

Safety Tips for Before, During and After the Storm

Storm season is in full swing. Many summer storms have the potential to produce tornadoes—they can happen anytime, anywhere, and can bring winds over 200 miles per hour.

In April, a video of NBC Washington chief meteorologist Doug Kammerer went viral. During a live broadcast, Kammerer called his teenage son to warn him of a tornado that was headed straight for their home. Knowing the kids were likely playing video games and not paying attention to the weather, he told them to head straight to the basement. Kammerer debated if he should call his family on-air, but he knew it was the right thing to do. Luckily, the kids made it safely through the storm.

As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize the dangers storms pose. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are a several tips you can share with your loved ones.

Before the Storm

- Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a severe storm or tornado. Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear thunder roar, head indoors.
- Make a storm kit. It doesn't have to be elaborate—having a few items on hand is better than nothing at all. Try to include items like water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a First-Aid kit, flashlights with extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies, and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

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WIN

ONE OF TWO MONTHLY \$5 BILL CREDITS

THIS MONTH'S CONTEST:

Lightning Safety Awareness Week is June 20-26.

How many lightning bolts can you find hidden in this issue of *The Connection*?

◆ ◆ ◆

Winners for the month of April:
Garry & Judith Engeltjes, Alleman
Bryan & Heather Knight, Alleman

Here's how to enter:

1. Answer the question or challenge posed each month.
2. Send answers to Consumers Energy with:
 - Name
 - Service Address
 - Account Number
 - Phone Number
 - Email Address

Submit via email or mail:
Email to: kglenney@consumersenergy.coop
Subject line: Contest

Mail to: Consumers Energy
Attn: Contest
2074 242nd Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158

3. Winners' names will be drawn at random and published in upcoming issues of *The Connection*.

June 2022

Dates To Remember:

June	
1	Read Meters
3	Bills Due
3	Automatic Payments Deducted
9	Email / Mail Bills
19	Father's Day
27	Automatic Payments Deducted
July	
1	Read Meters
3	Bills Due
4	July 4th Holiday - Office Closed
5	Automatic Payments Deducted

Storm Safety Tips *(continued)*

During the Storm

- Pay attention to local weather alerts—either on the TV, your smartphone, or weather radio—and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible, and you should be prepared; a warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area, and it's time to take action.
- If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, head to your safe place to shelter, and protect yourself by covering your head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.
- If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado, do not try to outrun it. Pull over, and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible.

After the Storm

- If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible, limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.
- Stay off the roads if trees, power lines, or utility poles are down. Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.
- Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property. Thick-soled shoes, long pants, and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.

Bridget Itzen

Bridget Itzen,
CEO/General Manager

Practice Storm Safety

Have a plan in place and make a storm kit.

Listen to local alerts and know where to shelter.

Stay off the roads if trees and power lines are down.



SUMMER STORM SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Summer means fun in the sun! But the season can also bring strong thunderstorms.

Read the storm safety tips below, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle below.



T D D N U D O L O H X W S X S
 K H H B K X S N J M I Z T X M
 B Q U Z C J I E T N T A R Z C
 Y E R N Z T Q N D Z Y X U E S
 J L F S D K O O N N G E C K A
 P Q Y H U E W N B V M O T V D
 V S H C P S R W E L J R U S U
 D B N H C H Q X T D T A R L U
 H X H M M U B V Z P T Q E K X
 A R L L N E F Q X E B G S T R
 Y X Z N I I Q F T R T B E U S
 L I G H T N I N G L G W B G B
 T I K Y C N E G R E M E F S W
 O N I D F A D V M V V K N T M
 G Q D F H Y L R N O C A W R E



- If you hear thunder, that means **lightning** can strike nearby. Go indoors.
- Wait at least 30 minutes after the last rumble of **thunder** before going back outside.
- During a thunderstorm, stay away from tall, isolated **structures** or trees, which are more susceptible to lightning strikes.

- Avoid standing near **windows** during a thunderstorm.
- Strong summer storms occasionally cause power outages. During an outage, it's best to have an **emergency kit** on hand.



Please don't attach anything to electric poles.

It can be tempting to hang signs, basketball hoops, security cameras, and other items on our utility poles, but there are good reasons why you shouldn't.

1 Attaching things to poles is dangerous for you.

To keep your family and yourself safe, stay away from all electric equipment, including overhead power lines.

2 Attachments endanger our employees who climb poles.

A tiny puncture in a worker's gloves can expose him to electric shock, causing serious injury or death.

3 Attachments damage poles.

When the sealed outer layers of a pole are pierced, moisture and insects creep in and cause damage that shortens the life of the pole, increasing maintenance costs.

Book Emoji Pictionary Answers

These emoji Pictionary clues were used for the June newsletter contest. Here are the answers!



1 The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo



2 The Very Hungry Caterpillar



3 Eat, Pray, Love

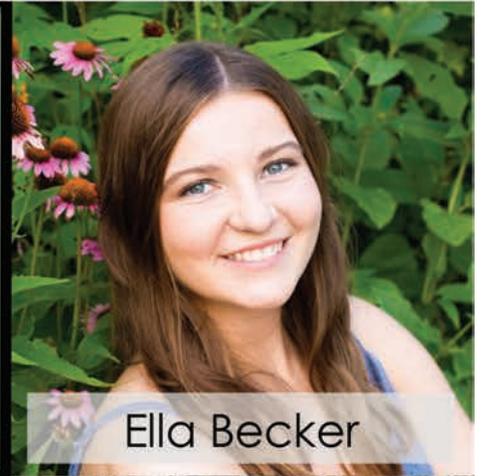


4 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Consumers Energy

⚡ is proud to announce the ⚡
2022 Scholarship Recipients

For more information on Consumers Energy's Scholarship Program visit,
www.consumersenergy.coop/content/scholarship-program.



Ella Becker



Colton Buell



Baylee Butler



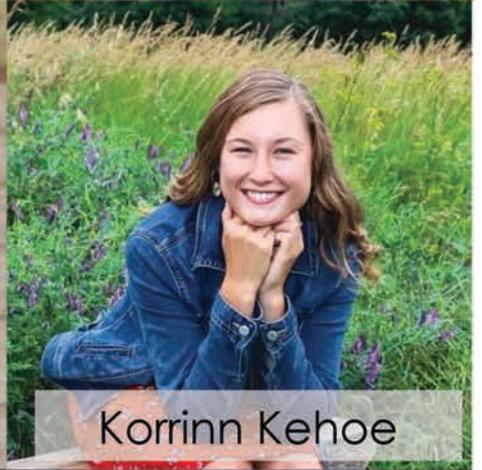
Conner Hill



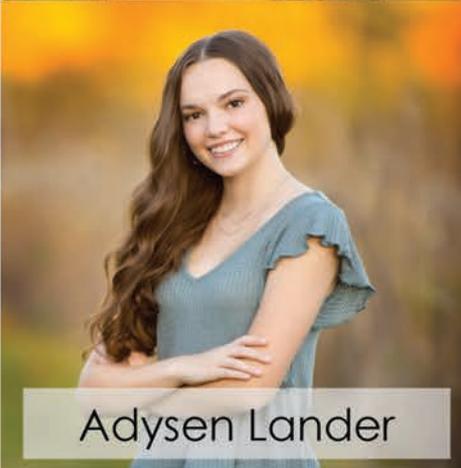
Claudia Jacobson



Kendall Jorgensen



Korrinn Kehoe



Adysen Lander



Kalyn Polley



Ethan Unzicker

Each year, Consumers Energy awards \$1,000 scholarships to area students. The Lineworker Scholarship is available for a full-time student who resides in Iowa and is pursuing a career in the power industry. The Academic Scholarships are available to full-time students who are dependents of members of Consumers Energy and are pursuing a postsecondary education at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school.

Congrats to the 2022 winners of Consumers Energy scholarships!



Ella Becker, daughter of Jason and Melissa Becker of Ankeny, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Ella attends Ankeny Centennial High School where she is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the National Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society. She participates in varsity basketball, varsity soccer, and varsity volleyball. Ella volunteers for Meals for the Heartland, as a Salvation Army bell ringer, and as a team member of the Unified Special Olympics. This fall she will attend Cornell College.

Colton Buell, son of Fred and Ann Marie Buell of Bondurant, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Colton is a senior at Ankeny Christian Academy where he's a member of Student Council, National Honor Society, Drama Team, and Teen Advisory Group. In his spare time, Colton enjoys acting, roller skating, long boarding, and performing in the chapel band. This fall he will be attending MidAmerica Nazarene University.

Baylee Butler, granddaughter of Janice Paper of State Center, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Baylee attends West Marshall High School where she is a class representative for the Student Council, Sentinel for Future Farmers of America (FFA), football statistician, and member of the National Honor Society. In 4-H, she has held all the officer positions and mentors young members. Baylee is the reigning 2021 Marshall County Fair Queen and Miss Charolais USA 2022. This fall she will attend Clarke University.

Conner Hill, son of Aaron and Amber Hill of Ames, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Conner has been active at Ballard High School in basketball, track, and cross country. He is a participant in the Backpack Buddies program and a World Food Prize winner. His hobbies include: hunting, fishing, golfing, bowling, and snowboarding. In the winter, Conner is a crew leader for pushing snow for Outdoor Escapes. This fall he will be attending Iowa State University.

Claudia Jacobson, daughter of Brent and Christine Jacobson of Gilman, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Claudia attends East Marshall High School where she is active in Student Council, National Honor Society, and cheerleading. She achieved Academic All-Conference in cheerleading and National Honor Society of Dance Arts. Claudia is particularly interested in dance; she is on the dance competition team and performed in The Nutcracker. This fall Claudia will attend the University of Iowa.

Kendall Jorgensen, daughter of Chris and Sara Jorgensen of Ankeny, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Kendall attends Ankeny Centennial High School where she participates in tennis, track, and is the varsity team captain for cross country. She was awarded Academic All-State in cross country. Kendall is a worship team pianist and a youth group leader for Prairie Ridge Church. This fall she will be attending the University of Oklahoma.

Korrinn Kehoe, daughter of Craig Kehoe and Kendra Pitman of Kellogg, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. Korrinn is active at Montezuma High School, participating in volleyball, basketball, trap shooting, and FFA. She has received academic honors in both volleyball and basketball and was on the Homecoming Court. When not at school or working, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends. This fall Korrinn will attend Iowa State University.

Adysen Lander, daughter of Christopher and Shannon Lander of Marshalltown, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. At West Marshall High School, Adysen is the chapter Vice President for the National Honor Society, the chapter Vice President for FFA, and the co-captain for varsity cheer. She enjoys participating in competition dance, volunteering, and spending time with friends and family. This fall Adysen will be attending the University of Iowa.

Kalyn Polley, daughter of Aaron and Angie Polley of Melbourne, is receiving an Academic Scholarship. At West Marshall High School, Kalyn was chosen to be their state representative for the Better Business Bureau's Student of Integrity Award, Student Council Secretary, and the President of National Honor Society. She is a varsity letter winner in both golf and softball. In addition, Kalyn is the captain of her cross country team and the Drum Majorette for marching band. This fall she will attend the University of Northern Iowa.

Ethan Unzicker, son of Jason and Holly Unzicker of Danville, is receiving the Lineworker Scholarship. Ethan attends Danville High School where he participates in trap shooting, baseball, basketball, and track. He was awarded 2nd All-Conference Catcher and is a repeated State Trap Shooting Qualifier. When not busy with school and work, Ethan enjoys hunting and gaming. This fall he will be attending Northwest Iowa Community College.

For more information on Consumers Energy's Scholarship Program, contact Member Service Representative Tami Kerwood at 800-696-6552 or tkerwood@consumersenergy.coop.



Employee SPOTLIGHT

Bridget Itzen CEO/General Manager



Bill & Bridget

Bridget Itzen works as Consumers Energy's CEO/General Manager, and she loves everything about her job! Bridget wishes she had found the co-op earlier in her career. She started working at the cooperative in the finance department in 2018 and began her CEO/General Manager duties in December 2020. Bridget enjoys working with the talented staff and dedicated directors as well as meeting new challenges daily.

Bridget's family includes her husband, Bill; son, Nick; daughter-in-law, Alee; daughter, Jill; and dog, Chief.

Bridget's favorite place in the world is anywhere there is sunshine and a beach. On weekends, she can be found working or doing something outdoors.

Thank you, Bridget, for your dedication to the co-op!



Fun fact about Bridget: In college, she had a job delivering balloon bouquets dressed as a clown!



Chief



Bridget's favorite concert? The Eagles



Jill



Nick & Alee



Foods that Bridget can't resist? Pizza & Dutch letters!

Where are they? ⚡



We need help locating these former co-op members.

Consumers Energy is holding unclaimed money due to those persons listed. This property is the result of checks from Patronage Capital Credit payouts that have been returned to the cooperative due to outdated mailing information. The owner may claim this money by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-696-6552 or info@consumersenergy.coop.

Shawn Adams, St. Joseph, MO
 Suzette Anderson, Cottage Grove, MN
 Ryan Anderson, Gilman, IA
 Dennis Baker, Ames, IA
 Chris Bounmy, Marshalltown, IA
 Josyenne Bricker, Waukee, IA
 Charles Butcher, Marshalltown, IA
 Alexis Carney, Des Moines, IA
 Zach Case, Ankeny, IA
 Classic Builders, Ankeny, IA
 Robert Collier, Ankeny, IA
 Austin Coulter, Bondurant, IA
 Adam Coussens, Nevada, IA
 CSI Homes & Development LLC,
 Johnston, IA
 Dezirae Davis, Des Moines, IA
 Lonna Dodds, Nevada, IA
 Fannie Mae, Logan, UT
 Robert & Joreen, Fisher, Windsor Hts, IA
 Hilario Flores, Gibbon, NE
 Erik Freed, Osceola, IA
 Codi Groth, Garwin, IA

Lisa Guzik, Madisonville, LA
 John F Hall, Huxley, IA
 Josh Haugo, Ankeny, IA
 Haverkamp Properties, Ames, IA
 Katherine Healy, Ogden, IA
 Megan Hedrington, Maple Lake, MN
 Devin Heintz, Johnston, IA
 Kelsey Hendrickson, Courtland, MN
 Warren Humphreys, Albion, IA
 Brock Hutchinson, Ankeny, IA
 Insight Construction, Ames, IA
 Jonathan Jensen, Huxley, IA
 Austin Jordan, Ankeny, IA
 Maria Larson, Nevada, IA
 Virginia Lee, Ames, IA
 Phylis Macha, Atlantic, IA
 Maria McSparin, Ankeny, IA
 Megan Mensing, Nevada, IA
 Jessica Michalowski, Ankeny, IA
 Lori Moon, Ankeny, IA
 Harley Moon Estate, Nevada, IA
 William Moore, Garwin, IA

Thomas Morford, Marshalltown, IA
 Monica Nissley, Kalona, IA
 Jeremiah Olps, Ankeny, IA
 Erin Papenberg, State Center, IA
 Anthony Perry, Ankeny, IA
 Katie Peters Estate, Colo, IA
 Jeffrey Pinney, Ankeny, IA
 Jennifer Ritchie, Ankeny, IA
 Jordan Sauser, Ankeny, IA
 Cori Schnell, Sully, IA
 Shawn Stolte, Huxley, IA
 Stonecraft Homes LLC, Ankeny, IA
 Kenneth H Strickler, Marshalltown, IA
 Amber, Surber, Huxley, IA
 Terry Tollefson, Peoria, AZ
 Kali Tuon, Johnston, IA
 Walk On LLC, DBA Wandering Creek
 Marshalltown, IA
 Mackenzie Warnock, Indianola, IA
 Wilken Properties, Cumming, IA
 Andrew Wood, Urbandale, IA
 Jane Yagla, Ankeny, IA



Nominate a local volunteer
and they could win
\$2,000 for their charity!

Contest entries accepted during June at
IowaShineTheLight.com

Consumers Energy's Education Program

Consumers Energy employees have been busy presenting educational programs in 2022!



Colo-NESCO Career Fair

February 24

Tami Kerwood, James Harger, & Max Upham

Marshall Co. Road Maintenance Dept.

March 17

Tami Kerwood & Justin Krueger



Marshalltown High School Career Fair

April 6

Tami Kerwood & Max Upham

West Marshall Elementary

April 15

Tami Kerwood, Bailey Brockman, & May Upham



Board of Directors

April 28

Tami Kerwood

For more information on Consumers Energy's Education Program, contact Tami Kerwood at 800-696-6552 or tkerwood@consumersenergy.coop.

Congrats to
**DIRECTOR
DENNY
BECKMAN!**



Congratulations to Director Denny Beckman for earning his Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

The NRECA BLC recognizes individuals who continue their professional development as a director. Directors who have attained the BLC have completed 10 credits in advanced, issues-oriented courses.

BECOME A DIRECTOR FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY



As a member of Consumers Energy, you can serve on the Board of Directors and help guide your local electric cooperative into the future.

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates NOW.

For information on how to get in contact with members of the Nominating Committee, contact the cooperative:

- By phone: 800-696-6552
Request Bridget Itzen or Kippen Glenney.
- By email: admin@consumersenergy.coop

SAVE
THE DATE



Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 27

Registration begins at 9 a.m.
Meeting begins at 10 a.m.



CONSUMERS ENERGY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1 - Marshall, Jasper, & Tama Counties:
Denny Beckman
Vice President
dbeckman@consumersenergy.coop

Bill Hobson
President
whobson@consumersenergy.coop

Pat VonAhnen
Secretary-Treasurer
pvonahnen@consumersenergy.coop

District 2 - Story County:
Arden Greiner
Director
agreiner@consumersenergy.coop

Bob Meimann
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
rmeimann@consumersenergy.coop

Steve Quick
Director
squick@consumersenergy.coop

District 3 - Polk County:
Craig Griffieon
Director
cgriffieon@consumersenergy.coop

Tony Lem
Director
alem@consumersenergy.coop

Jennifer Sease
Director
jsease@consumersenergy.coop

Energy Efficiency Cost per kWh:
\$0.000874

To report an outage, call 800-696-6552.

For the most accurate outage updates, check SmartHub or www.consumersenergy.coop for messages, the statewide outage map, or call Consumers Energy.

WAYS TO PAY YOUR CONSUMERS ENERGY BILL



Online or the app
www.consumersenergy.coop

Automatic recurring
monthly payments



In person

By phone 24/7
844-201-7196



By mail

By dropbox



2074 242nd Street | Marshalltown, IA 50158



641-752-1593 | 800-696-6552



641-752-5738



www.consumersenergy.coop



info@consumersenergy.coop



OFFICE HOURS
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY



for bill payment options

FREE PAYMENT OPTIONS

- ALL of Consumers Energy's payment options are FREE for members!



COMMUNITY ROOM

- FREE for members to use!
- Great for family gatherings, parties, meetings, and more!

For information on ways to pay or programs and services offered, contact the Member Services Department.