

White River Valley Electric Cooperative News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WRVEC Wins National Communications Awards

Branson, Missouri – White River Valley Electric Cooperative (WRVEC) brought home four awards in the 2023 Spotlight on Excellence Awards program, a national competition among America's electric cooperatives, sponsored by the Council of Rural Electric Communicators (CREC) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

WRVEC's Communications team received awards in the following categories: Best Digital Story Telling (Silver), Best Annual Report to Members (Gold), Best Event (Gold), and Best Photo (Silver).

"I am extremely proud of our communications team and the invaluable work they do each for our co-op members," said Chris Hamon, CEO of



Pictured Left to Right: Shelby Novak, Jamie Dopp, Cassie Cunningham, and Lori McCarty

White River Valley Electric Cooperative. "Their efforts deliver exceptional results, have a lasting impact and are critical to serving our community. Because of our team's strong communication efforts, we can further the Cooperative's mission to promote, support, and protect the community we serve."

The annual Spotlight on Excellence Awards program recognizes the best communication and marketing efforts by electric cooperatives and related organizations nationwide. More than 650 entries were submitted across 18 different categories, including writing, graphic design, digital

communications, campaign development and more. Faculty members from the University of Missouri Columbia, as well as noted professionals in the fields of marketing and digital communications and newspapers judged the entries.

"The Spotlight on Excellence Awards Program has been recognizing outstanding co-op communicators and their work for more than 35 years — that work is all the more critical in today's evolving energy industry," said CREC President Scott Gates, senior editor with North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives. "These national awards are highly competitive, and we congratulate those who earned the distinction this year."

Winners were recognized during the Connect conference, a national conference for communications and marketing professionals, in Jacksonville, Florida, this May.

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White River Valley Electric Cooperative is a <u>Touchstone Energy Cooperative</u> dedicated to ensuring our members receive safe and reliable service in their homes and businesses across five southwest Missouri counties including Ozark, Taney, Stone, Christian and Douglas.