

# NEWS & VIEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS  
OF HENDRICKS POWER COOPERATIVE

FEBRUARY 2026  
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## AROUND TOWN

### Calendar of Events

JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 1

#### Indiana Fishing Expo

Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds

Sat: 9 am-6 pm Sun: 9 am-4 pm

Get the gear, tools, and advice to take your fishing to the next level.

#### Learn More:

[indianafishingexpo.com](http://indianafishingexpo.com)

FEBRUARY 13

#### Applications Due - Youth Tour

High school juniors can apply to Youth Tour for the chance to visit Washington, D.C.

#### Learn More:

[hendrickspower.com/youth-tour](http://hendrickspower.com/youth-tour)

FEBRUARY 23

#### Legislative Breakfast

Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds  
7:00 am

Enjoy a complimentary breakfast, followed by an opportunity to speak with your representatives from the Indiana Statehouse.

The remaining 2026 date is March 16.

RSVP the Thursday before to [janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com](mailto:janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com).

MARCH 6

#### Applications Due - Scholarships

Attention high school seniors! Applications for Commitment to Community Scholarships are due by 4:30 pm.

#### Learn More:

[hendrickspower.com/scholarships](http://hendrickspower.com/scholarships)

JULY 23

#### Annual Meeting & Member Appreciation

Save the date & stay tuned for additional details!

## YOUTH PROGRAMS



Hendricks Power Cooperative is thrilled to announce the return of its annual youth programs, offering unforgettable opportunities for middle and high school students in the community. This year's offerings include Camp Kilowatt, Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., and the Commitment to Community Scholarships—each designed to inspire, educate, and empower the next generation.

#### Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.: A Week of History and Discovery

Hendricks Power proudly sponsors the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., a week-long journey to the nation's capital from June 14–21, 2026. Open to current high school juniors, the trip includes visits to iconic landmarks like the Gettysburg Battlefield, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Smithsonian museums. Students will also tour memorials honoring figures such as Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King Jr., and Franklin D. Roosevelt, and enjoy a memorable night cruise on the Potomac River.

This prestigious program brings together more than 1,800 students nationwide for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. **Apply at [IndianaYouthTour.org](http://IndianaYouthTour.org) by February 13, 2026.**

#### Commitment to Community Scholarships: Supporting Higher Education

Hendricks Power offers six scholarships to graduating high school seniors. This year, these scholarships increased to \$2,000. Scholarships can be applied to college tuition or other higher education expenses. Students will need to complete an application, provide a letter of recommendation, a copy of their transcript, and an essay based on the provided prompt.

**Apply at [HendricksPower.com/scholarships](http://HendricksPower.com/scholarships) by March 6, 2026.**

#### Camp Kilowatt: An Outdoor Adventure with a Purpose

Hendricks Power sponsors current sixth-grade students to attend Camp Kilowatt. This summer retreat will be at a new location, Happy Hollow Children's Camp in Nashville, IN, the week of July 26-29, 2026. This immersive three-day experience combines outdoor fun with hands-on learning. Activities include horseback riding, zip-lining, canoeing, and archery, along with lessons on eco-consciousness, electrical safety, and cooperative principles. **Interested students can apply at [CampKilowatt.org](http://CampKilowatt.org). Applications are due by May 1, 2026.**

"We're proud to continue supporting local students," said Emily Thomas, Marketing Communications Manager at Hendricks Power. "Youth Tour and Camp Kilowatt can have a lasting impact. Our goal is to make sure every child who is interested in our service area has the chance to apply. We encourage our members to share these opportunities with schools and community groups to ensure more students can benefit."

*\*Parents/Guardians must be HPC members.*

## DUE DATES

FEB 13 Youth Tour

MAR 6 Commitment to Community Scholarships

MAY 1 Camp Kilowatt

Questions? Contact  
Emily Thomas, 317-718-7606  
[ethomas@hendrickspower.com](mailto:ethomas@hendrickspower.com)

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# Board Member Brent Shay Earns Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate

*Congratulations, Brent Shay!*

Congratulations to Board Member Brent Shay of Area 1 for earning his CCD certificate. This program equips cooperative directors with the governance knowledge and skills needed to fulfill their duties as elected officials serving on behalf of the membership. Currently, eight of Hendricks Power’s nine board members have earned the CCD certificate, reflecting the board’s strong commitment to education and responsible governance.

## CCD Explained: Strengthening Our Cooperative Leadership

Today’s electric utility industry is evolving rapidly, placing new demands on cooperative directors. Board members must stay informed on changes in the electric business, governance best practices, financial oversight, and the cooperative business model. Hendricks Power is committed to working through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) to strengthen director education for the benefit of our members.

### About the CCD Certificate

This certificate is the first level of NRECA’s Director Education Program. It provides directors with foundational governance knowledge and the essential skills required to fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities for members.

To earn the CCD certificate, directors must complete five core courses and demonstrate understanding of the following competencies:

- Director Duties and Liabilities
- Understanding the Electric Business
- Board Operations and Process
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Decision-Making

Upon completion of all five courses, directors are awarded the NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate.

Congrats, Brent Shay! We appreciate your service to our members.



# What Goes Into Providing Your Power?

Hendricks Power believes in keeping you informed—not just about what’s happening today, but about the factors that help shape the future of your electric service. Sharing this information helps explain how HPC plans and keeps reliability at the forefront.

### What Impacts Electric Costs?

Like households and businesses, electric cooperatives are influenced by broader economic conditions and essential operating expenses. Key cost drivers include:

**Cost of Purchased Power** – The cost to buy wholesale electricity is influenced by energy markets, fuel prices, and regional demand.

**Fixed Costs** – Depreciation costs for infrastructure and equipment, expenses related to consumer accounts and member services (such as billing and account support), and required taxes.

**Administrative and General Expenses** – Everyday business costs, including technology systems, employee support, and professional services needed to operate efficiently.

**Operation and Maintenance Expenses** – The cost of operating, maintaining, and repairing poles, lines, substations, and other equipment.

**Long-Term Interest** – Interest on loans used to fund major infrastructure projects and system improvements.

**Operating Margin** – Investments in system reliability and funds necessary to maintain financial stability and cover unexpected expenses.



**Investing in a Reliable System**  
Ongoing investments in poles, lines, substations, and technology help ensure safe and reliable service today while preparing the system for future needs. These improvements reduce outages, enhance safety, and support long-term reliability.

**Staying Prepared**  
HPC’s goal is to always keep our members’ best interests at the center of every decision—planning responsibly today to continue providing reliable, affordable service tomorrow.



At Hendricks Power, our commitment goes beyond delivering reliable electricity—it’s rooted in our love for the community. Guided by the Seven Cooperative Principles, we support youth programs, charitable initiatives, local economic development, and community causes that strengthen the places we call home. Valentine’s Day is a perfect reminder of the care and dedication we show our members all year long.

**Youth Programs** - Hendricks Power annually awards six scholarships to deserving high school seniors, increasing the award amount to \$2,000 this year. In addition, local students may be sponsored to attend Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., or Camp Kilowatt summer retreat, which both offer educational and leadership opportunities.

**Community Service Days** - Hendricks Power hosts an annual Community Service Day to bring employees together and support the communities we serve. In 2025, nearly 40 employees volunteered—our largest Co-op Community Day yet—partnering with Strides to Success, Hendricks County Senior Services, and Sheltering Wings on projects like gardening, cleaning, painting, concrete work, landscaping, furniture assembly, and more. While this day is meaningful, our commitment to the community continues year-round.

**Community Sponsorships** - In 2025, Hendricks Power proudly supported numerous local organizations, including the Kiwanis Club of Brownsburg, Imagination Library of Hendricks County, South Central Community Action Program, Little Red Door Cancer Agency, Cascade Fire Cadets, Strides to Success, and the B&O Trail Association.

**Community Outreach** - HPC awarded two teachers the Empowering Students Award, created to recognize and give back to the professionals who are developing our youth. HPC also supported Misty Eyes Animal Center by collecting donations to care for animals in need during the holiday season.

**Legislative Breakfasts** - Hendricks Power is proud to co-sponsor Legislative Breakfasts that offer residents an opportunity to hear what’s happening during session at the statehouse and ask questions to local elected officials.

**Annual Meeting & Elections** - Being a member-owned cooperative means that the most critical decisions are made by our Board of Directors, who are members just like you. The annual election allows members to vote in a democratic process to elect board members who best reflect their own interests.

**Informational Demonstrations** - Hendricks Power hosts community safety and electric vehicle demonstrations for events, schools, and other non-profit organizations. This year, the co-op hosted multiple field trips for students to learn about electrical safety. We also presented safety programs at local schools, the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, and many other organizations. Members can also request complimentary demonstrations for their event or organization.

**Energy Audits** - HPC offers complimentary energy audits from our Building Performance Institute-Certified Energy Advisor to assist members with energy efficiency. These audits provide members with personalized recommendations and strategies to help save electricity.

If you would like to learn more about these services, please visit [hendrickspower.com](https://hendrickspower.com). Stay up-to-date with current news by following our Facebook page, [facebook.com/HendricksPower](https://facebook.com/HendricksPower).



Help Hendricks Power congratulate Debbie A. on her retirement after nine years of service. As Director of Business Processes & Data Analytics, she strengthened financial reporting, budgeting, forecasting, and tax processes. She also established the data analytics function. Her work was featured in RE Magazine, and she presented her data analytics initiatives at national conferences. Her contributions and spirit have made a lasting impact.

Debbie is looking forward to summers on the lake, RV travels to national parks with her husband, visiting their son, celebrating their 30th anniversary in St. Thomas, and enjoying more wake surfing, reading, and golfing. Congrats, Debbie, on your new adventure!