

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

New petition process in 2023

During the annual meeting last June, Hancock-Wood members voted to change how our members can participate in running for our board of trustees. The old nomination process was changed to a petition process. In 2023, any qualified member in districts 2, 7, or 8 can obtain the petition to get 20 signatures and have their name appear on the ballot. By voting to change this process, our members allowed the co-op to save money and not send out a large mailing each year to ask for nominations. This change will save the cooperative thousands of dollars each year. If you are a member in districts 2, 7, or 8 and are interested in serving on the board, please consider running in our election next year. The petition deadline will be on March 10, 2023. To obtain a petition, see our website, www.hwe.coop, or visit our office.

Also happening this month is a chance to vote in our special election. The deadline for the ballots to be cast is Nov. 14. During this special election, the members will be asked to vote on a Code of Regulations change to reduce the number of districts in our service area. Due to the timing of this change, the need for a special election is necessary to make the change before the next annual meeting and our regular election schedule. If the board-recommended code change is passed by the membership, the board will be reduced from 10 members to nine.

The current Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative board is made up of 10 board members, each representing one of the 10 districts in our service area.

One board member is nearing the end of his term limit at Hancock-Wood and the board determined this was a good opportunity to investigate redistricting our service area and eliminating one district to reduce costs to our members.

Another reason the board chose to move forward with this special election is that it will be a cost savings to the cooperative by having one less board member. Voting to reduce the number of districts will save the cooperative approximately \$20,000 per year. After some of our research, we also learned many of the other co-ops in Ohio and surrounding states have nine or fewer board members — we are one of the only cooperatives with 10. Having an odd number of board members will also help reduce the possibility of a tied vote.

The board members and management of Hancock-Wood Electric feel this is the opportunity to make a change to improve the co-op, and we hope the membership will take into consideration the many benefits to our members of reducing a board district. Please feel free to call our office at 800-445-4840 if you have any questions about the redistricting or email us at info@hwe.coop.



Bill Barnhart
PRESIDENT & CEO



Election timeline:

- Nov. 14, 2022: Election closes, all ballots must be returned prior to this date, and the online voting will end.
- Election results will be announced via our website and Facebook page after this process and, if approved, the co-op will move forward with redistricting.

HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



2022 ACRE meeting

The 2022 ACRE meeting took place in September. Members enjoyed a free breakfast and heard political updates from State Senator Rob McColley, State Representative Jon Cross, and leaders from Ohio's Electric Cooperatives. We appreciate all our members who take an active role in participating in the ACRE program. For more information and to learn how you can participate, visit <https://voicesforcooperativepower.com> or call our office.



Amplex Internet update

As many members know, Hancock-Wood announced its terms with Amplex Internet services in March of 2022. Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative has agreed to terms with Amplex Internet that will allow Amplex to provide fiber-optic internet service throughout Hancock and Wood counties. Fiber service provides speeds up to 1,000 Mbps (gigabit fiber) and is the most reliable type of internet connection. To see the current progress, visit <https://amplex.net/residential-fiber> to see their updated map.

OURSOLAR

Why community solar?

Did you know? As a member of Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative, you can purchase solar at roughly 9.3 cents per kWh, instead of waiting to break even.

	Average installed cost (\$/W)	System size	Out-of-pocket expense	Simple breakeven — years
Rooftop	\$3.00	9 KW	\$27,000	25
OurSolar	\$1.00	4,760 KW	\$0	N/A

Members can subscribe to the energy output of up to 10 panels for an average cost of approximately \$4 a month per panel. Hancock-Wood will measure the green energy produced by each panel every month and calculate it into your bill.



**Hancock-Wood
wishes our members
a happy Thanksgiving!**

**We will be closed on Nov. 24 and
25 so our employees may spend
time with their families.**

Think Energy \$mart *with Bruce*

Learn before you buy: common HVAC acronyms



Fall is a popular time of year to replace HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) equipment, so this is a good time for me to define some common terms you may hear if you shop for a new furnace or air conditioner.

Below are some common acronyms used in the HVAC industry. Understanding these terms will help you if you are replacing your heating or cooling equipment.

AFUE: Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency

This measures how efficiently your fossil-fuel burning furnace uses its fuel. A 95% AFUE furnace allows 95 of every 100 BTUs generated to enter the structure, and 5 BTUs exhausted outside.

BTU: British Thermal Unit

This is a unit of heat. It is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit. It is approximately the amount of heat generated by burning one wooden kitchen match. HVAC equipment is rated by how many BTUs it produces or removes per hour.

SEER: Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio

SEER is how the efficiency of an air conditioner is measured. The total BTUs removed during a typical cooling season is divided by the energy input. The higher the SEER rating, the less energy the unit will consume. If you are considering replacing your HVAC equipment, please visit <https://www.hwe.coop/save-energy/saving-energy-links/> for more information. You can also contact me directly at bruce@hwe.coop or 419-257-5025. I will be happy to answer any questions you have.

CONTACT

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WEBSITE

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PAYMENT OPTIONS

online, dropbox, office, by phone, or
automatic bill pay

HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

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

Members First! 
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