

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Membership approves Code of Regulations change

In November, Hancock-Wood Electric received the results of our special election. Members were asked to vote on a Code of Regulations change to reduce the number of districts in our service area from 10 to 9. The code change passed overwhelmingly, so the next step is to redistrict.

What is redistricting? Basically, our 10 existing voting districts will be consolidated into nine by moving members in the eliminated district into neighboring districts. Per our Code of Regulations, the cooperative redistricts to ensure equitable distribution of members in each of our districts, and our engineering team worked with your board of trustees to determine the best way to make the needed changes based on the location and number of current members. This change will attempt to simplify district lines and minimize splits within townships.

Essentially, the approved change is to remove District 8 by redrawing voting district lines, merging this area into neighboring districts. Former Districts 9 and 10 will then be renamed 8 and 9. These changes are depicted in the map below.

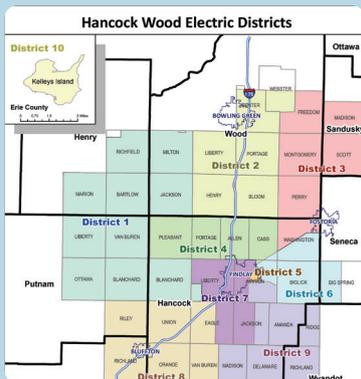
Our research showed that many other co-ops in Ohio and surrounding states have 9 or fewer board members; we have been one of very few cooperatives with 10. Having an odd number of board members also helps reduce the possibility of a tied vote. Another benefit of the code changes that membership approved is that having one fewer board member will be a cost savings to the cooperative. In June, the membership voted to change the nomination process and move to a petition system, which will save the cooperative about \$19,000 per year; reducing the number of districts will save another \$20,000 annually.



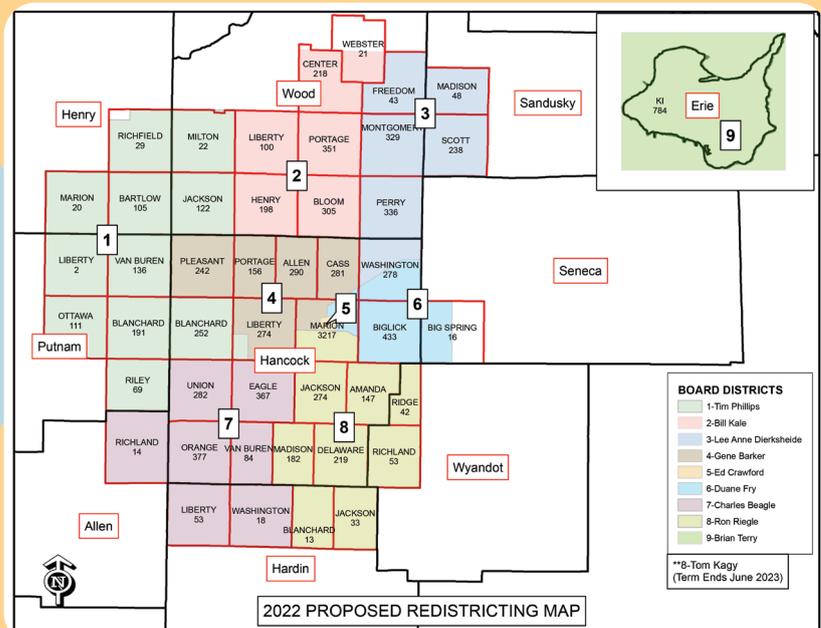
Bill Barnhart
 PRESIDENT & CEO

Please feel free to call our office at 800-445-4840 or email us at info@hwe.coop if you have any questions about the redistricting.

Old district map



New district map



Live-wire demo educates local fire departments



Electrical safety is an important part of our day-to-day work at Hancock-Wood, and as part of that, we also provide free safety programs for the public. We have two demonstrations — a tabletop presentation for fewer than 50 people and a life-size, high-voltage show for larger groups.

Hancock-Wood encourages schools, community groups, and businesses to provide the show as a part of their educational activities. The show dramatically emphasizes the dangers posed by high-voltage electric lines, both underground and overhead.

Thank you to all who attended the high-voltage demo in Gilboa in November. Attendees from Leipsic, Ottawa, Ottoville, Fort Jennings, Glandorf, Kalida, Delphos, Columbus Grove, Gilboa, and Continental fire departments were present to learn about electricity safety. We encourage those interested to call several weeks in advance and to be somewhat flexible on the date in case we have a conflict. To schedule a show, please contact our office.

WELCOME

MORGAN ROSE



Morgan Rose has been hired as a Member Services Representative I. Morgan grew up in North Baltimore and graduated high school in 2016. She attended the University of Findlay and graduated in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in education. She has one sister and lives in North Baltimore. She likes golfing, reading, and spending time with her family. Help us welcome Morgan to HWE!



Children of Members scholarship opportunity

Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative has granted more than \$100,000 in scholarships within the last decade.

AWARD CATEGORIES ARE:



First place – \$2,750

Second place – \$2,250

Third place – \$1,950

Fourth place – \$1,750

Fifth place – \$1,500

Sixth place – \$1,250

Seventh place – \$1,000

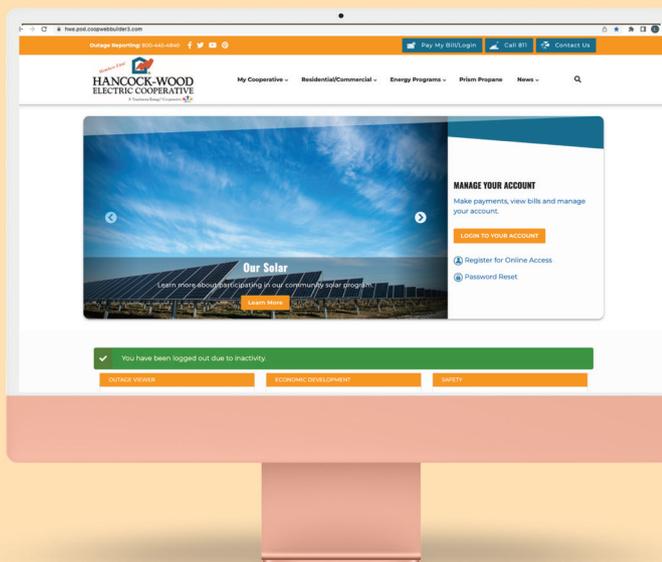
Power System Engineering –

\$2,000 annually for four years and potential paid internship.



Deadline for scholarship applications is 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 10, 2023.
For more information and to fill out the application, visit our website: www.hwe.coop.

New Year and New Website!



- New updated design!
- Easy to use!
- Available Jan. 1, 2023

Coming
Soon

Think Energy \$mart *with Bruce*

Now that the holidays are well behind us, you may have enough time in your schedule to complete a DIY project to save energy. The project I am referring to is insulating your water lines.



Insulating your water lines is a simple project most residents can complete themselves in a few hours if they have easy access to their pipes.

The insulation for this project is available as polyethylene or neoprene foam, and usually is

available in 6-foot sections with a lengthwise slit for covering the pipes. Many times, the insulation also includes an adhesive that will make the task of sealing the insulation around the pipe easier. All accessible hot- and cold-water lines should be insulated in unconditioned spaces such as garages, crawlspaces, or unheated basements. If your water lines travel through conditioned spaces such as a finished basement or heated living space, you can concentrate only on the hot-water lines.



Insulating the lines will contain the heat you paid for inside that insulation jacket and will also help protect the lines from freezing if they're exposed to sub-freezing temperatures. The energy savings from this project will probably only be a few dollars a month, but the project should not cost more than \$100 in material. HWE also has a rebate available for weatherization products that can help with the cost.

See www.hwe.coop/save-energy/rebates/ for more information.

CONTACT

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WEBSITE

www.hwe.coop

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HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

Email your ideas to:
leslie.guisinger@hwe.coop

Members First! 
HANCOCK-WOOD
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