

# IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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## MAKE WINTER A LITTLE WARMER

You may never know that friends or neighbors are struggling to keep their homes and families warm this winter. The non-profit Energy Assistance Foundation provides heating and cooling assistance to moderate-income people who don't qualify for state or federal assistance.

Your gift to the Energy Assistance Foundation helps senior citizens on a fixed income and people facing job loss, medical issues and other hardships. Donations are tax-deductible, and 100 percent of your contribution goes directly to help those in need.



To donate, visit  
**[WarmNeighborsCoolFriends.org](http://WarmNeighborsCoolFriends.org)**  
or call Ameren **1.800.755.5000**  
to add a donation to your  
Ameren Illinois bill.

## Ameren Illinois upgrades bring big benefits to Illinois

Ameren Illinois spent \$9.8 billion on its operations from 2012 to 2017, including upgrades to the system that delivers electricity and natural gas. According to a study by Development Strategies International, these investments generated \$28.5 billion in direct and indirect economic benefits.

Those benefits include additional leading-wage jobs, higher disposable income, and an estimated \$422 million in state and local tax revenues. Ameren Illinois investments also supported more than 19,000 jobs in Illinois.

"For the last six years, our employees, suppliers and contractors have been hard at work literally re-building the state's century-old energy delivery system," says Richard J. Mark, chairman and president of Ameren Illinois. "The results of this study validate that these enhancements, along with improvements in our overall operations, are delivering unprecedented benefits in the communities where we live and work."

### Economic Benefits of Ameren Illinois Operations 2012-2017



Ameren Illinois  
Investment:  
**\$9.8 billion**



Economic Benefits  
Generated:  
**\$28.5 billion**



Jobs:  
**19,000**



State & Local Taxes:  
**\$422.2 million**

## AMEREN ILLINOIS FORTIFYING POWER GRID FOR TROY, COLLINSVILLE, MADISON COUNTY

To build a more robust electric grid to meet our customers' growing needs, Ameren Illinois is enhancing the transmission system throughout Madison County by constructing two new substations — one each in Troy and Collinsville.

Much larger than a neighborhood distribution substation, a transmission substation reduces high-voltage electricity to a much lower voltage that can be transferred to a distribution substation. The distribution substation then steps down the voltage even further for delivery to small transformers, and eventually, customer homes and businesses.



*Ameren Illinois has started construction on a new substation in rural Troy that will enhance the energy reliability and flexibility of the company's transmission grid throughout Madison County.*



## Demo drives home dangers of downed power lines

Vehicle accidents involving utility poles create an incredibly dangerous situation, as downed power lines can energize the vehicle and the surrounding area. Even if you do not touch lines or equipment, you can still be seriously injured or killed when exiting the vehicle.

This fall, Ameren Illinois employees in several locations staged simulated vehicle incidents with downed lines to educate the public on the dangers. Local media outlets were invited to help the company share these safety tips:

- **Do not leave the car and warn others to stay away.**
- **Call 911 to have the utility notified.**
- **Wait until a utility professional has told you it is safe to exit the vehicle.**

The only reason to exit the vehicle is if it's on fire. If this occurs, jump clear of the vehicle with feet together — without touching the car and the ground at the same time. Continue to hop away with your feet together as far as you can.





## DECALS GIVE NATURAL GAS BUSINESS ITS DUE

Ameren Illinois is proud to deliver safe and reliable electricity and natural gas to customers throughout our 43,700-square-mile territory. Our complex energy delivery system includes 18,200 miles of natural gas pipelines and 12 gas storage fields. However, since most of these facilities are underground, many customers do not realize that we deliver natural gas.

To raise visibility, the company has added blue "Natural Gas Operations" decals to the doors of its natural gas trucks and vans. We hope the new decals will help customers be more aware of this often-hidden energy delivery system.

## New natural gas pipeline will benefit Belleville customers

With some planned enhancements in the Belleville area, Ameren Illinois is taking proactive steps to prepare for the future needs of our natural gas customers.

In spring 2019, we plan to begin a two-year natural gas transmission pipeline project near Belleville. Altogether, we will replace approximately 12 miles of vintage steel gas transmission pipeline — dating back to the 1950s — with new, 16-inch steel pipeline.

Customers in the following communities will benefit from this upgrade: Belleville, Swansea, Millstadt, Smithton, Hecker, Freeburg, New Athens, Fayetteville, St. Libory, Lenzburg, Marissa, Tilden, Coulterville and Sparta.

## A BUCKET TRUCK FOR BETHALTO

This fall, Ameren Illinois presented Bethalto Mayor Alan Winslow with the keys to a 37-foot aerial bucket truck the utility donated to the Village. The Ford F550 Super Duty model was recently retired from the Ameren Illinois fleet after nine years in service. Bethalto will use the truck for tree trimming, light pole maintenance and general maintenance around the community.



## GRANT SUPPORTS HUMAN TRAFFICKING EDUCATION, PREVENTION

A \$20,000 grant from Ameren Illinois will help the Center for Prevention of Abuse teach students in the Peoria Public School District about human trafficking and its prevention. The new four-week curriculum began this fall. Since January 2018, the Center has served nearly 30 trafficking survivors, ranging in age from 11 to 62.





## \$25,000 DONATION AIDS HURRICANE FLORENCE RELIEF EFFORTS

As communities impacted by Hurricane Florence continue to recover from the disaster, a \$25,000 donation from Ameren is providing assistance for American Red Cross relief efforts.

Ameren is an engaged partner in the electric industry's mutual assistance network through Edison Electric Institute, and available to help with workforce resources, while also providing financial donations when emergencies in other parts of the country occur. Through the mutual assistance network, Ameren Illinois and Ameren Missouri are eligible to ask for assistance from neighboring energy companies when a crisis occurs.



## A nested development

Friday night lights nearly turned into lights-out for Carlyle High School's September 7 home opener after a family of endangered Ospreys nested in a bank of lights used to illuminate the football field.

Working with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Raptor Center, Ameren Illinois stepped in to offer a safer nesting option for the Ospreys. We donated and installed an 85-foot power pole, with a platform provided by IDNR, in the hopes of attracting these birds of prey to a new nesting facility. An Ameren Illinois lineman took Jacques Nuzzo of the Illinois Raptor Center up nearly 100 feet to remove the nest from the stadium lights and reconstruct it on the new platform.

