

MICHIGAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
SYMPOSIUM



OCTOBER
2-3
2019

JW MARRIOTT

235 Louis St. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

COOPSYMPOSIUM.ORG

Michigan Electric Cooperative 2019 SYMPOSIUM

"How can we better serve our members?" That's the special question electric cooperatives continually ask ourselves and explore together at the Michigan Electric Cooperative Symposium.

Join hundreds of colleagues, leaders, and experts working towards this common goal of member service to connect, network, collaborate, and exchange ideas at the 2019 Symposium, October 2-3 at the JW Marriott in Grand Rapids.

MAIN PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2 | JW Marriott International Ballroom

LUNCH

Noon

KICKOFF AND WELCOME

1:00 p.m.

"AROUND CO-OP COUNTRY"

1:15 p.m.



TONY ANDERSON
General Manager
Cherryland Electric
Cooperative



JAY MORRISON
Vice President,
Regulatory Issues
NRECA

The 2019 Michigan Electric Cooperative Symposium program begins with a look around the nation as Tony Anderson, Cherryland Electric Cooperative general manager and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association board secretary, and Jay Morrison, vice president of regulatory issues at NRECA, provide updates from NRECA.

"LEADING FROM THE FRONT"

2:15 p.m.



ANGIE MORGAN
NY Times Best-Selling
Author, Leadership
Expert and Founding
Partner
Lead Star



SHARI CULVER
Vice President,
Communications
& Member Services
Great Lakes Energy

"Leading from the Front" is a leadership philosophy Angie Morgan learned in the Marine Corps, a vibrant culture centered on three values: Honor, Courage, and Commitment. She'll share how when organizations are clear on their values, they're able to inspire others to develop and promote the culture the organization aspires to achieve.

In this keynote, Angie will share best practices she's observed inside the world's best businesses as a consultant with 15+ years helping develop talent. She's had keen insight into companies like Facebook, Google, Marathon Oil, and many smaller—and equally impressive—organizations.

Angie and Shari Culver, vice president of communications and member services at Great Lakes Energy, will discuss the work Angie and the Lead Star team performed at Great Lakes, and how it benefits its members.

CO-OPS GIVE!

3:30

Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan provides a 'home-away-from-home' for families traveling to Grand Rapids for critical medical and

mental health treatment for their children, including many from cooperative communities. This year, Michigan's Electric Cooperatives are supporting their efforts by donating much-needed items for the house.

RECEPTION

5:30 p.m.

Join your colleagues for an evening of networking at the Amway Grand Pantlind Ballroom.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

BREAKFAST

8:00 a.m.

MECA UPDATE

8:30 a.m.



CRAIG BORR
President & CEO
MECA

Craig Borr, president and chief executive officer of the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, opens the second day of the 2019 Symposium with a discussion on current issues and initiatives of the state-wide association.

"THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT"

8:45 a.m.



JOE HAZEWINKEL
Natural Resource Specialist
Wolverine Power Cooperative



JANELLE LEMEN
Regulatory Director,
Environmental Policy
NRECA

Environmental stewardship and cooperation among cooperatives are two core cooperative principals. Learn from Joe Hazewinkel, natural resource specialist at Wolverine Power Cooperative, and Janelle Lemen, regulatory director of environmental policy at NRECA, as they discuss local, regional, and national best practices and collaboration in right-of-way management for habitat and pollinator preservation.

"STATE OF THE STATE OF ENERGY"

9:45 a.m.



LIESL EICHLER CLARK
Director of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
State of Michigan

In 2019, the State of Michigan transitioned to new leadership with the election of Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Liesl Eichler Clark, director of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, joins the 2019 Symposium to provide an update from the new Administration with a focus on government policy as it relates to energy, infrastructure, and the environment.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 – continued

“MARIJUANA & CO-OPS: LESSONS FROM COLORADO COLLEAGUES”

10:50 a.m.



KENT SINGER
Executive Director
Colorado Rural Electric
Association



SHELLY EDGERTON
Government Policy
Counsel
Dykema



LOREN HOWARD
CEO
San Luis Valley Rural
Electric Cooperative

When the state of Colorado legalized recreational marijuana eight years ago, Colorado electric cooperatives were on the front lines facing the implications of growing operations on their electrical systems.

In this discussion, Kent Singer, executive director of the Colorado Rural Electric Association, and Loren Howard, chief executive officer of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, bring their experience to Michigan to discuss the impact of the cannabis industry on Colorado electric cooperatives, and what Michigan cooperatives may need to prepare for in light of changing laws. Shelly Edgerton, government policy director at Dykema, will moderate this panel as well as contrast and compare Colorado and Michigan laws.

LUNCH

11:55 a.m.

“THE RIPPLE EFFECT”

1:10 p.m.



KAYLA RATH
Motivational Safety
Speaker
Safety Difference

At the 2018 Michigan Electric Cooperatives Symposium, Brad Livingston shared his heart-wrenching story of surviving a tragic work accident, and the impact it had on his loved ones.

father had on her life.

This year, Brad's daughter joins the Symposium to share her perspective about the impact almost losing her

Kayla's goal is to remind her audiences that the decisions you make don't just affect you, but those you love, and she hopes to inspire employees to make safe choices that will allow them to go home to their families each night.

WOLVERINE & POWER SUPPLY UPDATE

2:20 p.m.



ERIC BAKER
President & CEO
Wolverine Power
Cooperative

Eric Baker, president and chief executive officer of Wolverine Power Cooperative, discusses power supply issues affecting all electric cooperatives, as well as the generation and transmission cooperative's focus and outlook.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

COMMUNICATORS CONFERENCE

Omihachiman
Noon – 4 p.m.,
Tuesday, October 1.
Dinner to follow.

MEMBER RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Omihachiman
10:30 a.m. – Noon,
Wednesday, October 2

HUMAN RESOURCES CONFERENCE

Zapopan
9 – 11:30 a.m.,
Wednesday, October 2

BOARD LEADERSHIP COURSE

Salon C
8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.,
Friday, October 4

Register, or learn more at
coopsymposium.org

