

## What's Happening

### October is National Co-op Month



Co-op Month has been a nationally recognized celebration since 1964, when U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, a former Minnesota governor, proclaimed October Co-op Month.

### October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM), a time to focus on how cybersecurity is a shared responsibility that affects all Americans.

### Rock Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 1758  
2815 Kennedy Rd.  
Janesville, WI 53547-1758

P.O. Box 126  
15229 Willowbrook Rd.  
South Beloit, IL 61080

(866) 752-4550

Shane Larson  
Chief Executive Officer

Jonas Berberich  
Editor

# October is National Co-op Month

October is National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Rock Energy Cooperative, **CELEBRATE** who we are and what we do, and more importantly, the members we serve — YOU!!!



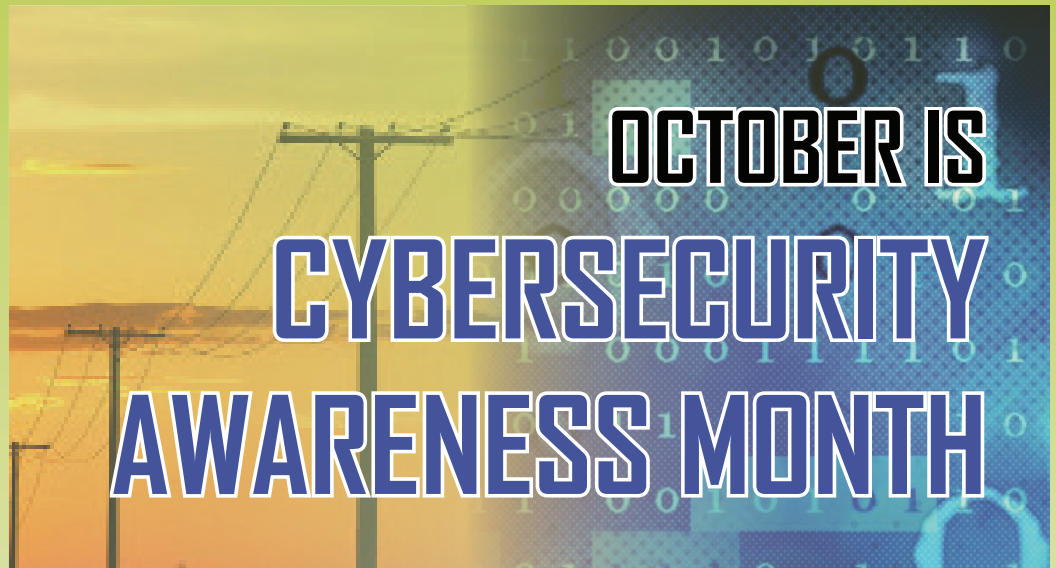


# CYBERSECURITY COMES TO THE FOREFRONT IN OCTOBER

In today's world, the cybersecurity threats our nation is up against can seem overwhelming and downright scary.

Cybersecurity, specifically the protection and security of consumers-members' assets and the nation's complex, interconnected network of power plants, transmission lines, and distribution facilities, is a top priority for electric cooperatives and other segments of the electric power industry.

This October, Rock Energy Cooperative is recognizing National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. The special designation began in 2004 under leadership from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance. Since then, it has grown exponentially, reaching consumers, small- and medium-sized businesses, corporations, educational institutions, and young people across the nation.



**By raising awareness and understanding of basic cybersecurity practices, the country can unite to combat cyber-related threats. Everyone has a role to play in ensuring the security of your personal and professional data. With that in mind, here are some tips that you can use to help safeguard your computer, phone and other personal devices:**

- **Keep all software on Internet-connected devices—including personal computers, tablets, and smartphones—up to date to reduce risk of infection from malware.**
- **Create long passwords that only you will remember, and change them every six months. Remember, a strong password is at least 12 characters long.**
- **Avoid the use of thumb drives and other portable memory devices.**
- **Don't click on web links or attached files in emails when you're not certain of who the sender is.**
- **Keep pace with new ways to stay safe on-line. Check trusted websites for the latest information.**

Share security tips with friends, family and colleagues, and encourage them to be web-wise. To learn more about National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, visit [www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org).

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

## Washer Energy Efficiency

**Wash with cold water:** Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load's energy use in half, and using cold water will save even more. Cold water detergents can be helpful to ensure items get clean, and high-efficiency detergents (indicated by the "he" symbol) should be used when required by the manufacturer. **Wash full loads:** Your washer will use about the same amount of energy no matter the size of the load, so fill it up. **Dry right-sized loads for your machine:** If the dryer is too full, it will take longer for the clothes to dry. Loads that are too small can also take longer to dry, plus you spend more per item when running the dryer to only dry a few things.