

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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A smart start to the new year

If your New Year's resolutions include saving money, Ameren Illinois can help. In the past decade, our award-winning energy efficiency program has helped customers save more than \$780 million.

Smart thermostats are a smart start on your journey to energy efficiency. Today's smart thermostats are easy to operate and install. You can even control them on the go using your smart phone.

With the help of a smart thermostat, you can save up to \$180 every year in heating and cooling costs. To help you save more, Ameren Illinois is offering up to \$100 cash back on leading ENERGY STAR® rated smart thermostat brands, such as ecobee and Nest.

Visit AmerenIllinoisSavings.com/Smart to learn more or apply for a rebate.

SAVE \$100
on Smart Thermostats!

Visit AmerenIllinoisSavings.com



Above, one of our favorite holiday traditions, the Delta Sigma Theta Breakfast with Santa brightens the season for children in East St. Louis.

HOLIDAY HELPERS

Below, Peoria gas meter shop employees held a raffle and fundraiser that raised more than \$4,000, filling nine shopping carts with toys and other goodies for The George Washington Carver Center in Peoria, The Children's Home in Peoria, and The Center for Prevention of Abuse Carol House of Hope in Pekin.





BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM OFFERS LESSONS IN EFFICIENCY

Several hundred Ameren Illinois business and non-profit customers learned how to use less energy and spend less at the 9th annual Ameren Illinois Business Symposium. Open to all non-residential customers, this free, annual event features an overview of new program offerings and incentives, as well as breakout sessions on the latest energy efficiency technologies. Customers can also connect with Energy Advisors and Program Allies, registered contractors who are trained on Ameren Illinois program requirements.



Congrats to our first-ever Energy Innovators!

Outstanding achievements in energy efficiency have earned four organizations bragging rights in Ameren Illinois' first-ever Energy Innovators competition.

The Sangamon County Department of Community Resources won **Energy Innovator of the Year** for its Good Faith Payment Assistance Program, and its Energy Savings class. The group received a \$10,000 award to expand the programs in 2019.

In addition, three category winners each received a \$1,000 prize:

Community Benefit — **Warren County Housing Authority** replaced all yard and traffic lighting with LED bulbs, resulting in 50% savings on lighting costs, improved safety for tenants, and improved lighting for after-school programs and play areas.

Innovative Project — **Greater Peoria Sanitary District** made energy-saving equipment upgrades and adopted a new biological treatment process that requires less air and, therefore, less energy.

Energy Savings — **North American Lighting** in Paris, Illinois, installed a new control system that allows them to analyze electricity usage and monitor air consumption to reduce costs.

Congratulations to all of our winners!

FROM TROY TO HIGHLAND: GAS UPGRADES SLATED FOR SPRING

To prepare for the future needs of our natural gas customers, Ameren Illinois will soon begin work to upgrade approximately 15 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline from Troy to Highland. The project, set to begin in April 2019, will replace vintage steel natural gas transmission pipeline from the 1960s with modern, 12-inch steel pipeline.

The new pipeline will strengthen the integrity and reliability of our natural gas system and support economic development in Pocahontas, Pierron, Troy, Highland and other Madison County communities.

AMEREN NAMED 2018 BEST COMPANY FOR DIVERSITY

Ameren has been named to Black Enterprise magazine's 2018 Best Companies for Diversity list, an exclusive roster of major corporations that have demonstrated best practices through their diverse representation within their employee base, senior management ranks, corporate boards, and supplier pools. The complete listing was published in the November/December issue and on BlackEnterprise.com.



Safety after the storm

December tornadoes in the Land of Lincoln made the headlines. But spring is the most fertile time for this frightening weather phenomenon.

We breathe a sigh of relief after a storm moves on, but the danger can linger long after the storm has passed.

After any severe storm, exercise extreme caution as you begin clean-up efforts. Stay away from brush, downed trees and limbs, and any other debris that might conceal downed power lines. If you see a downed line, stay away, keep others away, and call Ameren Illinois right away at **1.800.755.5000** to report the situation.

Remember — just because power lines are damaged does not mean they are dead. Learn more at SafeElectricity.org.





AMEREN CARES

Ameren Illinois is proud to partner with organizations to improve quality of life in the 1,200 communities we serve. Through the Ameren Cares program, in 2018 we contributed more than \$3.0 million to non-profit organizations that benefit these important areas:

- Environment
- Youth and Education
- Civic and Community
- Health and Human Services
- Arts and Culture

Beyond financial support, our employees volunteer countless hours every year to make life better in the communities they call home.



Delivery system upgrades continue in 2019

With approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), in 2019 Ameren Illinois will continue the next phase of upgrading the state's natural gas and electric delivery infrastructure. Our modernization projects are expected to create jobs, improve service reliability, and develop new tools to help our customers manage their energy usage and costs.

ELECTRIC: Ameren Illinois has installed storm-resistant utility poles and power lines, outage detection technology, and more than 1 million smart meters throughout its service territory. On average, these enhancements have resulted in a 19 percent reduction in annual service interruptions. And when outages do occur, power is restored 17 percent faster, on average.

NATURAL GAS: Ameren Illinois is replacing older pipelines and facilities and adding new gas distribution equipment and technology. Since 2015, the company has replaced more than 160 miles of mechanically coupled steel pipeline throughout our 43,000-square-mile service territory.

CUSTOMERS WILL PAY LESS IN 2019

Based on new rates approved by the ICC in November, residential customers who receive both gas and electric supply from Ameren Illinois are expected to save, on average, approximately \$8 per month on their utility bill.