

# October is National Cooperative Month



**SAFE,  
RELIABLE,  
AFFORDABLE  
ENERGY.**

**THEN. NOW.  
ALWAYS.**

We are proud to  
power your life.

**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH**

There are 40,000 cooperative businesses in the United States, including electric cooperatives.

**Electric cooperatives power:**

56 percent of the nation's landmass

47 states

42 million people

19 million American homes, businesses, farms and schools

**With:**

833 distribution cooperatives

62 generation and transmission cooperatives

**Electric cooperatives sell:**

13 percent of the total electricity in the U.S.

**Electric cooperatives generate:**

5 percent of the total electricity in the U.S.

Oct. 2018 billing insert

## Electric cooperatives are guided by seven principles:

1. **Voluntary and open membership:** Open to all persons able to use our services
2. **Democratic member control:** Your board of directors are your neighbors, elected by you
3. **Members' economic participation:** Each year margins are reviewed by your board of directors, who may set aside excess funds to keep the co-op financially sound and the quality of service as high as possible; funds are returned to you at a future date determined by the board of directors
4. **Autonomy and independence:** A self-help organization controlled by you
5. **Education training and information:** Educate members and youth through, for example, our newsletter and the Youth Tour
6. **Cooperation among cooperatives:** Work with other cooperatives in various ways, including through shared employees and helping to restore power after a storm in another cooperative's service territory
7. **Concern for community:** Support local communities through economic development, volunteerism and donations

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



**Butler County REC**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 