

**T**ime is running out to submit your Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) scholarship application. See guidelines and official rules at [shelbyelectric.coop](http://shelbyelectric.coop) under the "Community" tab. Download an application or you can pick one up from your high school guidance counselor's office.

Three academic scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each will be awarded. Eligible students are sons or daughters of any current SEC member who is receiving electric service from the cooperative at the time the scholarship application is submitted. Students must be high school seniors pursuing a college education in the United States.

**DEADLINE: March 6, 2020**

Applications may be delivered to the office, mailed, or emailed.

Shelby Electric Cooperative  
Attn: SEC Scholarship  
P.O. Box 560

Shelbyville, Illinois 62565  
[scholarship@shelbyelectric.coop](mailto:scholarship@shelbyelectric.coop)  
217-774-3986



SCHOLARSHIP  
REMINDER



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Placing hot food in the refrigerator makes the appliance work harder than necessary, using more energy. Allow food to cool down before you place it in the fridge.



**Shelby Energy Company**  
Serving your LP gas needs since 1994

## FARM HOME BUSINESS

SAVE MONEY ON DRUMS, BUCKETS, AND CASES



**Chevron URSA Super Plus**  
15w40 in 55 gal. drums

**Chevron 1000 THF Tractor**  
Hydraulic Fluid in 55 gal. drums

**Sale Ends April 15th**

Call for special pricing 217-774-2311

 Find us on Facebook @ShelbyEnergyCo



## ONLINE BILL PAY

Pay your bills online and monitor usage  
with the **smarthub app!**





## Maintaining the Cooperative's right-of-way

Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) provides reliable electricity more efficiently through right-of-way (ROW) clearing and tree trimming. ROW refers to the portion of land under and around power lines and equipment that SEC has the right and responsibility to clear and maintain.

“Approximately 70 percent of SEC’s power interruptions occur due

to trees interfering with power lines,” according to Terry Oldham, SEC’s Manager of Operations.

“When the wind blows, it can cause trees to come into contact with the lines, causing your lights to blink. During storms, limbs can break and fall onto lines causing fuses to blow or reclosers to open. Even worse, a storm may cause a tree or heavy limb to fall and take down a power line and pole, which can create other issues. This is why utilities have ROW maintenance programs,” commented Oldham.

A clear ROW cuts down on annoying blinks and outages; it also makes it easier for linemen to access and fix other problems that may occur. Your cooperative seeks to provide you with safe, reliable electric service all year round. Our ROW maintenance program is just one more tool for us to achieve this.

The cooperative will be replacing approximately 600 poles and doing maintenance or repairs to another 700 poles. SEC maintains approximately 45,000 poles over 2,200 miles of energized line in all or parts of nine counties.

## SHELBY News

**P.O. BOX 560  
Shelbyville, IL 62565  
Phone: 217-774-3986  
or 1-800-677-2612  
Pay-by-Phone:  
1-855-385-9981  
www.shelbyelectric.coop  
twitter.com/YourCoop  
facebook.com/YourCoop**

**Office Hours:  
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



# 2020 Tree Trimming, Spraying, & Pole Change Out Schedule

### \*2020 Tree Trimming and Mowing

Shelby Electric Cooperative’s tree trimming crew and contractors will be trimming trees and mowing in these areas: **T** and **M**.

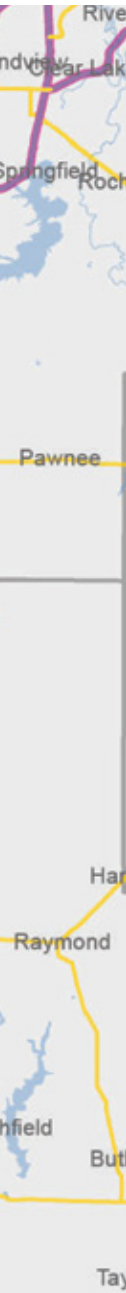
### \*2020 Spraying

Shelby Electric Cooperative’s spraying crew will be working in these areas: **P, L, S, N,** and **R**.

### \*2020 Pole Change Outs

Shelby Electric Cooperative crews will be working in the following areas: **M, V, W, S,** and **H**.

*\*These are our areas of concentration for 2020. However, maintenance work will continue in other parts of our service territory.*

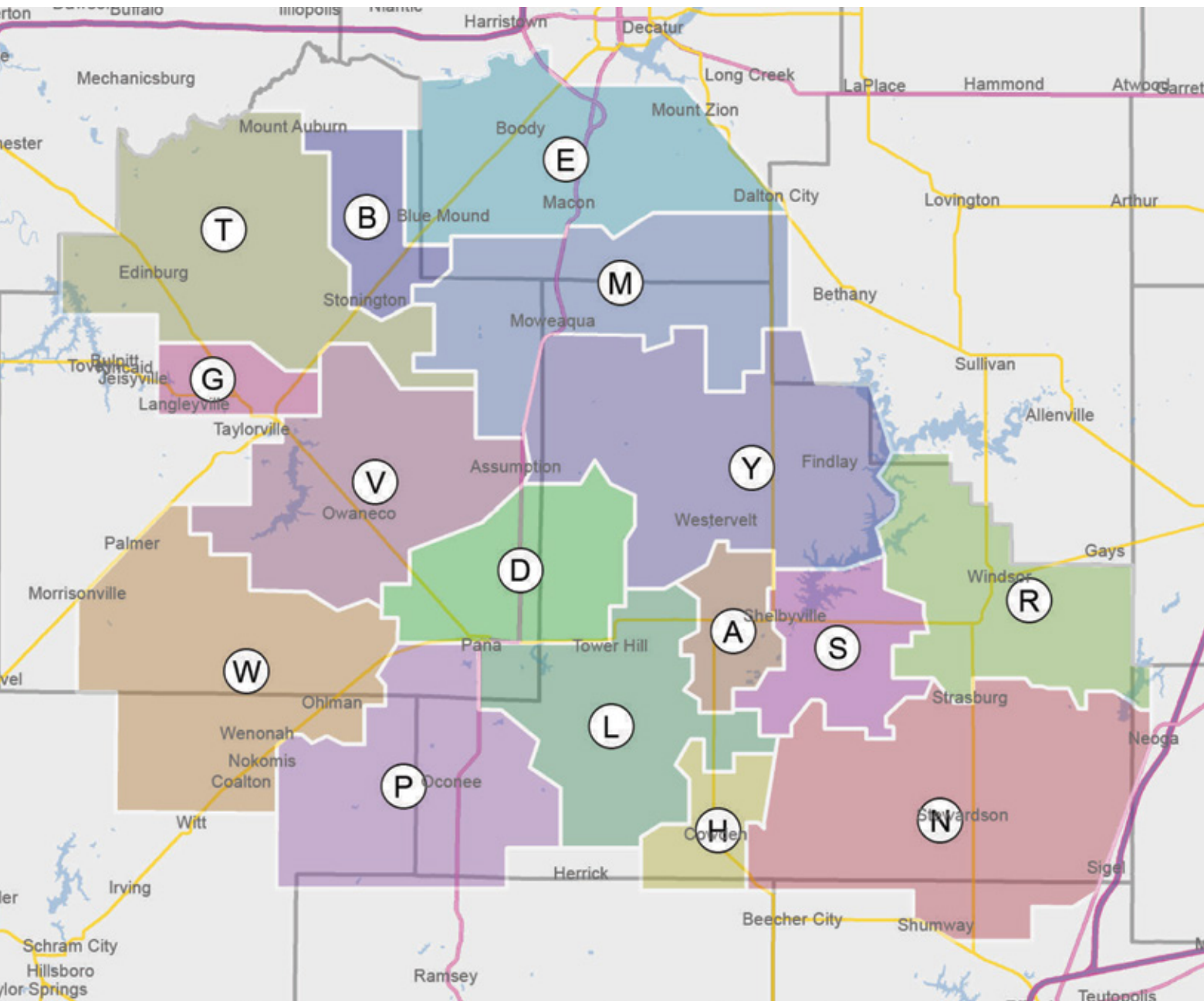




SEC's Operations Department maintains an annual schedule for tree trimming, spraying, and pole inspections (see our planned 2020 activities in graphic below). Any contract crews working for SEC will have magnetic signs on their vehicles that indicate they are working for the cooperative. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the cooperative at 217-774-3986 or toll free at 1-800-677-2612.

Substation	Letter Associated
Airport	A
Blue Mound	B
Dunkel	D
Elwin	E
Grove City	G
Herrick	H
Lakewood	L
Moweaqua	M

Substation	Letter Associated
Neoga	N
Pana	P
Richland	R
Shelbyville	S
Taylorville	T
Velma	V
Wenonah	W
Yantisville	Y



**REAL LIFE  REAL POWER**

# Getting Real with Marla and March Madness

**M**arch can be a fickle month. It teases us with thoughts of spring, while reminding us that winter has not completely surrendered. Last March, the temperature ranged from 3 to 71 degrees Fahrenheit. The wait for spring can drive us mad!

If March madness brings dreams of basketballs bouncing on a larger screen in your living room, then you may be considering purchasing a new television. According to ENERGY STAR, spring is when new television models become available, and last year's models are marked down. If you are planning to upgrade your television, remember that ENERGY STAR certified televisions are, on average, 25 percent more energy efficient than conventional models.

To save electricity, turn off the television and take advantage of the lengthening amount of daylight when the weather allows. The spring equinox, when the hours of day and night are nearly equal, is March 19 this year. We will "march" through spring after that, and the hours of daylight will become noticeably longer.

Now is the perfect opportunity to clean leaves, sticks, and other winter debris from around your outdoor heating and air units. Make sure last year's growth on bushes and other plants is not interfering with the airflow around this equipment or blocking clothes



dryer vents. This is the recommended time to prune certain flowering shrubs and bushes. The University of Illinois Extension recommends early spring pruning for plants that bloom in the summer, such as butterfly bushes.

Did you notice any wind blowing in around the doors or windows this winter? Check the caulk and weather stripping around them for damage or deterioration. The U.S. Department of Energy advises the best time to apply caulk is when the outdoor temperature is above 45 degrees Fahrenheit and the humidity is low.

Soon, it will be time to turn the heat off and enjoy fresh air. When spring-cleaning includes washing windows,

check the door and window screens for holes and tears. Minor holes and tears in screens can be fixed with repair patches, often without needing to remove the screen to perform the repair. For badly damaged screens, it is possible to replace the entire screen instead of purchasing a new unit with the frame. Your local hardware store should be able to help you find the supplies you will need.

Staying busy with these suggestions will help you be prepared for March to go out like a lamb and to enjoy the spring days ahead.

*~Marla Foor,  
Communication Specialist*



**Remember Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 2:00 a.m. You will need to set your clocks ahead one hour (spring forward).**

*Fire departments recommend replacing the batteries in your smoke detector(s) at this time.*