



IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

EMPOWERING
OUR COMMUNITY

JUNE 2024

Residential Customers 1.800.755.5000

• Business Customers 1.800.232.2477

• Call JULIE Before You Dig at 811



GET A FREE GE SMART THERMOSTAT

A smart thermostat is a great way to save money, energy and time by automatically adjusting the temperature to meet your heating and cooling needs during any season. And now, you can get a GE Cync smart thermostat, valued at \$119.99, for FREE until June 30, 2024. Plus, taxes and shipping costs are covered. As an added bonus, this offer also includes two free GE Cync smart lightbulbs while supplies last. Visit AmerenIllinoisSavings.com to claim your free smart thermostat today!



ROAD READY: NEW MOBILE COMMAND CENTERS WILL ENHANCE STORM RESPONSE

Ameren has added two new Mobile Command Center trailers to its fleet, one for Illinois and one for Missouri, to enhance storm restoration efforts. These specially designed trailers will allow for better coordination of crews and materials in the aftermath of a storm, ensuring a more efficient and effective response.

The 24-foot-by-8-foot, climate-controlled trailers can be pulled behind an Ameren utility truck. The trailers are equipped with high-speed internet access, computer workstations, a generator, technology for viewing real-time drone footage of storm damage, and an awning to provide outside cover.

The command centers may be moved to any area with major damage and will provide an important single point of contact for crews.

The Mobile Command Center trailers will complement the company's emergency preparedness fleet of equipment, which includes storm material trailers and mobile substations. Storm material trailers are stocked with supplies that enable crews to restore power safely after a storm; while a mobile substation can take over operations of a neighborhood substation damaged by a storm.



Volunteers Support "Sound the Alarm" in Peoria

Safety comes first at Ameren Illinois, so we were proud to support the American Red Cross Sound the Alarm event in

Peoria. Our volunteers helped install smoke alarms in customer homes and discussed fire prevention and evacuation plans with homeowners.

According to the American Red Cross, home fires claim seven lives every day. But having working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death by half.



EMPOWERING POLLINATORS

Ameren Illinois Sites Named Monarch Waystations

One-third of our food supply is made possible by pollinators. In 2021, Ameren became a founding member of Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI's) "Power-in-Pollinators" Initiative to look for additional ways to be responsible stewards of natural resources that impact food supply.



As part of our Pollinator Initiative, Ameren Illinois continues to transform the landscape around substations and in the rights-of-way of transmission and distribution power line corridors. Across our service territory, we are removing woody and invasive vegetation and replacing it with native vegetation.

Our newest pollinator project in the Metro East is located on a five-acre plot in East Carondelet. In 2021, we removed non-native vegetation to make way for the Metro South Reliability Project and planted native seed. Today, this thriving site is home to a large number of pollinating insects.

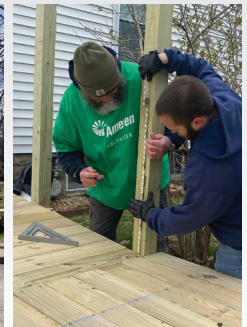
Our East Carondelet project, along with an additional pollinator project at our Jarvis Substation in Troy, were recently designated as Monarch Waystation sites by the Illinois Monarch Watch. The waystations are places that provide resources necessary for monarchs to reproduce and sustain their migration.



East Carondelet represents our fourth successful pollinator project in the Metro East, which cover more than 30 total acres. Learn more at **MonarchWatch.org**.

LENDING A HELPING HAND

This spring, a team of volunteers from Ameren Illinois donated one weekend to build a wheelchair ramp for a Taylorville woman in need. The work was done through Powering Connections for All Abilities (PCAA), an employee resource group whose mission is to engage, empower and include individuals of all abilities. We are proud of the PCAA's efforts to make this customer's house feel more like home.



SPEND LESS ON COOLING THIS SUMMER

Summer will soon be in full swing. When temperatures soar, the following tips will help you stay cool at less cost:

- ✦ Keep the temperature in your home moderate. You can save 1% on your bill for each degree you adjust your thermostat.
- ✦ Use a smart thermostat to help you save up to \$180 a year.
- ✦ Replace the air filter monthly so your cooling unit operates more efficiently.
- ✦ Use fans to cool your home on milder days. When used with air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4° F without sacrificing comfort.
- ✦ Close off rooms that you do not need to cool.

Find more tips and great offers on energy-saving products at AmerenIllinoisSavings.com.

Mylar Balloons Can ‘Pop’ a Power System

Mylar balloons can light up any party — but if not handled properly, they can leave entire communities in the dark.

Metallic coatings make Mylar balloons good conductors of electricity. If they touch a power line or float into substation equipment, Mylar balloons can cause a surge of electricity that can lead to power outages, explosions, fires and possible injuries.

If you use Mylar balloons at your next party, make sure they are weighted and tied down so they do not fly away. When the party’s over, puncture and deflate the balloons before disposing of them.



NEW TRANSMISSION LINE IMPROVES ELECTRIC RELIABILITY IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS



Residents and businesses in Logan County and the city of Lincoln are now benefiting from more reliable energy thanks to a new 8.4-mile, high-voltage transmission line. The Logan County Connector Project is improving system reliability, while opening a new pathway for electricity and increasing transmission capacity to meet Downstate Illinois’ growth needs.

Beyond strengthening the grid, the multi-year project strengthened local communities by using Illinois-based consultants, contractors, suppliers and labor.

“Prior to this project, there was only one pathway of energy into the city of Lincoln. Now we have a new superhighway for energy to flow into an existing substation on the opposite side of the city.”

—SUZANNE POHLMANN, AMEREN TRANSMISSION

AMEREN ILLINOIS REBATE PROGRAM SPURS GROWTH IN DOWNSTATE SOLAR ENERGY



Ameren Illinois has distributed more than \$50 million in rebates to help spur the generation of clean energy and reduce energy bills for customers throughout central and southern Illinois.

The Ameren Illinois Distributed Generation Rebate program has provided rebates to reduce the upfront installation costs for customers who use smart technology to connect their generators to the distribution system. Large commercial customers receive \$250 per kilowatt, while residential and small commercial customers receive \$300 per kilowatt for installed solar energy.

Rebate recipients include numerous community solar developers, who are helping to lower energy costs for thousands of downstate subscribers. Similar rebates were also provided to residential and business customers for construction of clean energy generators at their facilities.

Ameren Illinois has successfully facilitated the interconnection of over 177,500 kilowatts of solar service into the downstate territory. The increase in adoption of solar energy under the state's clean energy law enables customers to better manage monthly bills and reduce their environmental impact.



DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

A man's best friend can sometimes pose a challenge for utility workers. When a utility employee visits your home, it's important to keep your dog inside or confined outside at a safe distance from electrical or natural gas equipment. This helps ensure the safety of both your furry friend and the utility worker.

PLANNING FOR A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Ameren Illinois recently submitted an updated multi-year plan to strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the electric grid and prepare for an equitable transition to clean energy. Our plan outlines four strategic priorities that will guide Ameren Illinois from 2024 through 2027:

- **Grid Safety & Reliability** through continued investment in programs, systems and infrastructure.
- **Grid Resiliency** to prepare our system to better withstand interruptions caused by the increase in severe weather events.
- **Customer Experience** to empower consumers to manage energy usage through expanded access to tools, usage data and energy efficiency programs.
- **Clean Energy Transition** to make it easy for customers and developers to connect to renewable energy resources such as solar, wind and battery storage.

Our plan asks the Illinois Commerce Commission for approval of critical programs and investments that will enable Ameren Illinois to continue to deliver safe, secure, and reliable power in an equitable and cost-effective manner.