual meter testing this month. Approximately 275 meters throughout our service territory have been randomly selected for testing.

Members whose meters are tested will experience a brief power interruption lasting approximately one to two minutes. Testing will begin this month and continue until all selected meters have been completed.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 319-377-1587.



### Irish Soda Bread

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 cup buttermilk

Preheat oven to 375°F. Lightly spray a loaf pan with cooking spray. Mix together all ingredients and form a soft dough. Add a little more buttermilk, a tablespoon at a time, if necessary. Pour dough into loaf pan. Bake for 35-40 minutes, until golden brown.



## Spring Planting Safety Tips

As we approach the planting season, don't forget to plan for safety. Keep these safety tips in mind:



### TRAIN OTHERS

Train anyone working on your farm, including family members and seasonal workers, about electrical hazards.



### WAIT TO UNFOLD

Remind workers to fold or unfold extensions well into the field, not close to the field's edge, where power lines are typically located.



### USE A SPOTTER

When working near power lines, always have a spotter on the ground who can direct you away from power lines or poles if you get too close.



### DO NOT EXIT YOUR CAB

If your machinery or truck makes contact with a power line, pole, or guy wire, you could become electricity's path to ground and become electrocuted if you step out of the cab.



### CALL 9-1-1

Call 9-1-1 so the electric utility can be dispatched to de-energize the power source. Only exit the cab if your equipment is on fire. If that happens, make a solid jump out and hop away with your feet together as far as you can.



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