



# ILLUMINATIONS

## FROM THE DESK OF OUR GENERAL MANAGER



Spring has finally arrived, and I am looking forward to getting out and seeing my friends again.

The year 2020 brought a lot of changes to McMinnville Electric System (MES).

Last year, for the first time in MES history, we had three long-term employees retire on the same day! Those were: Randy Garrison, who was recognized as the longest serving employee

in MES history (46 years, 9 months), Kevin Prater, and Phillip Rowland. Retiring in May of 2021 is another long-term employee, Ralph Dunn.

Last year also brought some additions and role changes to MES. Neal Smith accepted

the role of Manager of Engineering and Operations, William Neal joined our MES family as an Engineering Technician, and the Right-of-Way crew added Lane Jones.

Some of you may be familiar with the book *Who Moved my Cheese*. In that book we find Haw, one of the main characters in the book, writing on the cave wall, "If you do not change, you become extinct."

Your MES family is changing (we definitely want to avoid

extinction)! For those who are retiring, we wish you good times in your next chapters.



While our workforce will see changes in the future, our commitment to the community remains solid. Each day our goal is to provide safe, reliable, affordable electricity to our customers. MES's dedication to keeping the

lights on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year is evident in our reliability factor of 99.998%.

McMinnville Electric System – Shining the Light on Your Future...Since 1939.





# Congratulations!

## tri·ple crown

noun

1. an award or honor for winning a group of three important events

- Safety Award of Excellence
- Reliability Certificate of Excellence
- RP3 Designation 2021-2024



Team MES announces to our customers the receipt of THREE prestigious awards in the utility industry. We all know hard work pays off, and nothing says it better than recognition from your peers! These awards represent our continuing dedication to providing safe, reliable, affordable electricity to the community of McMinnville.

Buying new appliances or making upgrades?



Compare appliances and products on the EnergyRight Marketplace.  
[www.energyright.efficientchoice.com](http://www.energyright.efficientchoice.com)



### ! ? TRIVIA ! ?

**HOW MANY GENERAL MANAGERS HAS MES HAD OVER THE YEARS?**

**CORRECT ANSWER = FREE LIGHT BULB**

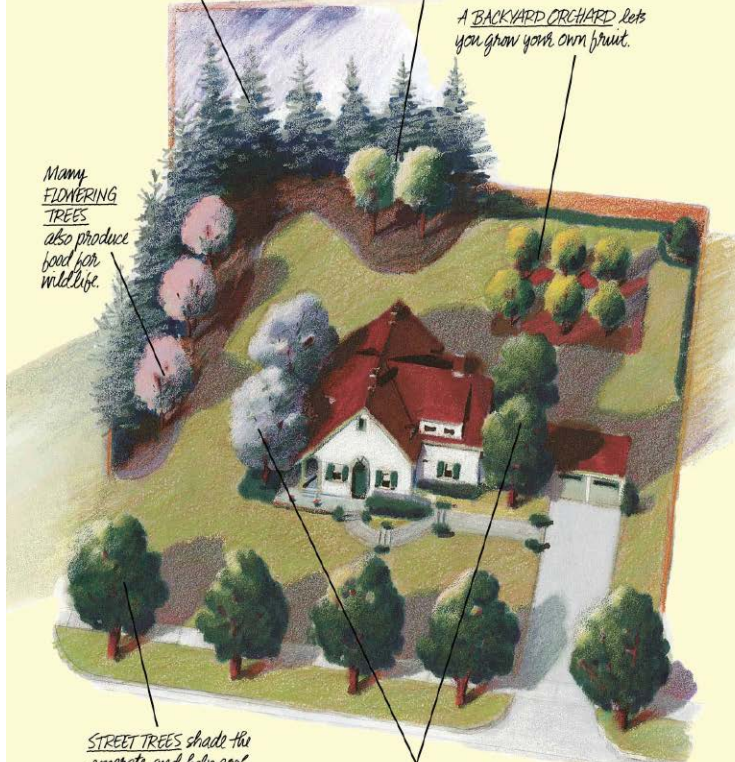
**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

Turn in your completed newsletter at the drive-thru window to collect your FREE LED Lightbulb.

*TREES around your home can increase its value up to 15% or more. The trees you plant remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the air, produce oxygen and give songbirds a home. Trees provide many other benefits.*



**A WINDBREAK** can lower heating bills 10-20%.

**NUT TREES** can be incorporated into windbreaks or serve as shade trees.

**A BACKYARD ORCHARD** lets you grow your own fruit.

**MANY FLOWERING TREES** also produce food for wildlife.

**STREET TREES** shade the concrete and help cool the entire neighborhood.

**SHADE TREES** planted east and west of your home can cut cooling costs 15-35%.

**Arbor Day Foundation**

Arbor Day was April 30th. Did you know the placement of trees can help you save energy? It's called "The Right Tree in the Right Place". To obtain proper placement of trees, MES has a program called Trade-A-Tree. Our certified arborist will inspect your tree to determine if it qualifies for replacement. You choose a tree to be replanted or if you prefer, have the stump removed.